

# Projecting and estimating the results of the European Elections 2024

Presentation prepared for ESRA 2025

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# Agenda

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1. Introduction and key challenges
2. Turnout estimation: methodology and results
3. Seat projection: methodology and results
4. The Election Night
5. Conclusion

# Introduction

# The European Elections' night contract

6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> of June 2024

- Verian was contracted by the European Parliament (DG COMM) - through competitive call for tender procedure - to prepare and manage the 2024 European elections' night
- The contract includes preparation (website and desk research), projections during election night (turnout and seats) and dissemination (website and social media)
- The contract was awarded in July 2023
- The successful outcome of the night is the result of a strong teamwork between the European Parliament team (POMU and Webmaster Unit) and Verian





# What is at stake?

The second largest democratic event in the world

- More than 350 million citizens from 27 Member States electing 720 Members
- The European Parliament needs a highly reliable partner to provide projections during the night on the composition of the Parliament and turnout to prepare decisions on top jobs at EU level and plan the future of the EU
- Projections of EU turnout and in seats are provided to all main media in the world in real-time



# What are the key challenges for the projections' team?

Publication of the estimations start before all polling stations have closed

- Pre-election data (voting intentions) are not available in all countries and are not always reliable (especially for turnout)
- In many countries, there are no exit polls or estimations done for the elections and we rely on pre-election data to conduct first seat projections
- National electoral systems differ in many countries: regional constituencies, different methods of seats' calculations (D'hondt, Hare, SVT etc. ), different day and time for the vote
- Last polling station closes at 11:00 PM in Rome and our team needs to be ready with first estimates in seats and turnout by 8:00 PM



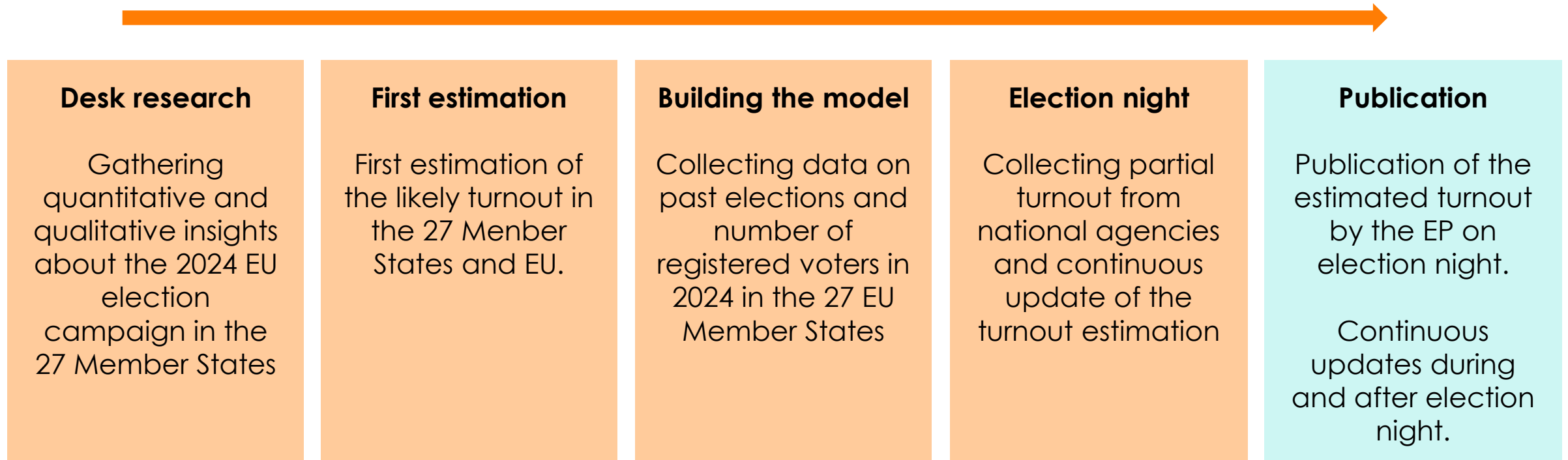




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# Turnout estimation: methodology and results

# Turnout estimation: methodology





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# Turnout estimation: methodology

## Data collection

### Before election night – to build the model

- Past EU elections final turnout for every country
- Past EU elections partial turnouts during the election day for every country (2 data points during the day)
- Number of registered voters for the 2024 election
- Hours of polls opening and closing

