6 - 9 JUNE 2024
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS
Your vote matters to shape the future of Europe and its universities

WHY IS THE EUROPEAN UNION IMPORTANT FOR UNIVERSITIES?

United in diversity: The EU provides a unique framework for multilateral cooperation, including in higher education, research and innovation. This allows member states to pool resources and expertise, tackle shared problems and work with countries even beyond the EU.

Human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and human rights are enshrined in the EU's treaties. These values build the foundations for upholding academic freedom as well as the institutional autonomy of universities.

In research, the EU improves the free circulation of researchers, scientific knowledge and technology within the European Research Area.

EU regulations in other fields, such as digital and foreign policy, also impact universities.

The EU supports higher education, research and innovation through programmes such as Horizon Europe, Erasmus+, Digital Europe.

In higher education, the EU promotes, mobility, cooperation and quality enhancement and supports member states actions through the European Education Area.
WHAT DOES THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DO?

As a directly elected body, it represents the voice of EU citizens.

Upon proposal by the European Council (heads of state and government of EU member states) it elects the European Commission President and approves the College of European Commissioners.

It acts as a co-legislator, together with the Council of the EU (ministers from the member states):

- It can ask the Commission to initiate laws and put topics on the policy agenda through resolutions and reports.
- In most policy areas, it co-decides on EU laws together with the Council based on proposals from the European Commission.
- Together with member states, it has an important role in establishing and approving the EU budget.

WHO?

720 politicians from 27 EU countries.

FOR HOW LONG?

Until 2029, so for the next 5 years.

HOW?

Around 20 committees prepare legislation, and all MEPs vote in plenary sessions.

WHERE?

- **Strasbourg**
  - plenary session once a month
- **Brussels**
  - committee meetings, political group meetings, additional sessions
- **Luxembourg**
  - administrative offices

#USEYOURVOTE

SHAPE THE FUTURE OF EUROPE AND ITS UNIVERSITIES!

Further information, including the exact date of the elections in your country, can be found in all EU languages on the European Parliament’s 2024 elections website.