

## **Working paper for the Summer University (30 August-1 September 2017): COULD A TRANSNATIONAL POLITICAL PARTY EMERGE FROM EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP?**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

At a number of events across Europe, for example in parallel to the celebrations of the 60th Anniversary of the Treaty of Rome last March, the possibility of new or reformed political parties springing up in the run-up to the European elections in 2019 has been discussed. This is not surprising in a Europe where unexpected political shifts are occurring with often breath taking speed at municipal, regional and national levels. Pressures to overcome a crisis of representation by democratic renewal are combining with pressures to renew the European project. This paper addresses this question from two different angles. In Part one, we discuss reasons why new transnational political initiatives can be expected in the run-up to the 2019 elections. Part two is a summary of EU Regulation 1141/2014 on the Statute and Funding of European political parties<sup>1</sup>.

### **PART ONE – Pressures for forming a new transnational political party**

There are sociological, technological and institutional factors which could well encourage the emergence of more genuinely European political parties:

- Such a development could come from the sections of young people who see themselves as more European than citizens of a particular country. From the ERASMUS generation a more genuinely European civil society is beginning to emerge. Traditionally, different national associations, like the political parties, come together to form European groupings. The membership base can now however be made up of individuals from different nationalities coming together locally and linking up across borders to carry out joint campaigns.

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council (22 October 2014) on the Statute and Funding of European political parties and European political foundations available at: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014R1141&from=EN>.

Questions remain about how much critical mass and outreach such transnational networks have, often resembling more a well-educated advance guard than a genuinely European grass-roots movement. The motivation is there to enter the political arena, because whilst acting European, this population is highly critical of the way the current EU functions and rightly alarmed by the rise of right wing nationalism and attacks on European values.

- The revolution in communication technology can overcome the obstacles to build transnationally the necessary participation and consensus building for forming and running a European party. New parties, which have emerged from social mobilisation, have seen the advantages of maintaining the different mechanisms for on-line and face-to-face participation of the mass membership: rights to propose initiatives, on-line voting on proposals, assemblies, etc... There is possibly less of a boundary than there used to be between running a civil society European campaign and getting involved in European electoral politics. Virtual platforms and rule-based forms of interaction directly with members may make it easier for political parties to avoid investing in expensive organisational structures and achieve participation and mobilisation of their members directly through social media on a wide range of issues<sup>2</sup>.
- In theory, EU institutional developments encourage European political initiative, even though it is paradoxically euro-sceptical parties of the nationalistic extreme right which have taken most advantage of the opportunities offered by the elections and are now represented by 20% of elected members of the European Parliament. In addition to the advantages of the regulation on political parties described in Part 2, there is also the fact that in terms of the Treaty on European Union, it is Union citizens rather than the peoples of Europe which elect the European Parliament. There is some pressure as a result in favour of a fairer electoral system and distribution of seats among Member States. Academics and organisations such as Vote Watch have shown for a long time that whereas the cohesion of the political groups within the parliament makes them genuinely European, this feature has very little visibility outside the Parliament or in the way it is elected, which remains distinctly national. In small ways this is beginning to change - the most successful innovation being the introduction of “*Spitzenkandidaten*” or one lead candidate put forward by each of the main European political party groupings for the 2014 elections<sup>3</sup>. This experiment ought to continue in 2019 with more advance preparation and resources so that the candidates are better known outside their own political circles and constituencies. The reform which could though have a more transformative effect on the

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<sup>2</sup> Dominika Kruszewska, *Social Movements and Political Parties* (Harvard University). Available at: [http://projects.ig.harvard.edu/files/mobilized\\_contention/files/movementsandparties.pdf](http://projects.ig.harvard.edu/files/mobilized_contention/files/movementsandparties.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> For an analysis of this relative success and proposal for how to develop this reform, see: Tony Venables, *Piecing together Europe's Citizenship. Searching for Cinderella* (Baden–Baden: Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft, 2016), chapter 7.

Europeanisation of political parties or the formation of a new European political party would be the introduction of transnational lists. Could the UK seats or a proportion of them which disappear with BREXIT be used to form such a list? According to this reform the European elections would become, like the internal workings of the European Parliament, more genuinely European. The voter would be asked to vote both for candidates from his/her own region and national party and from a European list under one of the lead candidates. At the very least, such reforms are worth campaigning for by a concerted effort on the part of European civil society associations ahead of the 2019 elections<sup>4</sup>.

Whilst conditions may appear favourable for the emergence of new European political parties, there is no telling to what extent this will occur before the 2019 European elections, although Democracy in Europe Movement 2025 (DiEM25)<sup>5</sup> has recently announced that it is transforming into a transnational party. The impetus for such a development is bound to come from the increasingly dynamic interaction between social movements and political parties. It was civil society movements which led to the fall of the Berlin wall and the transformation of the political landscape in Central and Eastern Europe or in a very different context to the decidedly different outcomes, country-by-country of the Arab spring. A more recent factor has been the transformation of national politics in the Southern Euro-zone in reaction to austerity measures and the emergence of the “rebel city”. Social movements are transforming themselves into political parties, whilst the latter seek to renew themselves by taking on the characteristics of social movements, assisted by social media. The domination of the landscape by traditional left/right major political parties appears under threat with the opening up and fragmentation of the demands for representation round the tensions between globalisation and the retreat to nationalism, freedom and social protection. *What can be learned from such unprecedented changes? Can what is possible at regional or national level occur at European level? Have changes reached a sufficient scale to be reflected at European level or do they have first to be pursued further at regional and national level?*