### Before election night – to produce a first estimation

- Past EU elections final turnout for every country
- Opinion polls on awareness, interest and likelihood to vote
- Qualitative insights from the national agency about the political context
- Electoral agenda in each country (simultaneous or close elections)

### During election night – to feed the model

- Partial and provisional turnouts for every Member States (communicated by the national agency)

### After election night – to calculate a final turnout

- Turnout figures are gradually updated in some countries impacting the EU turnout (example Spain with the inclusion of vote from abroad in turnout calculation long after the election day)
- Number of registered voters is for some countries only known after the elections impacting EU turnout

# Turnout estimation: methodology

## The estimation model

### National level estimate

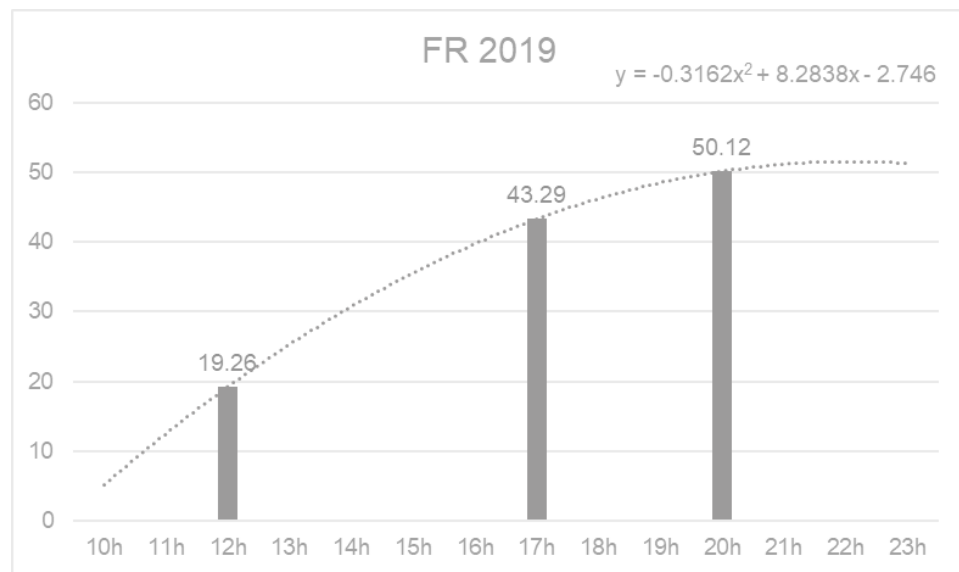
Quadratic equation based on previous elections partial turnout at different points of the election day, (not assuming a linear relationship between time and turnout)

Updating the model with 2024 data on the election day

### European level estimate

EU turnout automatically calculated and updated live during the night.

