

# Today's Team



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# Rules for the webinar

- **Keep it interactive!** We want to hear your thoughts, your experiences, and your goals
- **Keep it respectful:** Please listen to your peers and approach everyone with an open mind and curiosity
- **Please ask questions!** If anything is unclear, raise your hand

# Today's Agenda

**1** The EU institutions

**2** EU legislative Procedures

**3** Current files of interest

**4** Interactive Session: Stakeholder Mapping

**5** Conclusion



A young boy with short blonde hair and glasses is sitting at a desk, talking on a black mobile phone. He is wearing a dark blue jacket over an orange shirt. On the desk in front of him is a large, complex LEGO Technic model, possibly a train or a large vehicle, with various colored bricks (orange, red, yellow, blue) and a white structure. To the left of the model is a black keyboard. In the background, there are several desk lamps and a computer monitor. The scene is lit with warm, indoor lighting.

**OKAAAAAY LETS GO**

We believe that the quality of  
public decision-making improves  
when all parties  
can have their opinions heard

A close-up shot of Gene Wilder as Gene Wilder, wearing a purple suit, a brown top hat, and a large brown bow tie. He is smiling and leaning his head on his right hand, looking towards the camera. The background is slightly blurred, showing a yellow wall and a blue door.

Oh, you assume lobbying can't be both  
ethical and effective?

Then you've clearly never heard of  
*The Good Lobby*

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THE *good* LOBBY is a non-profit committed to  
to **equalising access to power** through  
**more sustainable corporate lobbying** and  
the enhancement of the **advocacy capacity of**  
**civil society.**

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# Let's go! Unpacking the European Institutions

# EU institutions: Today's Focus



European Parliament



European Commission



Council of the European Union



European Council

Today!



# EU institutions: Today's Focus



**European  
Commission**

- 27 Commissioners
- 1 per Member State



**European  
Parliament**

- 720 MEPs
- Transnational political groups, no national delegations



**Council of the EU &  
European Council**

- Member State representatives
- President
- Presidency



**Which EU Institution proposes  
laws?**



# The Commission: Overview



## Guardian of the Treaty

- Ensures application of the Treaties and EU Law
- Is responsible for bringing infringement procedures

## Right of initiative

- Proposes Legislation (except where the Treaties provide otherwise)

## Functions

- Coordinates and manages policies, projects, networks
- Executive power, overseeing and implementation role
  - Manages EU Budget

## External representation of the EU

- Represents the EU on the international stage
  - Coordinates the HRVP
- Observes and negotiates deals on behalf of the EU