One of the difficulties is that, despite the growing interaction between social movements/civil society and political parties, there is little research and knowledge of how this functions in practice. The leading protagonists come from backgrounds where they are conditioned into seeing both as contributing in different ways to democratic processes, whilst operating in different spheres:

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<sup>4</sup> Andrew Duff, *The rise of post-national democracy: Macron, Brexit and the electoral reform of the European Parliament* (EPC Discussion Paper, May 2017). Available at: [http://www.epc.eu/documents/uploads/pub\\_7655\\_riseofpostnationaldemocracy.pdf](http://www.epc.eu/documents/uploads/pub_7655_riseofpostnationaldemocracy.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> Diem25 official website: <https://diem25.org/>.

- Political parties are organisations which represent their members' interests and aggregate those of the wider population with the purpose of competing in elections with other parties and gaining power;
- Social movements, on the other hand, which are more informal non-hierarchical networks, bring together individuals and organisations, generally regardless of party affiliation, round a shared identity, activity or common cause.

How can a political party marry a social movement's cause when electoral strategy requires it to take on many causes and appeal to a wider public? Political parties created from single issue campaigns have foundered on this dilemma. Can the social movement survive when its agenda is drowned out in a broader election manifesto? What do its members with different political affiliations think of its party political activity? The answer may well be that in times of a crisis of representation these inherent tensions take second place. The social movement sees no chance for its demands being taken up properly by any of the existing political parties and so decides to enter the political arena. Conversely a political party sees no chance of survival without renewal and becoming a social movement. From the occasional marriage of convenience to full merger there are a number of different forms the relationship between social movements and political parties can take <sup>6</sup>.

This year, the opening up of European political space could have been effectively closed down by the rise of populist and nationalistic parties, but for the time being this threat has been overcome by the results of elections in Austria, the Netherlands and France. Civil society should take advantage of this situation and build coalitions to influence the outcome of the European elections in 2019 and make them more European. The opportunity to fill this space is there and should be grasped.

There are theoretically three different options to do so, which are not necessarily mutually exclusive:

*The traditional approach-civil society and political parties remain in their separate spheres.* In considering the next European elections, civil society, whether in the form of social movements or more structured European associations could come together round a common manifesto and create a transnational alliance to bring shared demands to the attention of the European political party organisations, their foundations and political groups in the European Parliament. This would require resources for public hearings to build the consensus, set up a

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<sup>6</sup> Swen Hutter, Hanspeter Kriesi, Jasmine Lorenzini, *Social Movement in Interaction with Political Parties* (European University Institute). Available at: [http://www.swen-hutter.eu/1/147/resources/news\\_1010\\_1.pdf](http://www.swen-hutter.eu/1/147/resources/news_1010_1.pdf).

multilingual web portal and have the necessary transnational links to reach thousands of candidates. The type of delivery mechanism which has been set up in the past for special European years, could be used for the 2019 European elections. Such an approach would have breadth but its impact is bound to be superficial, scattered and uneven. Related to such a transnational platform and alliance there should be space for the role consistently played by civil society organisations to provide information about the European Parliament from their particular perspective and convince young people in particular to vote. Even though in the 2014 elections, the decline in voter participation appeared to be halted it remains on average at just over 50%. In some countries, for example in Central and Eastern Europe, it remains far lower.

*More reformist approaches-alliances between political parties and civil society.* In terms of this option, political parties might deliberately seek input from citizens and civil society organisations before drawing up their manifestos. There were limited signs of such an approach being tried before the 2014 elections. To carry out hearings on a sufficient scale would probably require resources which European political party federations and their foundations do not currently possess. The main drawback is that the European manifestos play only a secondary role, if any role, in the election campaign in each country. Trust in civil society organisations remains probably at a higher level than trust in political parties. The public, especially their own members and supporters, may well be aware of their European experience and expertise. An interesting possibility would be for political parties to reserve a certain number of places on their lists for candidates from civil society. Research might well confirm that a high proportion of MEPs have previous experience in associations, but so far this is not a recognised qualification except in specialised areas like culture, human rights or development. The transition from civil society organisations to political parties is not easy and the constraints of working in a more institutional setting are often a further problem. A European Parliament with a significant number of members elected from civil society would have to be a reformed parliament for such an approach to work.

*More radical reform with the possible creation of a new European political party.* For many activists in civil society and political parties the first two options considered would certainly be seen as useful, but probably insufficient on their own to create a platform from which a more radical reform of the EU could be achieved. To persuade mainstream parties and voters to buy into a European reform agenda there is probably no substitute for competition in the elections.

## PART TWO – Conditions for creating new European political parties

The creation of a new transnational European political party seems to be the more appealing option for those who are asking for “more European” elections in 2019. This is the reason why in this Part we firstly attempt to give a definition of European political parties and European political foundations. Taking into account Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council (22 October 2014), we then move on to the legal analysis, focusing on the strict conditions to obtain the legal status of *Europarty* and the rules to apply for funding from the general budget of the European Union. Finally, a first, very tentative proposal is put forward in the concluding part.

