

# 2019 - A changing European political landscape



**23 - 26 May**  
**Election of the European Parliament (EP)**  
 751 MEPs from 28 Member States (705 if the UK leaves the EU before the new EP is constituted)  
 New European Parliament (2019 - 2024) officially starts in July 2019.

**June**  
**Formation of political groups in the EP**  
 The formation of a new political group requires 25 MEPs from 7 different MS.

**Selection of the new Commission President**  
**June - July**  
 After consulting with the newly elected European Parliament and taking into account the election results, the European Council (EU leaders) nominates and votes on a candidate (by qualified majority)  
 The EP formally votes on the Council's nominee for EC President (majority vote).

**2 July**  
**First plenary session of the new EP**  
 • Election of the EP President, Vice-Presidents & Quaestors (for 2.5 years, renewable).  
 • Decision on scope and composition of EP Committees.  
**8 July**  
**First committee meetings**  
 Election of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of each committee (for 2.5 years, renewable).



## Selection of the new Commission

**August**  
 Each MS nominates one Commissioner, in agreement with EC President.  
 High-Representative (foreign policy) appointed by European Council in coordination with EC President (qualified majority vote).

**Sept. - Oct.**  
 Each Commissioner-designate must:  
 (i) respond to 5 questions from MEPs in writing  
 (ii) attend 3h hearing organised by EP committees  
 Responsible committee has 24h to finalise its evaluation.

**October**  
 The new EC President presents the new team and political priorities to MEPs. Following a debate, the EP casts a vote of consent on the new European Commission for a 5 year mandate (majority vote).  
 Council formally appoints the European Commission (qualified majority).

**November**  
 EU leaders appoint the new President of the European Council (qualified majority vote).

**1 December**  
 New President of the European Council takes office for 2.5 years (renewable).