# The Commission: Overview



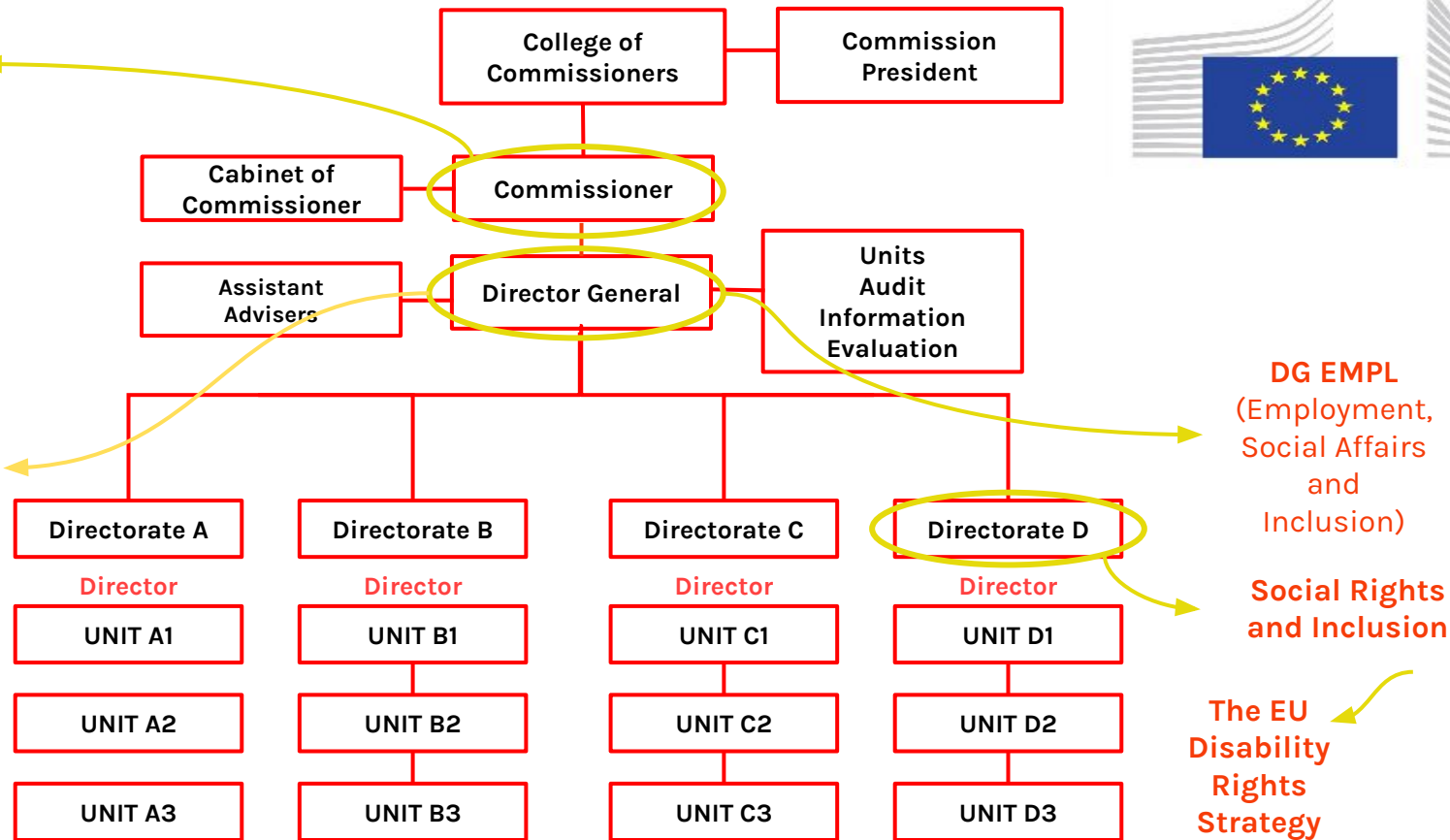
# The Commission: Key Players



**Roxana Mînzatu**  
Executive VP  
Commissioner for people,  
skills and preparedness



**Mario Nava**  
DG EMPL Director General





**Which EU Institution is a  
legislator?**

# The European Parliament: Overview



## Legislative Power

- Is the legislative equal of the Council of the EU
- OLP powers over 95% of all EU legislation