### Definition of European political parties

European political parties, informally *Europarties*, are transnational federations of political parties that operate at European level and “which are recognised by, or established in accordance with, the legal order of at least one Member State of the Union” (Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council, 2014). They are associations of citizens who pursue common political objectives and “contribute to forming European political awareness and to expressing the will of citizens of the Union” (Consolidated Version of the Treaty on European Union, 2007). Transnational European political parties work together with their affiliated European political foundations<sup>7</sup>, bridging the gap between politics at national level and at Union level and providing a strong link between European civil society and the Union institutions. However, European political parties should not be confused with Political Groups of the European Parliament, even if they work closely together. The European People’s Party (EPP) and the Party of European Socialists (PES) are the two biggest *Europarties*.<sup>8</sup>

### Legal analysis

In 2014, new rules were introduced regarding the statute and funding of political parties and political foundations at European level, repealing Regulation (EC) No 2004/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (4 November 2003).

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<sup>7</sup> European political foundations play a key role in complementing the objectives of the European political parties (Art. 2(4), Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council (22 October 2014). However, each European political party can have only “one formally affiliated European political foundation” (Art. 3.3, Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council (22 October 2014).

<sup>8</sup> In the annexes, there is a list of *Europarties* and the grants they receive through their political foundation.

### Conditions for registration

Regulation No 1141/2014 lays down specific conditions for the registration of European political parties. In particular, a political alliance shall apply to register as a *Europarty* only if it has its headquarters in a Member State, it respects the values on which the European Union is founded<sup>9</sup> and it does not pursue profit goals. Furthermore, it must have already participated in the elections to the European Parliament, or expressed the intention to do so in the next elections. Finally, a party will obtain the legal status of European political party only once it or its members satisfied one of the following conditions:

- in the previous European elections, they shall have received, in at least one quarter of the Member States, a minimum of 3% of the votes cast for each of those Member States, or
- they shall be members of the European Parliament, of national/regional parliaments or members of regional assemblies in at least one quarter of the Member States.

Moreover, a European political party shall provide itself with a statute including provisions on its internal party organisation, especially concerning the modalities for admission, resignation and exclusion of its members and the internal decision-making processes (i.e. voting procedures, quorum requirements, etc.). Additional requirements for the statute may be imposed by the Member State of the headquarters, on condition that those additional requirements do not contradict Regulation 1141/2014. At the same time, also the statute of their affiliated European political foundations have to match similar requirements established by the Regulation<sup>10</sup>.

Once an association of citizens respects those fundamental criteria, it shall submit the application to an independent European Authority for European political parties and European political foundations (“the Authority”). The Authority has the power to decide on the registration and de-registration of European political parties and foundations in accordance with the procedures and conditions laid down in Regulation 1141/2014. The Authority examines and determines whether the applicant satisfies or not the conditions for registration<sup>11</sup> and whether the statutes contain the provisions required by the Regulation

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<sup>9</sup> It refers to those values mentioned in Art. 2 TEU: “respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities [...] in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail”.

<sup>10</sup> See Art. 5, Regulation (EC, EURATOM) No 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations.

<sup>11</sup> Conditions for registration are laid down in Art. 3 of Regulation (EC, EURATOM) No 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations.

1141/2014<sup>12</sup>. Provided that the applicant meets all these conditions, the Authority registers it as European political party and publishes its decision in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

### Legal status

As soon as the decision of the Authority is published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, European political parties and European political foundations enjoy European legal personality, recognition and capacity in all Member States. However, it is necessary to point out that the European legal personality is not directly acquired under the Regulation: the political party which applies for registration at European level must firstly enjoy legal personality in the Member State where it has its headquarters. It follows that, the acquisition of European legal personality – which is subject to requirements and procedures to protect the interests of the Member State of the seat – is the conversion of the previous national legal personality into a successor European one. In addition, provisions of national law in the Member State of the seat govern European political parties and their affiliated foundations for matters not covered by the Regulation.

### Funding

Once the *Europarty* acquires the legal status of European political party, it may apply for funding from the general budget of the European Union by submitting an application to the European Parliament. A European political foundation may request funding “only through the European political party with which it is affiliated”<sup>13</sup>. Financial contributions or grants from the general budget of the European Union nevertheless “shall not exceed 85% of the annual reimbursable expenditure indicated in the budget of a European political party and 85% of the eligible costs incurred by a European political foundation” (Article 17(4)). The rest of the expenditure has to be covered by own resources (i.e. membership fees and donations). The received grant can be used to meet administrative costs and expenses linked to technical assistance, meetings, research, cross-border events, studies, information and publications, as well as expenditure linked to campaign costs connected to European elections. However, the grant shall not be used to finance referendum campaigns, funding of national parties or debts.

Regarding donations and contributions, Article 20 of the Regulation states that “European political parties and European political foundations may accept donations from natural or legal

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<sup>12</sup> It refers to those provisions stated in Art. 4 and Art. 5 of Regulation (EC, EURATOM) No 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations.

