

Elections '79

The results

Voting figures in
the Nine and
composition of the
new Parliament



Good turnout in European elections

Three out of four of those who vote in national elections voted in the first European elections.

110,967,437 people or 72.8% of the 152,366,729 who voted in the most recent national elections in their respective Member State, turned out to vote either on Thursday 7th June or Sunday 10th June 1979 in the first direct elections to the European Parliament.

The voters had 3,692 candidates to choose from and the 410 whom they elected will be meeting in Strasbourg for the first time on Tuesday, 17th July for their constituent session. The MEPs will sit in political groups rather than as national delegations, although the rules for groups may be different now from those of the old Parliament. The rule was that 14 members were needed to form a group or 10 where members came from at least three Member States. It is now being proposed (in a report by Rudolf Luster: Doc 193/79) that the number needed to form a group should be 29 or 21 if members are from at least two Member States.

Of the 410 newly-elected MEPs, 77 served in the old European Parliament and 125 hold mandates in their national parliaments.

There will be 344 men and 66 women in the European Parliament.

The following pages show how votes were cast and the seats won.

The details given in this publication were believed to be correct at the time of going to press on 6th July 1979.

EUROPEAN ELECTIONS, 7th-10th June 1979

Votes, percentages and seats

	TOTAL	B	DK	F	G	IRL	I	L ²	NL	UK
S	29,506,228 26.6% 111	1,274,778 23.4% 7	382,487 21.9% 3	4,763,026 23.4% 21	11,370,045 40.8% 35	193,898 14.5% 4	5,368,756 15.3% 13	(37,166) 21.7% 1	1,722,240 30.4% 9	4,393,832 32.6% 18
CD	32,782,796 29.5% 106	2,053,865 37.7% 10	30,985 1.8% 0	(1,525,721) ¹ (7.5%) 7	13,700,205 49.2% 42	443,652 33.1% 4	12,948,791 37.1% 30	(61,829) 36.1% 3	2,017,743 35.6% 10	
C	6,861,580 6.2% 63		353,099 20.2% 3							6,508,481 48.4%
COM	14,942,568 13.5% 44	145,804 2.7% 0	81,991 4.7% 1	4,153,710 20.4% 19	112,055 0.4% 0		10,343,101 29.6% 24	(8,564) 5.0% 0	97,343 1.7% 0	
L	11,760,021 10.6% 41	885,212 16.3% 4	252,767 14.5% 3	(4,141,258) ¹ (20.4%) 19	1,662,621 6.0% 4		2,164,649 6.2% 5	(48,127) 28.1% 2	914,787 16.1% 4	1,690,600 12.6% 0
EPD	3,867,132 3.5% 21		100,702 5.8% 1	3,301,980 16.2% 15		464,450 34.7% 5				
O t h e r s	6,173,519 5.5% 24	738,981 13.6% 3	365,760 21.0% 5			167,730 12.5% 5	3,845,388 10.9% 9		511,967 9.0% 2	543,693 4.1% 3
	5,073,593 4.6% 0	344,227 6.3% 0	177,287 10.1% 0	2,445,740 12.0% 0	1,002,183 3.6% 0	69,342 5.2% 0	306,604 0.9% 0	(15,586) 9.1% 0	403,223 7.1% 0	309,470 2.3% 0
TOTAL	110,967,437	5,442,867	1,745,078	20,331,440	27,847,109	1,339,072	34,977,289	171,272	5,667,303	13,446,076

¹ UFE (Simon Veil) - list: Split between CD and L 7:19

² In Luxembourg every voter had 6 votes so totals divided by six

European and national elections

Tentative analysis

Percentage shares of the polls

		B	DK	F	G	IRL	I	L	NL	UK
Turnout	EP elections	91.4	47.8	60.7	65.7	63.6	85.5	88.9	57.8	32.6
	National elections	94.6 (18.4.77)	88.9 (15.2.77)	82.8 (19.3.78)	90.7 (3.10.76)	76.9 (16.6.77)	89.9 (3-4.6.79)	90.1 (10.6.79)	87.5 (25.5.77)	76.0 (3.5.79)
Socialist	EP elections	23.4	21.9	23.4	40.8	14.5	15.3	21.7	30.4	32.6
	National elections	25.4	37.0	24.7	42.6	11.6	13.6	22.5	33.8	36.9
Christian Democrats	EP elections	37.7	1.8	7.5	49.2	33.1	37.1	36.1	35.6	
	National elections	36.3	3.4		48.6	30.5	38.9	36.4	31.9	
Conservative	EP elections		20.2							48.4
	National elections		14.9							43.9
Communist	EP elections	2.7	4.7	20.4	0.4		29.6	5.0	1.7	
	National elections	3.3	3.9	20.6	0.3		30.4	4.9	1.7	
Liberal and Democratic Group	EP elections	16.3	14.5	20.4	6.0		6.2	28.1	16.1	12.6
	National Elections	16.3	12.0		7.9		4.9	21.9	18.0	13.8
European Progressive Democrats	EP elections		5.8	16.2		34.7				
	National elections		14.6	22.6		50.6				
Others	EP elections	19.9	31.1	12.0	3.6	17.7	11.8	9.1	16.2	6.4
	National elections	18.7	14.2	10.6	0.6	7.3	12.2	14.3	14.5	5.4