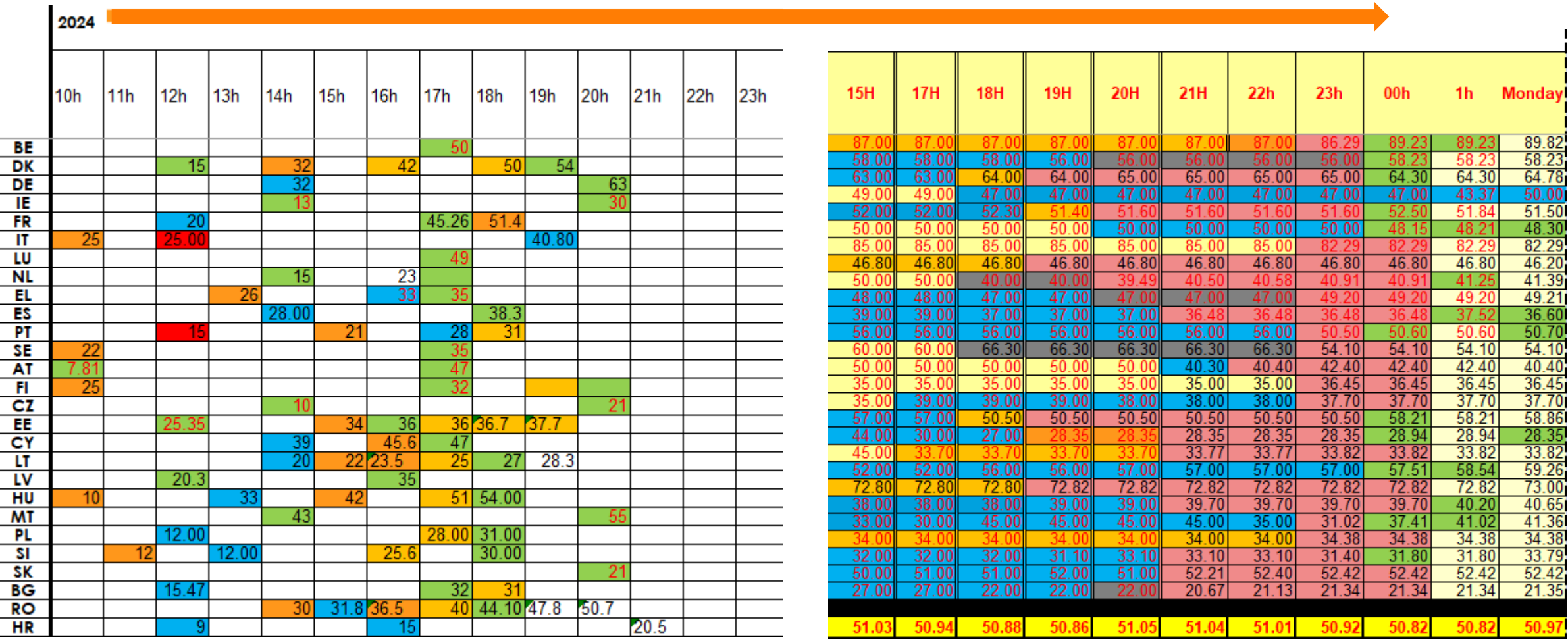
Weighted average of national estimates  
(weighted by share of registered voters in the country among the total EU registered voters)



$$\text{EU27 turnout} = \frac{\sum \text{votes across all Member States}}{\sum \text{registered voters across all Member States}}$$