<sup>13</sup> According to Art.18 of Regulation (EC, EURATOM) 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations, “a European political foundation shall include in its application its annual work programme or action plan”.

persons of up to a value of EUR 18 000 per year and per donor”. European political parties and foundations shall transmit a list of all donors with their corresponding contributions at the time of the submission of their annual financial statements.

The Authority, the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament and the Member States, cooperate via the National Contact Points sharing information and keeping each other regularly informed of matters related to founding provisions, control and sanctions. They work together especially for the control of compliance by European political parties and political foundations with their obligations. The European Parliament (and its Authorising Officer) has the power to take any necessary measures in order to prevent and fight against fraud (Article 24), while the Court of Auditors exercises its audit powers, requesting at any moment, any document or information.

### Monitoring and Termination of European legal personality

Even after the European legal personality is obtained, *Europarties* and their affiliated foundations will continue to be subject to regular control by the competent authority. The Authority regularly verifies that the conditions for registration and the governance provisions continue to be satisfied and if it considers that a European political party or a foundation violates one of the values in which the Union is founded<sup>14</sup>, it can request for an opinion from a committee of independent eminent persons<sup>15</sup>. The Committee investigates and requests any relevant document and evidence it needs for its investigation. After hearing the opinion of the Committee, the Authority can decide if the breach persists and, in that case, it can decide to de-register the European political party, communicating it to the European Parliament and the Council. If the European Parliament and the Council do not express any objection within a period of three months, the Authority proceeds to the de-registration of the European political party. As soon as the Authority communicates its decision to remove a European political party or a foundation from the Register, it loses its European legal personality.

### Conclusions

The conditions for setting up a European political party appear tough but fair and from a social movement perspective may appear familiar. The condition of being represented in 7 Member States is similar to the condition of having a citizens’ committee of 7 members to launch a

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<sup>14</sup> It refers to registration conditions laid down in Art.3, to governance provisions laid down in points (a), (b), (d), (e), (f) of Art. 4(1) and points (a) to (e) and (g) of Art. 5(1) of Regulation (EC, EURATOM) 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations and to those fundamental values mentioned in Art.2 TEU.

<sup>15</sup> The committee of independent eminent persons comprises six independent members, appointed by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.

citizens' committee for example. Many will be attracted by the fact that Europarties have legal personality across the EU whilst there is still no European statute for associations. At a time when financing of political parties is receiving increasing public attention, the rules here on transparency, capping of donations and external control appear to correspond to standards which are more advanced than for many national parties. Most civil society activists are unaware of these rules and funding arrangements but if they were would probably find them appealing.

Is the answer therefore for a group of European associations/movements to make the transition which would be relatively straightforward from being an international not for profit organisation to becoming a European party? In theory, this could be a relatively seamless development since most political parties have an NGO legal status. One could look for examples from the transition from civil society to political movements before and after the fall of the Berlin Wall in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe or more recent movements in Greece, Italy, Spain or France.

Another approach would be for Civil Society Organisations to recognise that whilst change in Europe requires new political forces, they should preserve a demarcation line between the spheres of participatory and representative democracy. This could lead to a more indirect encouragement for the emergence of a European party. This idea requires more exploration. Basically, it would be a coming together of civil society organisations to create not a European political party but a logistical platform for one with tangible commitments from their own funds and staff time together with external funding. Having set up the platform, the next step would be to ensure that it could be used provided there was a critical mass of political movements/forces coming together to use it and agreement on a limited agenda. Such an agenda would include the Europeanisation of political parties by introducing transnational lists for elections to the European Parliament. An attractive feature of the proposal to set up a Common European Platform is that such building block for European public sphere would be used for other purposes: more hardline lobbying of mainstream political parties or to help launch of European Citizens' Initiatives (ECIs).

The strong card civil society organisations can play is that they do operate fully on a European scale and have something to offer political parties at a time when the European political space is being dangerously renationalised. Such proposal do require new rethinking about the relationship between social movements and political parties, which generally operates in parallel lines with more opportunistic ad hoc marriages of convenience.

## ANNEXES

Political Party	Funding – Final Grant Received in 2015	Funding – Expected Maximum grant awarded (€) for 2017 *	Political Foundation**
European People's Party (EPP) <a href="http://www.epp.eu">www.epp.eu</a>	8.053.043	8.893.000	Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies ( <a href="http://www.martenscentre.eu">www.martenscentre.eu</a> );
Party of European Socialists (PES) <a href="http://www.pes.eu">www.pes.eu</a>	5.828.179	6.941.145	Foundation for European Progressive Studies ( <a href="http://www.feps-europe.eu">www.feps-europe.eu</a> );
Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party (ALDE) <a href="https://www.aldeparty.eu/">https://www.aldeparty.eu/</a>	2.093.480	2.468.649	European Liberal Forum ( <a href="http://www.liberalforum.eu">www.liberalforum.eu</a> );
Alliance of Conservatives and Reformists in Europe (ACRE) <a href="http://www.acreurope.eu/">http://www.acreurope.eu/</a>	1.951.521	2.468.649	New Direction – Foundation for European Reform ( <a href="http://www.iedonline.eu">www.iedonline.eu</a> );
European Green Party (EGP) <a href="http://www.europeangreens.eu">www.europeangreens.eu</a>	1.665.874	1.865.999	Green European Foundation ( <a href="http://www.gef.eu">www.gef.eu</a> );

