

The Elections Fact Sheets: the Greens/European Free Alliance

Facts & views in the run up to the 2019 European Parliament (EP) Elections - Issue 4: September 2018

KREAB

52 Representatives out of 751 MEPs, from 18 Countries



3 Biggest Delegations

Co-Presidents:
Ska Keller (Germany)
Philippe Lamberts (Belgium)



#REALNEWS

The Greens/EFA group is currently the sixth biggest group in the EP

The Greens/EFA group, **established in 1999**, gathers Green, Pirate and Independent MEPs, as well as MEPs from parties representing stateless nations and disadvantaged minorities. Currently, it consists of **26 parties from 18 Member States**.

The Greens/EFA have a **co-presidency**, i.e. two co-Presidents, and **gender balance** is always guaranteed.

#throwback

In **1989 the first Green group** was formed, with 30 members from France, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Despite achieving the **highest overall vote -14.9 %-** **UK Greens failed to gain a seat** due to the UK's majority voting electoral system - which applied for EU elections until 1999. However, the newly formed **group awarded UK Greens an observer position**.

#funfacts

An engineer graduate, Greens/EFA co-President Philippe Lamberts worked at IBM for over 20 years, before becoming an MEP in 2009. He has also worked as a Maths and IT teacher at a school in Anderlecht.

EP Committees

1 Chair and 5 Vice-Chairs, including:


TRAN Committee
Karima Delli
Chair


ENVI Committee
Benedek Jávor
Vice-Chair


INTA Committee
Yannick Jadot
Vice-Chair

2019 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

KREAB'S VIEWS



In a potentially more fragmented and Eurosceptic EP, the Greens/EFA will likely remain an important centre left pro-EU political group. At a cross-roads between advocating EU integration yet defending the status quo and challenging the latter but risking jeopardising the former, the Greens/EFA's influence in the next EP will depend on their willingness to come closer to pro-EU parties with different political agendas - notably a rumoured new centre platform under the leadership of French President Macron's En Marche party.

OPPORTUNITIES & HURDLES



Established credentials championing environmental causes could attract voters in view of the entry into force of COP 21 and the US disengagement from the climate agenda.



Risk of far-left populism in some Member States - notably Sweden, France, Germany and Spain- could erode the Greens' voter base and result in a reduction of the group's size.