# Turnout estimation during the election night

A stable estimation during the night

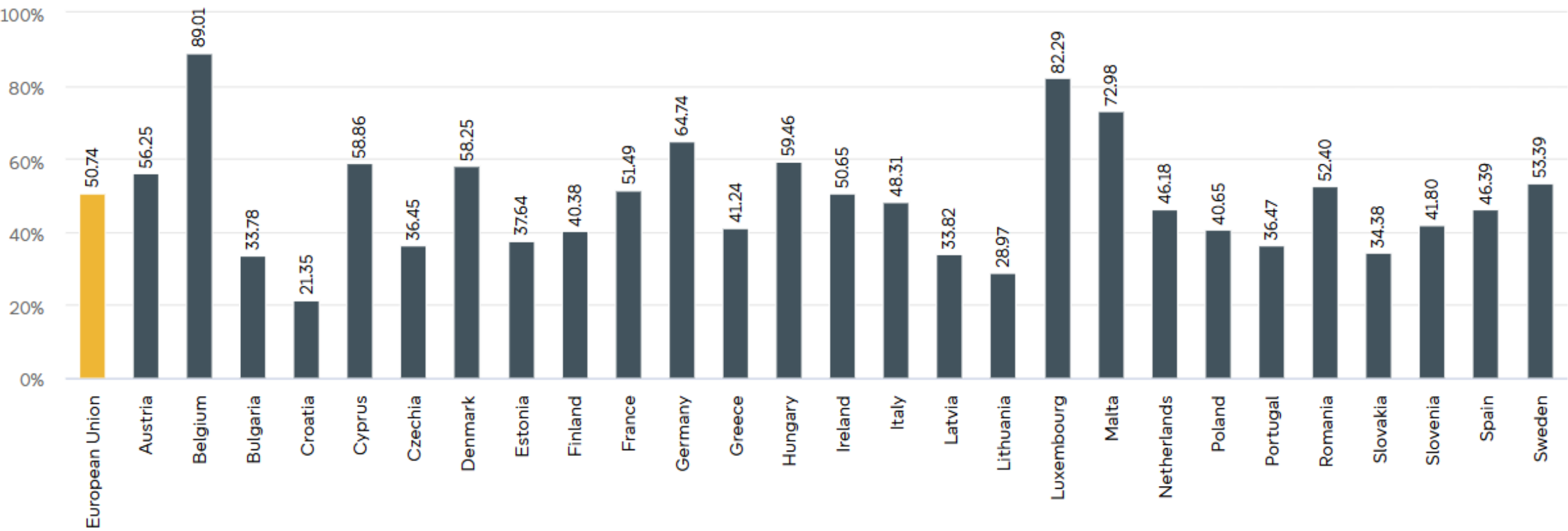




# Final turnout

## Turnout by country (%)

Final results



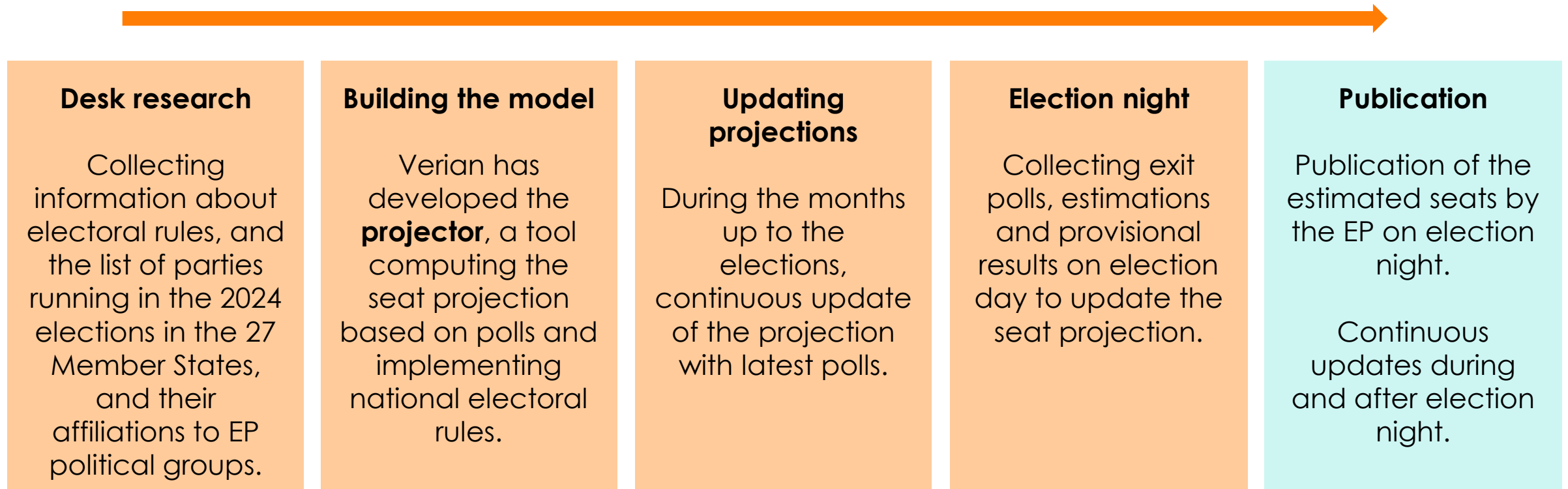


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# Seat projection: methodology and results



# Seat projection: methodology





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# Seats projection: methodology

## Data collection

### Before election night – to build the model

- National electoral rules (apportionment method, electoral threshold, constituencies)
- List of national political parties competing
- Affiliation of parties to EP political groups

### Before election night – to produce projection update

- Continuous collection of latest polls in the 27 Member States
- Updates on parties, lists, and political groups affiliations
- Identification of the reliable sources to be used during the election night (exit polls, estimations, provisional results and in some cases pre-election polls)

### During election night – to feed the model

- Exit polls, estimations and provisional results collected from national agencies
- The figures are updated regularly and exit polls/estimations are gradually replaced by provisional/final results

### After the election night – constitutive session

- Final and official results come late in some countries impacting the overall composition of the Parliament (example Ireland)
- During the Constitutive session, new groups are formed changing the overall composition in seats of the European Parliament

# Seats projection: methodology

Projector 5.1.19 - Elections européennes 2024 (2024)