<p><b>Party of European Left (PEL)</b>  <a href="http://www.european-left.org">www.european-left.org</a></p>	1.484.078	1.624.939	<p><b>Transform Europe</b> (<a href="http://www.transform-network.org">www.transform-network.org</a>);</p>
<p><b>Movement for a Europe of Liberties and Democracy (MENL)</b>  <a href="http://www.menleuropa.eu">www.menleuropa.eu</a></p>	400.778	1.696.660	<p><b>Fondation pour une Europe des Nations et des Libertés</b>  (<a href="http://www.fenl.eu">www.fenl.eu</a>);</p>
<p><b>European Democratic Party (EDP)</b>  <a href="http://www.pde-edp.net">www.pde-edp.net</a></p>	456.896	552.500	<p><b>Institute of European Democrats</b>  (<a href="http://www.iedonline.eu">www.iedonline.eu</a>);</p>
<p><b>European Free Alliance (EFA)</b>  <a href="http://www.e-f-a.org">www.e-f-a.org</a></p>	635.911	781.229	<p><b>Centrum Maurits Coppetiers</b>  (<a href="http://www.cmc-foundation.eu">www.cmc-foundation.eu</a>);</p>
<p><b>European Alliance for Freedom (EAF)</b>  <a href="http://www.eurallfree.org/">http://www.eurallfree.org/</a></p>	494.264	419.639	<p><b>European Foundation for Freedom</b>  (<a href="http://www.eurfreedom.org">www.eurfreedom.org</a>);</p>
<p><b>Alliance of European National Movements (AEMN)</b>  <a href="http://aemn.info/it/">http://aemn.info/it/</a></p>	292.031	419.639	<p><b>Identités &amp; Traditions Européennes</b>  (<a href="http://www.idte.eu">www.idte.eu</a>);</p>
<p><b>European Christian Political Movement (ECPM)</b>  <a href="http://www.ecpm.info">www.ecpm.info</a></p>	460.950	499.993	<p><b>Christian Political Foundation of Europe</b> (<a href="http://www.ecpf.info">www.ecpf.info</a>);</p>

<p>Europeans United for Democracy – formerly EU Democrats (EUD)  <a href="http://www.europeansunitedfordemocracy.org/">http://www.europeansunitedfordemocracy.org/</a></p>	292.428	419.639	<p>Organisation for European Interstate Cooperation (<a href="http://www.ooiceurope.com">www.ooiceurope.com</a>);</p>
<p>Alliance for Peace and Freedom  <a href="http://www.alliance-for-peace-and-freedom.com">www.alliance-for-peace-and-freedom.com</a></p>	/	419.639	<p>Europa Terra Nostra (<a href="http://www.europa-terra-nostra.com">www.europa-terra-nostra.com</a>);</p>
<p>Alliance for Direct Democracy in Europe (ADDE)  <a href="http://addeurope.org/">http://addeurope.org/</a></p>	820.725	1.102.643	<p>Initiative for Direct Democracy in Europe (<a href="http://iddeurope.org/">http://iddeurope.org/</a>);</p>
<p>Coalition for Life and Family  <a href="http://www.coalitionlifeandfamily.com">www.coalitionlifeandfamily.com</a></p>	/	299.109	<p>Fondation Pegasus;</p>

\* **Source:** “Grants from the European Parliament to political parties at European level per party and per year”, Directorate-General for Finance, European Parliament ([http://www.europarl.europa.eu/pdf/grants/Grant\\_amounts\\_parties\\_01\\_2017.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/pdf/grants/Grant_amounts_parties_01_2017.pdf)).

\*\* **Source:** “Grants from the European Parliament to political foundations at European level per foundation per year”, Directorate-General for Finance, European Parliament ([http://www.europarl.europa.eu/pdf/grants/Grant\\_amounts\\_foundations\\_01\\_2017.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/pdf/grants/Grant_amounts_foundations_01_2017.pdf)).

Grants from the European Parliament to political parties at European level per party and per year