MEMBER STATE	FORMER MEPS	INCLUDING MEMBERS OF LAST PARLIAMENT	DUAL MANDATE	MEN IN EP	WOMEN IN EP
BELGIUM	7	7	19	22	2
DENMARK	3	3	6	11	5
FRANCE	9	7	22	64	17
GERMANY	18	18	28	69	12
IRELAND	2	2	13	13	2
ITALY	18	13	25	70	11
LUXEMBOURG	3	2	6	5	1
NETHERLANDS	9	9	2	20	5
UNITED KINGDOM	8	6	4	70	11
TOTAL	77	67	125	344	66

Belgium

Party	Electorate (European Elections): 6,800,584			Electorate (General Election): 5,478,080		
	European Elections 10 June 1979 (24 seats)			General Election December 1978 (212 seats)		
	Votes	%	Seats in EP	Votes	%	National seats
Christian People's Party (Flemish)	1,607,927	(37.6	7	1,451,733	27.10	57
Christian People's Party (Walloon)	445,940	(	3	488,182	9.11	25
Socialist Party (Walloon)	698,892	(23.3	3	523,740	11.64	32
Socialist Party (Flemish)	575,886	(	4	580,521	12.70	26
Liberal (Flemish)	512,355	(	2)		
Liberal (Walloon)	372,857	(16.2	2	) 582,426	10.87	37
FDF Rassemblement Walloon	414,412	7.6	2)	-	-
Flemish People's Union	324,569	5.9	1	383,455	7.15	14
Ecologists	185,821	3.42	-	-	-	-
Communist	145,804	2.62	-	-	-	4
Others	138,404		-	984,792	18.38	17
TOTAL	5,422,867		24	5,157,306		212
Invalid Votes	789,616					
Turnout	6,212,483	91.4			94.6	

Denmark

Party	Electorate (European Elections): 3,725,235			Electorate (General Election): 3,542,843		
	European Elections 7 June 1979 (16 seats)			General Election February 1977 (158 seats)		
	Votes	%	Seats in EP	Votes	%	National seats
Social Democrats	382,487	21.9	3	1,150,355	37.0	65
Social Liberals	56,944	3.3	-	113,330	3.6	-
Conservatives	245,309	14.1	2	263,262	8.5	15
Retsforbundet (Single tax party)	59,379	3.4	-	102,149	3.3	-
Social People's Party	81,991	4.7	1	120,357	3.9	7
Centre Democracy	107,790	6.2	1	200,347	6.4	11
Communists	-	-	-	114,022	3.7	7
Folke bevaegelsen (Anti-Market Party)	365,760	21.0	4	-	-	-
Christian People's Party	30,985	1.8	-	106,082	3.4	6
Liberals	252,767	14.5	3	371,728	12.0	21
Left Socialists	60,964	3.5	-	83,667	2.7	-
Progress Party	100,702	5.8	1	453,792	14.6	26
Siumut (Greenland)	5,118	-	1	-	-	4
Others (including Atassut)	4,654	-	-	27,206	0.9	-
Turnout	1,754,850	47.8	16	3,106,297	88.9	158

France

Party	Electorate (European Elections): 35,180,531			Electorate (General Election): 35,179,654		
	European Elections 7 June 1979 (81 seats)			General Election March 1978 (491 seats) National seats		
	Votes	%	Seats in EP	Votes	%	seats
Socialists and Radicals of the Left	4,763,026	23.4	21	7,054,066	24.7	114
French Communist Party	4,153,710	20.4	19	5,870,340	20.5	86
Union for France in Europe	5,666,984	27.9	26			
Union for French Democracy (UDF)				6,122,180	21.4	122
Defence of interests of France in Europe (DIFE)	3,301,980	16.2	15			
Rally for the Republic				6,451,454	22.6	155
Others	2,445,740	12.0	-	3,083,022	10.8	14
Turnout	20,331,440	60.7	81	28,581,062	82.8	491

Germany

Party	Electorate (European Elections): 42,751,940			Electorate (General Election): 42,058,015		
	European Elections 10 June 1979 (81 seats)			General Election 1976 (518 seats)		
	Votes	%	Seats in EP	Votes	%	Bundestag seats
CDU (Christian Democratic Union)	10,883,085	(49.2)	34	14,367,302	(48.6)	254
CSU (Christian Social Union)	2,817,120	()	8	4,027,499	()	
SPD (Social Democrats)	11,370,045	40.8	35	16,099,019	42.6	224
FDP (Liberals)	1,662,621	6.0	4	2,995,085	7.9	40
DKP (Communists)	112,055	0.4	-	118,581	0.3	
Die Grünen (Ecologists)	893,683	3.2	-	-	-	
Others	108,500	0.4	-	215,014	0.6	
Turnout	27,847,109	65.7	81	38,165,753	90.7	518