Last calculation date 18:49:53 - 08/07/2025 - about 17 seconds ago

Member states EU Groups Turnout No message

Belgium	89.82%
Belgium - Flandre (collège élec...	-
Belgium - Germanophone	-
Belgium - Wallonie (collège élec...	-
Bulgaria	33.79%
Czech Republic	36.45%
Denmark	58.25%
Germany	64.78%
Estonia	37.60%
Ireland	49.84%
Greece	41.39%
Spain	49.21%
France	51.50%
Italy	48.30%
Cyprus	58.86%
Latvia	33.82%
Lituania	28.35%
Luxembourg	82.29%
Hungary	59.26%
Malta	73.00%
Netherlands	46.20%
Austria	56.30%
Poland	40.65%
Portugal	36.54%
Romania	52.42%
Slovenia	41.45%
Slovakia	34.38%
Finland	40.40%
Sweden	50.70%
Croatie	21.34%

Source: Inconnu 10/06/2024, 09:00  
Calculation method: Hondt  
Threshold: 5,00  
Seats: 81

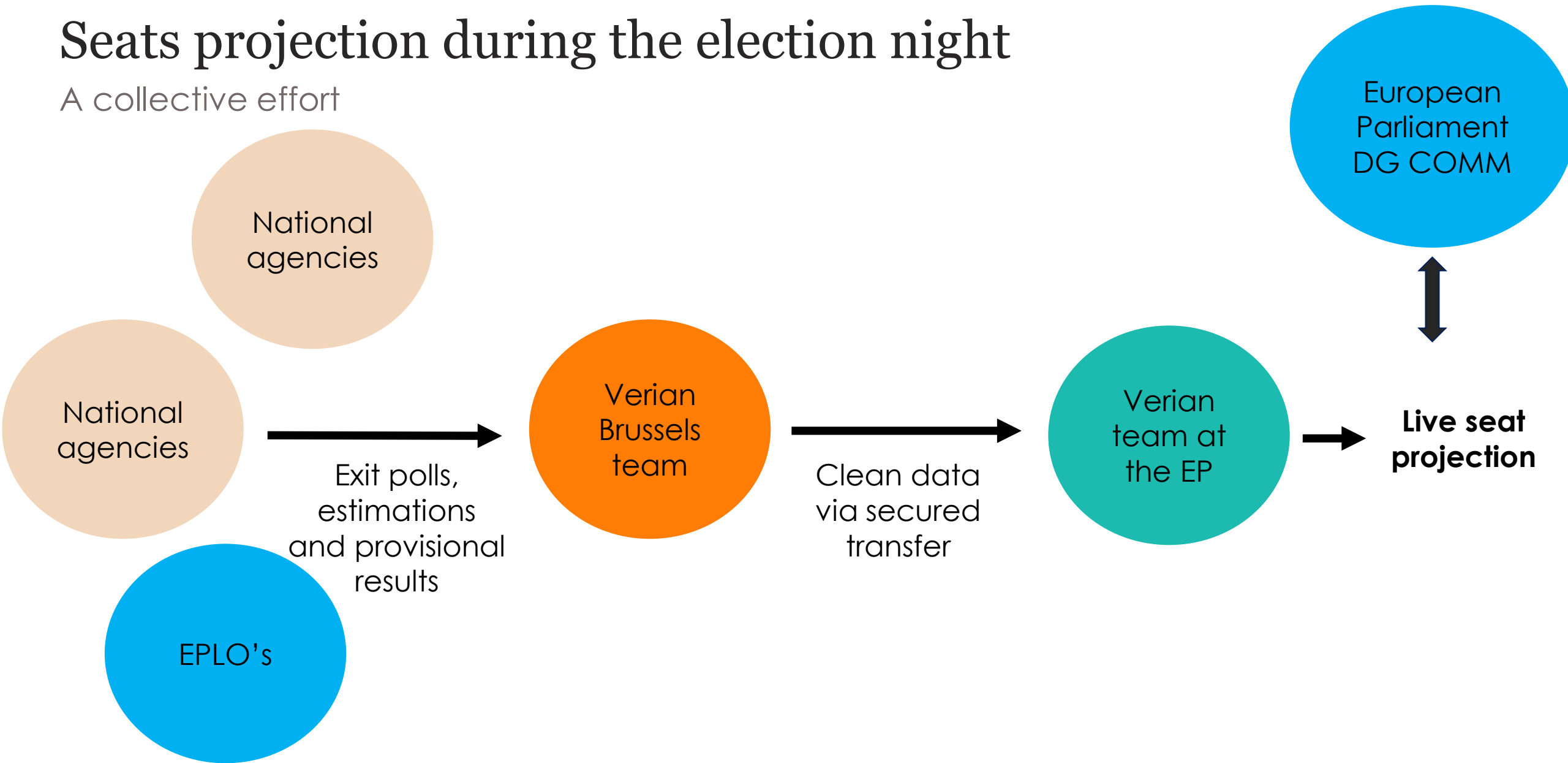
Entity: Pays  
Projected seats: 81  
Scores total: 100,00 %