January 2017

Party	Address	Country	Website	Year	Maximum grant awarded ( € )	Final grant**** (€)
Alliance for Direct Democracy in Europe	Square de Meeûs 37 B-1000	Belgium	<a href="http://www.addeurope.org">www.addeurope.org</a>	2015	1.241.725	820.725
				2016	1.403.388	
				2017	1.102.643	
Alliance of Conservatives and Reformists in Europe (formerly Alliance of European Conservatives and Reformists)	Rue du Trône 4 1000 Brussels	B- Belgium	<a href="http://www.acreurope.eu">www.acreurope.eu</a>	2010	1.016.275	327.164
				2011	1.140.478	632.626
				2012	1.285.913	1.138.751
				2013	1.402.596	1.402.596
				2014	1.958.083	1.943.434
				2015	1.951.521	1.951.521
				2016	2.531.682	
2017	2.468.649					
Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party (formerly European Liberal Democrat and Reform Party)	Rue d'Idalie 11 B-1050 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.aldeparty.eu">www.aldeparty.eu</a>	2004	618.896	462.661
				2005	894.454	819.563
				2006	883.500	883.500
				2007	1.133.362	1.022.344
				2008	1.115.665	1.115.665
				2009	1.179.191	1.179.191
				2010	1.553.984	1.553.984
				2011	1.815.770	1.815.770
				2012	1.950.344	1.950.344
				2013	2.232.476	2.232.476
2014	2.812.798	2.812.798				
2015	2.093.480	2.093.480				
2016	2.337.149					
2017	2.468.649					
European Alliance for Freedom	2a Delmar, Flat 1, Brared St., Birkirkara	Malta	<a href="http://www.eurallfree.org">www.eurallfree.org</a>	2011	372.753	368.262
				2012	360.455	357.089
				2013	385.323	384.064
				2014	521.198	521.198
				2015	496.440	494.264
				2016	390.696	
2017	419.639					
Alliance Européenne de Mouvements Nationaux	rue de Boofzheim 2 F-67150 Matzenheim	France	<a href="http://www.aemn.info">www.aemn.info</a>	2012	289.266	186.292
				2013	385.323	350.294
				2014	454.366	363.131
				2015	354.480	292.013
				2016	391.813	
2017	419.639					
Alliance for Peace and Freedom	Rogierlaan 199 B-1030 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.alliance-for-peace-and-freedom.com">www.alliance-for-peace-and-freedom.com</a>	2016	400.000	
				2017	419.639	
Coalition pour la Vie et la Famille	56 avenue Wielemans- Ceuppens B-1190 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.coalitionlifeandfamily.com">www.coalitionlifeandfamily.com</a>	2017	299.109	
Europeans United for Democracy (formerly EUDemocrats)	Nordkystvejen 2F DK-8961 Allingaabro	Denmark	<a href="http://www.europeansunitedfordemocracy.org">www.europeansunitedfordemocracy.org</a>	2006*	219.825	57.763
				2007	234.000	226.280
				2008	226.700	153.821
				2009	245.274	217.167
				2010	211.125	176.069
				2011	259.852	166.803
				2012	241.807	195.364
				2013	278.242	196.644
				2014	353.977	273.686
				2015	389.970	292.428
2016	430.720					
2017	419.639					

Grants from the European Parliament to political parties at European level per party and per year

January 2017

Party	Address	Country	Website	Year	Maximum grant awarded ( € )	Final grant**** (€)
European Christian Political Movement	Bergstraat 33 NL-3811 NG Amersfoort	Netherlands	<a href="http://www.ecpm.info">www.ecpm.info</a>	2010	209.500	208.359
				2011	259.852	259.852
				2012	241.807	241.807
				2013	305.012	305.012
				2014	387.534	387.534
				2015	460.950	460.950
				2016	547.440	
European Democratic Party	Rue de l'Industrie 4 B-1000 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.pde-edp.net">www.pde-edp.net</a>	2004	340.425	69.862
				2005	459.530	253.933
				2006	514.797	163.571
				2007	526.148	152.611
				2008	496.291	407.693
				2009	492.487	249.084
				2010	505.617	423.886
				2011	598.555	370.916
				2012	550.293	362.826
				2013	571.946	436.636
				2014	653.919	564.673
				2015	651.950	456.896
				2016	588.200	
2017	552.500					
European Free Alliance	Boomkwekerijstraat 1/4 B-1000 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.e-f-a.org">www.e-f-a.org</a>	2004	165.724	163.222
				2005	217.906	217.906
				2006	222.627	220.914
				2007	222.541	215.198
				2008	226.600	226.600
				2009	226.600	226.600
				2010	339.965	339.152
				2011	395.333	392.280
				2012	384.185	382.259
				2013	438.864	438.864
				2014	554.614	525.955
				2015	709.378	635.911
				2016	777.490	
2017	781.229					
European Green Party	Rue Wiertz 31 B-1050 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.europeangreens.eu">www.europeangreens.eu</a>	2004	306.000	171.461
				2005	568.261	568.261
				2006	581.000	581.000
				2007	631.750	631.750
				2008	641.534	641.534
				2009	643.562	643.562
				2010	1.054.999	1.054.999
				2011	1.298.539	1.298.539
				2012	1.333.372	1.333.372
				2013	1.563.218	1.563.218
				2014	1.917.890	1.917.890
				2015	1.703.093	1.665.874
				2016	1.798.090	
2017	1.865.999					
European People's Party	Rue du Commerce 10 B- 1000 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.epp.eu">www.epp.eu</a>	2004	1.587.587	1.051.469
				2005	2.863.693	2.398.941
				2006	2.929.841	2.914.060
				2007	3.271.810	3.156.414
				2008	3.354.754	3.354.754
				2009	3.485.708	3.485.708
				2010	4.959.462	4.959.462
				2011	6.183.988	6.183.988
				2012	6.482.715	6.482.714
				2013	7.276.292	6.463.606
				2014	9.450.842	9.326.735
				2015	8.091.256	8.053.043
				2016	8.683.552	
2017	8.893.000					
Mouvement pour une Europe des Nations et des Libertés	Rue de Téhéran 3, F- 75008 Paris	France	<a href="http://www.menleuropa.eu">www.menleuropa.eu</a>	2015	1.170.746	400.778
				2016	1.546.439	
				2017	1.696.660	

Grants from the European Parliament to political parties at European level per party and per year