Note: There are 3 MEPs for Berlin

Ireland

Party	Electorate (European Elections): 2,188,798			Electorate (General Elections): 2,118,606		
	European Elections 7 June 1979 (15 seats)			General Election June 1977 (148 seats)		
	Votes	%	Seats in EP	Votes	%	National seats
Fianna Fáil	464,450	34.68	5	811,615	50.63	84
Fine Gael	443,652	33.13	4	488,767	30.49	43
Labour Party	193,898	14.48	4	186,410	11.63	17
Independent	189,499	14.15	2	116,235	7.27	4
Sinn Fein	43,943	3.28	-	27,209	1.7	-
Others	3,630	0.27	-	-	-	-
Turnout	1,339,072	63.6	15	1,630,236	76.9	148

Italy

Party	Electorate (European Elections): 42,193,369			Electorate (General Election): 42,213,962		
	European Election 10 June 1979 (81 seats)			General Election 3-4 June 1979 (630 seats) National seats		
	Votes	%	Seats in EP	Votes	%	seats
Christian Democracy (DC)	12,752,602	36.5	29	14,007,594	38.3	262
Italian Communist Party (PCI)	10,343,101	29.6	24	11,107,883	30.4	201
Italian Socialist Party (PSI)	3,857,436	11.0	9	3,586,256	9.8	62
Italian Social Movement (MSI)	1,907,452	5.4	4	1,924,251	5.3	30
Italian Social Democratic Party (PSDI)	1,511,320	4.3	4	1,403,873	3.8	20
Radical Party (PR)	1,282,728	3.7	3	1,259,362	3.4	18
Italian Republican Party (PRI)	895,083	2.6	2	1,106,766	3.0	16
Italian Liberal Party (PLI)	1,269,560	3.6	3	708,022	1.9	9
Democratic Party for Proletarian Unity (PDUP)	404,794	1.1	1	501,431	1.4	6
Proletarian Democracy (DP)	250,414	0.7	1	293,443	0.8	-
National Democracy Party (DN)	141,350	0.4	-	228,340	0.6	-
South Tyrol People's Party (SVP)	196,189	0.6	1	206,264	0.6	4
Aosta Valley Union (UV)	165,260	0.5	-	33,250	0.1	1
Others	--	-	-	135,124	0.4	1
Turnout	34,977,289	85.5	81	36,501,859	89.9	630

Luxembourg

Party	Electorate (European Elections): 212,740			Electorate (General Election): 212,740		
	European Election 7 June 1979 (6 seats)			General Election June 1979 (59 seats)		
	Votes	%	Seats in EP	Votes	%	National seats
Socialist Worker Party	211,097	21.7	1	737,931		14
Independent Socialists				66,907		1
Communist Party	48,738	5.0	-	177,269		2
Democratic Party	274,345	28.1	2	648,693		15
Wiert lech	-	-	-	30,271		-
Christian Social Party	351,942	36.0	3	1,049,393		24
Revolutionary Communist League	5,027	0.5	-	6,984		-
Liberal Party	5,595	0.5	-	6,143		-
Enrôles de force	-	-	-	135,356		1
Socialist Democrat Party	68,310	7.0	-	181,931		2
Club of Independents	-	-	-	849		-
Turnout	965,054 *	88.9	6	3,041,522	90.1	59

* In Luxembourg, voters had 6 votes each in the European election and a number equal to the seats to be filled in the National election (24 votes in the Southern constituency, 20 in the Centre, 6 in the West, and 9 in the North).

Netherlands

Party	Electorate (European Elections): 9,799,761			Electorate (General Elections): 9,497,991		
	European Elections 10 June 1979 (25 seats)			General Election May 1977 (150 seats)		
	Votes	%	Seats in EP	Votes	%	National seats
PvdA (Labour)	1,722,240	30.39	9	2,813,795	33.83	53
CDA (Christian Democrats)	2,017,743	35.61	10	2,652,280	31.89	49
VVD (Liberals)	914,787	16.14	4	1,492,691	17.95	28
D'66 (Independents)	511,967	9.03	2	452,423	5.43	8
Others	500,566	8.83	-	906,422	10.90	12
Turnout	5,667,303	57.8	25	8,317,611	87.5	150

United Kingdom

Party	Electorate (European Elections): 41,559,460			Electorate (General Election): 41,093,264		
	European Elections 7 June 1979 (81 seats)			General Elections 3 May 1979 (635 seats)		
	Votes	%	Seats in EP	Votes	%	Common seats
Conservative Party	6,508,481	48.4	60	13,697,753	43.9	337
Labour Party	4,253,210	31.6	17	11,509,524	36.9	267
Liberal Party	1,690,600	12.6	-	4,313,931	13.8	11
Scottish National Party	247,836	1.9	1	504,259	1.6	2
Plaid Cymru	83,399	0.6	-	132,544	0.4	2
Ulster Unionists	125,169	0.9	1	175,171	0.6	5
Democratic Unionist Party	170,688	1.3	1	61,625	0.2	3
Social Democratic & Labour Party	140,622	1.0	1	16,480	0.05	1
Others	226,071	1.7	-	306,938	0.8	7
Turnout	13,446,076	33.0		30,718,225	76.0	