Parties	Seats	Scores
RN	30	31,37%
Besoin d'Europe	13	14,60%
Réveiller l'Europe	13	13,83%
LFI	9	9,89%
LR	6	7,25%
LE - EELV	5	5,50%
La France fière	5	5,47%
Gauche Unie	0	2,36%
AR	0	2,35%
PA	0	2,00%
UPR	0	1,02%
L'Europe ça suffit	0	0,93%
NPA	0	0,15%
[Other parties]	0	3,28%

Import complete excel Import Export EU groups Member states Parties Matrices Send turnout Collect turnout

# Seats projection during the election night

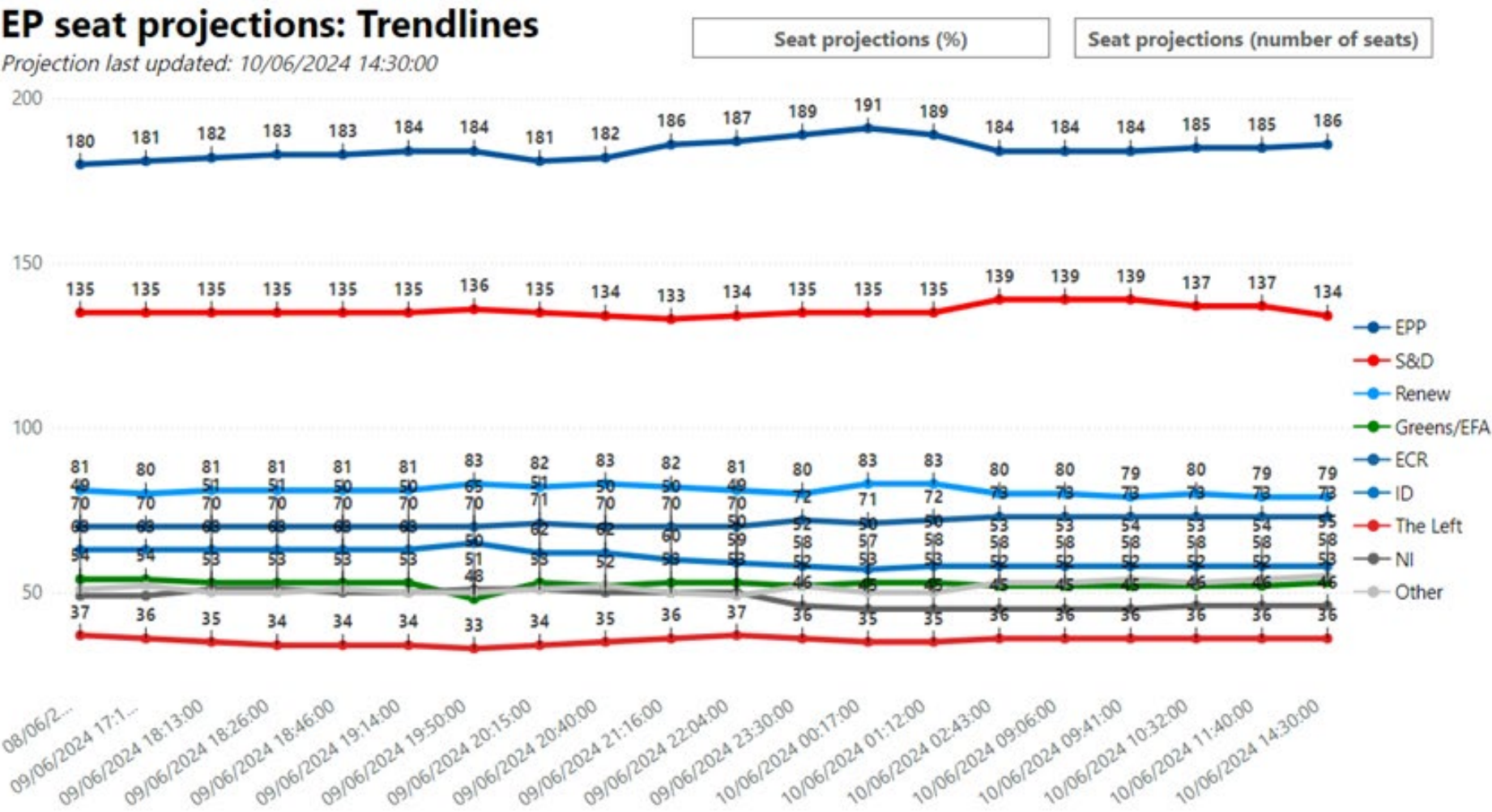