January 2017

Party	Address	Country	Website	Year	Maximum grant awarded ( € )	Final grant**** (€)
Party of European Socialists	Rue du Trône 98 B-1050 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.pes.eu">www.pes.eu</a>	2004	1.257.000	1.093.853
				2005	2.489.175	2.489.175
				2006	2.580.000	2.580.000
				2007	2.994.603	2.992.218
				2008	3.027.647	3.027.647
				2009	3.100.000	3.100.000
				2010	3.395.323	3.395.323
				2011	4.117.825	4.117.825
				2012	4.323.313	4.323.313
				2013	4.985.352	4.985.351
				2014	6.376.706	5.297.172
2015	6.541.317	5.828.179				
2016	7.154.167					
2017	6.941.145					
Party of the European Left	Square de Meeûs 25 B- 1000 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.european-left.org">www.european-left.org</a>	2004	210.275	120.895
				2005	365.868	365.868
				2006	518.626	439.019
				2007	526.148	524.251
				2008	536.685	536.539
				2009	562.405	562.405
				2010	708.080	708.080
				2011	846.936	846.936
				2012	835.049	835.049
				2013	947.500	947.500
				2014	1.219.120	1.219.120
2015	1.632.113	1.484.078				
2016	1.594.189					
2017	1.624.939					
Movement for a Europe of Liberties and Democracy***	Rue Cler, 18 F-75007 Paris	France	-	2012	621.482	457.730
				2013	813.649	593.589
				2014	1.052.747	634.779
				2015	425.460	43.689
-						
Alliance for Europe of the Nations***	Bld du Prince Henri 27 L- 1724 Luxembourg	Luxembourg	-	2004	161.250	83.964
				2005	450.000	114.330
				2006	450.000	144.809
				2007	300.000	159.138
				2008	300.000	206.376
				2009	577.150	384.558
Alliance of Independent Democrats in Europe***	Rue Pasteur 34 F- 69007 Lyon	France	-	2006*	328.125	170.064
				2007	356.250	239.410
				2008	413.990	303.051
The Libertas Party Limited***	Moyne Park Tuam, Co	Ireland	-	2009**	202.823	

\*: including, for the final grant, a correction approved in 2007 (ADIE), and in 2009 (EUD)

\*\*: decision suspended on 5 February 2009

\*\*\*: does not receive a grant from the EU budget anymore

\*\*\*\*: final grant is established in the second half of the year following the year when the maximum possible grant was established

Grants from the European Parliament to political foundations at European level per foundation per year

January 2017

Foundation	Affiliated to party	Address	Country	Website	Year*	Maximum grant awarded (€)	Final grant**** (€)
Centrum Maurits Coppetiers	European Free Alliance	Boomwekereijstraat 1 B-1000 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.cmc-foundation.eu">www.cmc-foundation.eu</a>	2008/2	106.608	106.608
					2009	147.929	146.575
					2010	212.544	155.801
					2011	252.450	249.940
					2012	259.134	199.585
					2013	249.695	226.802
					2014	267.388	216.380
					2015	297.500	240.601
					2016	324.930	
2017	457.035						
Christian Political Foundation of Europe	European Christian Political Movement	Bergstraat 33 NL-3811 NG Amersfoort	Netherlands	<a href="http://www.ecpf.info">www.ecpf.info</a>	2011	150.000	115.234
					2012	167.198	167.198
					2013	173.539	169.887
					2014	186.836	186.836
					2015	766.745	766.745
					2016	326.023	
2017	310.164						
Europa Terra Nostra	Alliance for Peace and Freedom	Seelenbinderstrasse, 42 12555 Berlin	DE-Germany	<a href="http://www.europa-terra-nostra.com">www.europa-terra-nostra.com</a>	2016	197.625	
					2017	262.098	
European Foundation for Freedom	European Alliance for Freedom	2A, Delmar, Flat 1, Brared Street BKR 2140 Birkirkara	Malta	<a href="http://www.eurfreesdom.org">www.eurfreesdom.org</a>	2011	244.217	235.586
					2012	243.811	234.133
					2013	219.233	209.906
					2014	251.277	244.385
					2015	269.956	268.136
					2016	232.678	
2017	261.250						
European Liberal Forum	Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party (before European Liberal Democrat and Reform Party)	Rue des Deux Eglises 37/39 1000 Brussels	B-Belgium	<a href="http://www.liberalforum.eu">www.liberalforum.eu</a>	2008/2	233.750	172.187
					2009	725.200	609.356
					2010	818.438	658.097
					2011	942.819	804.634
					2012	1.075.703	995.300
					2013	1.270.187	1.107.696
					2014	1.362.890	941.281
					2015	984.981	879.840
					2016	1.391.869	
2017	1.487.768						
Fondation pour une Europe des Nations et des Libertés	Mouvement pour une Europe des Nations et des Libertés	Rue de Téhéran 3 F- 75008 Paris	France	<a href="http://www.fenl.eu">www.fenl.eu</a>	2015	621.677	248.448
					2016	943.905	
					2017	1.010.392	
Fondation Pegasus	Coalition Pour la Vie et la Famille	56 Avenue Wielemans Ceuppens B- 1190 Brussels	Belgium		2017	190.000	
Foundation for European Progressive Studies	Party of European Socialists	rue Montoyer 40 B-1000 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.fepe-europe.eu">www.fepe-europe.eu</a>	2008/2	1.208.700	1.208.436
					2009	1.950.000	1.946.131
					2010	2.150.000	2.136.476
					2011	2.714.798	2.709.255
					2012	2.802.702	2.794.525
					2013	2.839.002	2.762.310
					2014	3.086.695	3.086.695
					2015	4.089.429	3.847.808
					2016	4.430.253	
2017	4.536.250						
Green European Foundation (formerly Green European Institute, 2008-2010)	European Green Party	3, rue du Fossé L- 1536 Luxembourg	Luxembourg	<a href="http://www.gef.eu">www.gef.eu</a>	2008/2	302.678	270.836
					2009	414.895	405.056
					2010	684.419	674.123
					2011	850.767	850.527
					2012	872.042	864.932
					2013	889.406	880.720
					2014	927.911	914.175
					2015	945.500	914.147
					2016	1.090.124	
2017	1.127.277						
Identités & Traditions Européennes	European Alliance of National Movements	rue Emile Vandervelde 6 B- 1460 Virginal	Belgium	<a href="http://www.idte.eu">www.idte.eu</a>	2013	219.233	177.082
					2014	219.057	173.976
					2015	208.411	169.370
					2016	222.241	
					2017	262.098	