A collective effort





# Seats projection: the results

A stable projection during the night

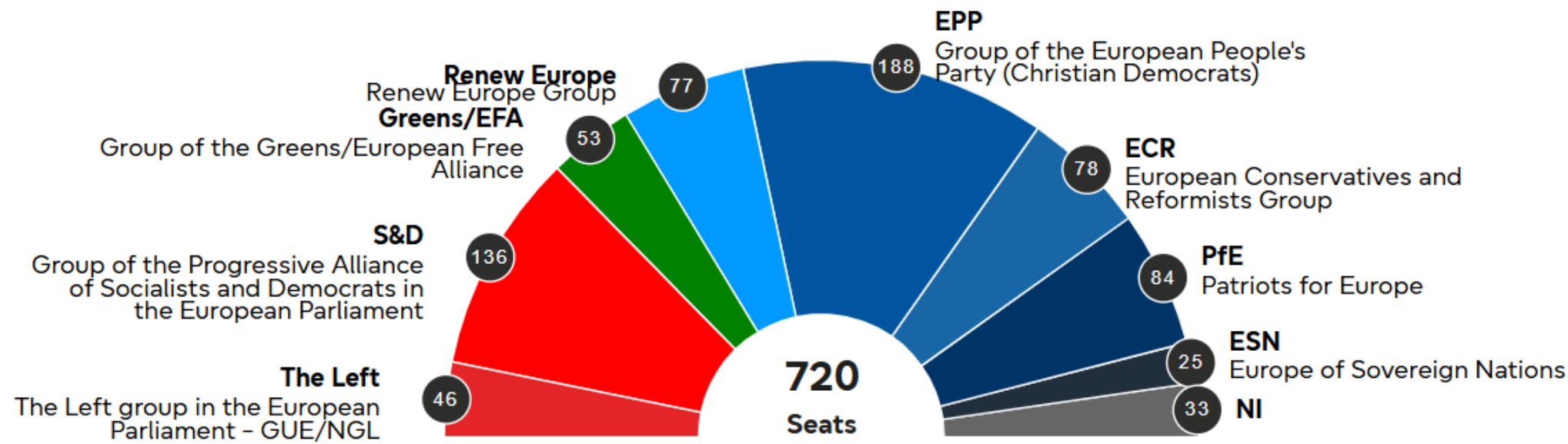


# Seats projection: the results

The final constitutive session

## European Parliament 2024 - 2029

Constitutive session





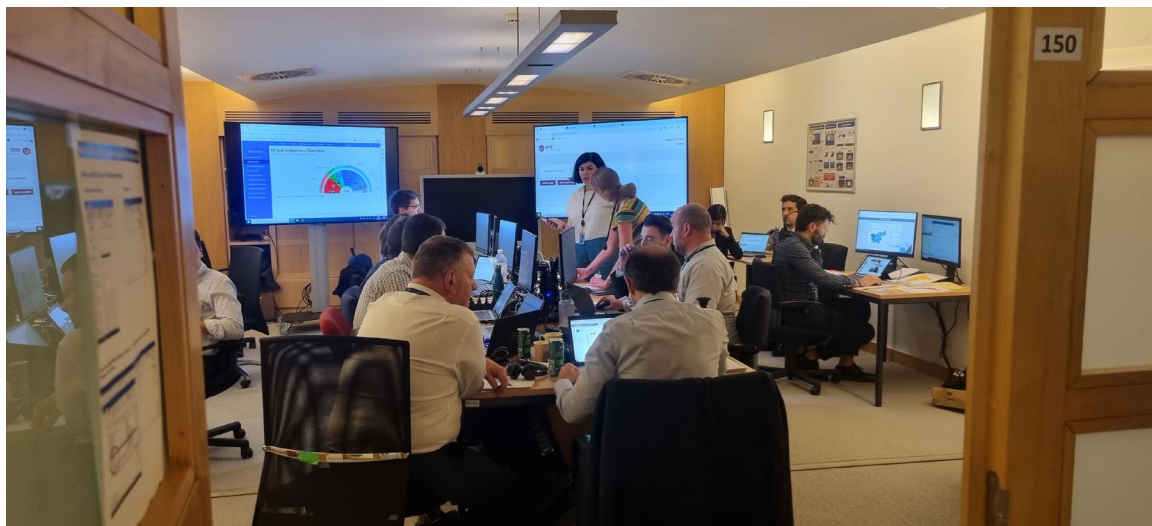
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# The Election Night




# European elections night 2024

- **A 12-hours marathon** managed by the European Parliament, with different actors involved among which Verian
- Live data processing and projections in results, seats and turnout by a **Verian team of pollsters** from 27 Member States of the EU : more than 100 pollsters/researchers
- Media from all around the world relaying our data



# Publication from the website to the world

European Parliament

HomepageHow elections workAfter the electionsElection resultsEN

European Elections 2024 > Election results

2024 European election results

Disclaimer

The final update to data on this website took place on 6 September 2024. For the most recent composition of European Parliament groups, please refer to the "MEPs" section of the [EP website](#)

Constitutive session

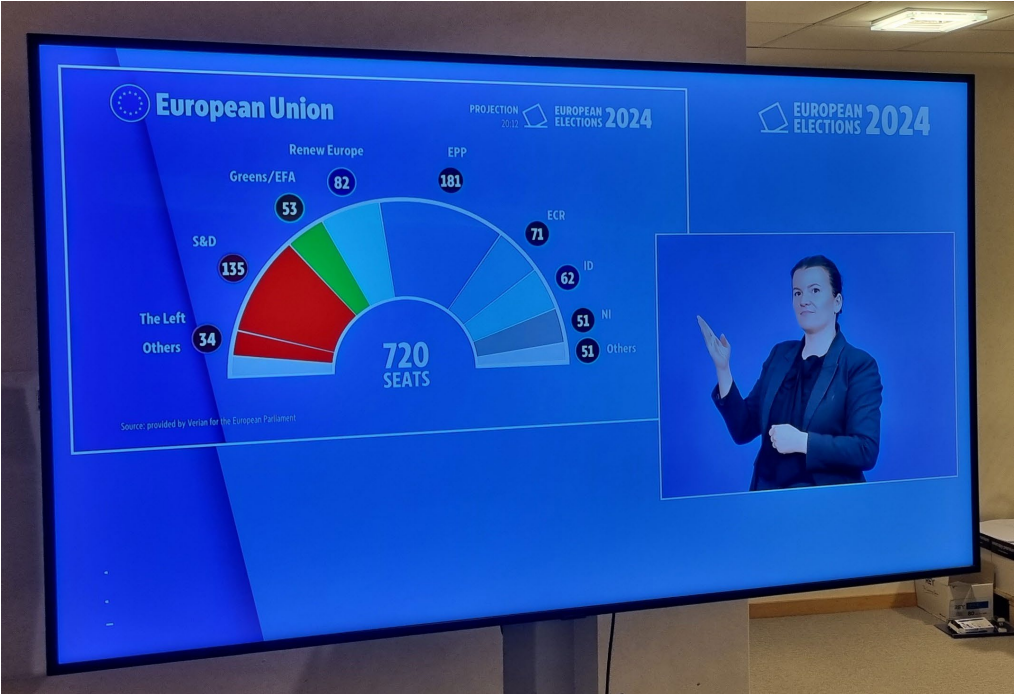
23/07/2024 - 11:07

All times are GMT+2

European Parliament 2024 - 2029

Constitutive session





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# Conclusion



# Conclusions

The EE2024's night project: a key element of the European democracy

- Projections and estimates need to be as accurate and reliable as possible as the results and turnout published play **a key role in first political discussions** that shape the future of the EU
- The EU turnout produced by Verian and published on the EE2024 results website is **the official turnout** for these elections
- The quality of the projections and estimates depend on 1) **teamwork with European Parliament** DG COMM's team and national representations (EPLOs) 2) **thorough preparations** ahead of the night 3) a **powerful modelling tool** able to process data instantly 4) a large **team of pollsters and POMU** carrying out projections and quality assurance during 12-hours and continuously