Grants from the European Parliament to political foundations at European level per foundation per year

January 2017

Foundation	Affiliated to party	Address	Country	Website	Year*	Maximum grant awarded (€)	Final grant**** (€)
Initiative for Direct Democracy in Europe	Alliance for Direct Democracy in Europe	Square de Meeûs 37 1000 Brussels	B-Belgium	<a href="http://iddeurope.org/">http://iddeurope.org/</a>	2015	730.053	672.967
					2016	835.776	
					2017	670.655	
Institute of European Democrats	European Democratic Party	rue de l'Industrie 4 B-1000 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.iedonline.eu">www.iedonline.eu</a>	2008/2	233.110	101.108
					2009	317.500	111.710
					2010	337.585	197.052
					2011	392.156	190.989
					2012	366.393	238.077
					2013	325.851	218.731
					2014	315.264	265.165
					2015	375.882	283.831
					2016	465.047	
2017	403.750						
New Direction - Foundation for European Reform	Alliance of Conservatives and Reformists in Europe (formerly Alliance of European Conservatives and Reformists)	rue du Trône 4 B-1000 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.europeanreform.org">www.europeanreform.org</a>	2010	659.651	404.313
					2011	747.210	565.895
					2012	841.397	679.228
					2013	798.019	645.397
					2014	944.021	914.583
					2015	1.147.367	1.099.899
					2016	1.507.722	
2017	1.487.768						
Organisation for European Interstate Cooperation****	Europeans United for Democracy	c/o Philip Lerulf väg 6 SE-26653 Vejbystrand	Victorias Sweden	<a href="http://www.oiceurope.com">www.oiceurope.com</a>	2011	170.248	108.416
					2012	167.198	132.465
					2013	158.308	123.230
					2014	169.029	135.112
					2015	212.251	132.013
					2016	254.395	
Transform Europe	Party of the European Left	Gusshausstrasse 14/3 1040 Vienna	A-Austria	<a href="http://www.transform-network.org">www.transform-network.org</a>	2008/2	156.400	147.090
					2009	362.575	362.575
					2010	475.542	474.957
					2011	554.889	548.762
					2012	550.265	550.265
					2013	539.088	537.849
					2014	587.228	847.002
					2015	904.485	847.002
					2016	951.628	
2017	983.080						
Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies	European People's Party	Rue de Commerce 10 B-1000 Brussels	Belgium	<a href="http://www.martenscentre.eu">www.martenscentre.eu</a>	2008/2	1.500.208	1.344.892
					2009	2.294.292	2.276.467
					2010	3.288.663	2.928.266
					2011	4.075.836	3.864.558
					2012	4.197.068	3.718.641
					2013	4.255.505	3.985.226
					2014	4.568.845	4.203.386
					2015	4.757.131	4.724.867
					2016	5.191.840	
2017	5.357.039						
EUROPA Osservatorio sulle politiche dell'unione***	Alliance for Europe of the Nations	Via del Seminario 113 I - 00186 Rome	Italy		2008/2	232.900	232.900
					2009**	322.150	
Fondation Politique Européenne pour la Démocratie****	Alliance of Independent Democrats in Europe	rue Pasteur 34 F-69007 Lyon	France		2008/2	190.746	120.501
Foundation for EU Democracy***	EUDemocrats	rue Belliard 203 B-1040 Brussels	Belgium		2008/2	103.530	69.692
					2009	153.170	153.170
					2010	152.008	121.829
Foundation for a Europe of Liberties and Democracy***	Movement for a Europe of Liberties & Democracy	rue Cler 18 FR-75007 Paris	France		2012	412.361	193.665
					2013	462.932	279.919
					2014	507.545	270.599
					2015	749.221	92.662

\*\* : 2008/2 Grants for operation from the European Parliament covered the period between September - December 2008. The preceding period was covered by grants from the European Commission.

\*\*\*: renounced the 2009 grant

\*\*\*\*: does not receive a grant from the EU budget anymore

\*\*\*\*\*: final grant is established in the second half of the year following the year when the maximum possible grant was established