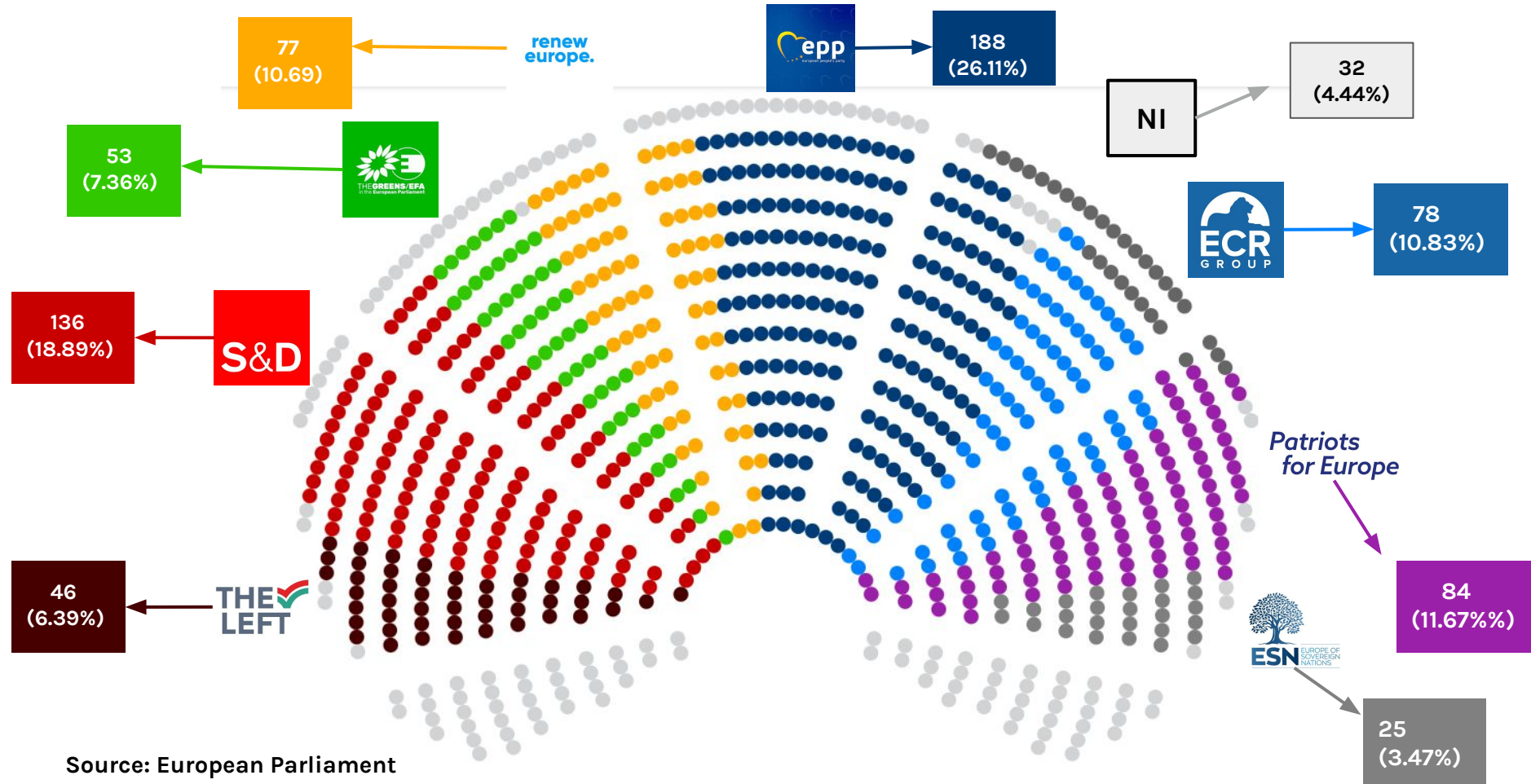
## Budgetary Role

- Forms the EU Budgetary Authority together with the Council of the EU
- Jointly agrees and monitors the execution of the annual budget with the Council of the EU

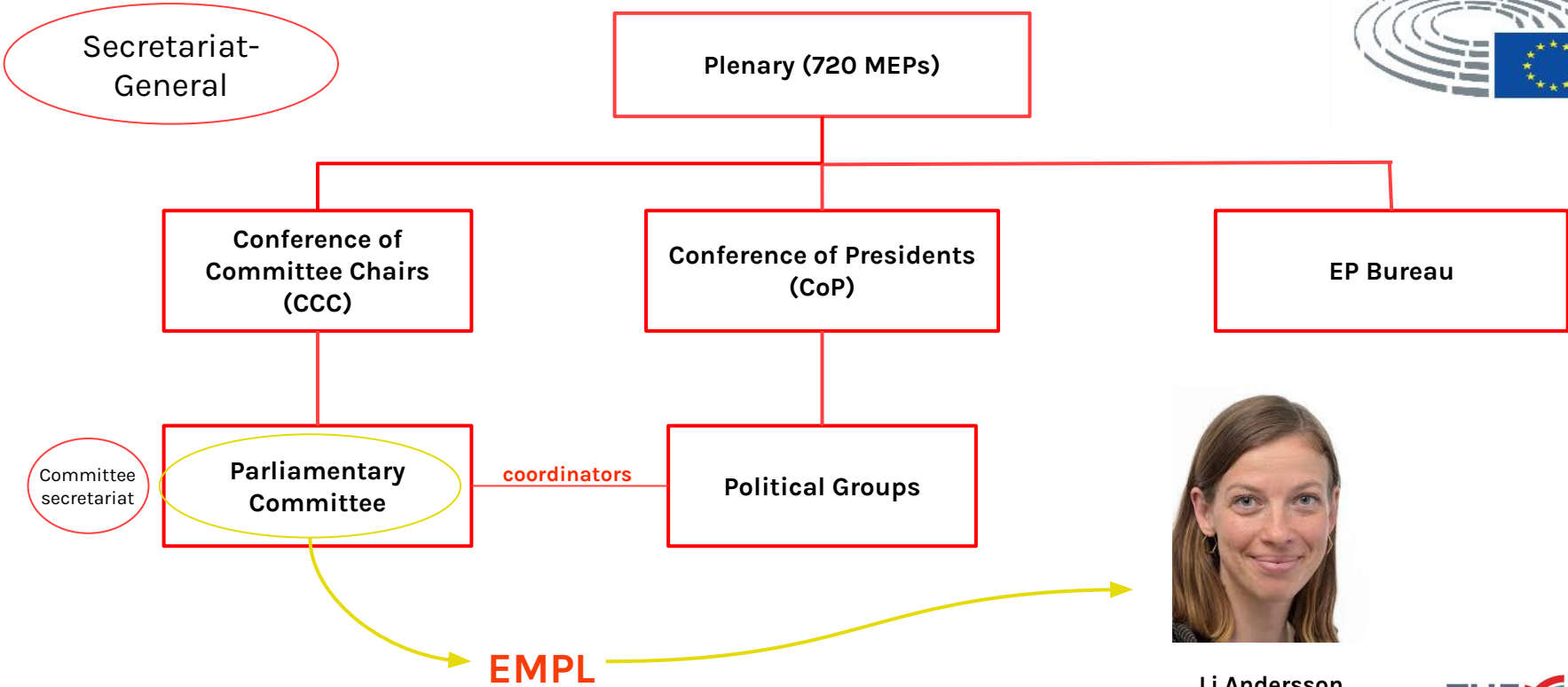
## Supervision and Control

- Supervises and elects the executive arm of the EU (Commission)
- Sets up committees of inquiry to look over violations of EU Law
- Exerts pressure where its formal mechanisms have not been respected

# The 2024-2029 EU Parliament



# The European Parliament



Li Andersson  
The Left  
EMPL Committee Chair



# The Council of the EU: Overview



## MSs Perspectives

- Brings together representatives of the MSs who are able to take decisions on behalf of their governments

## Legislative Power

- No legislative decision in the EU is taken without the Council's involvement and approval
- Voting procedure: dual majority (55% MSs + 65% of the EU Population).

## Budgetary Authority

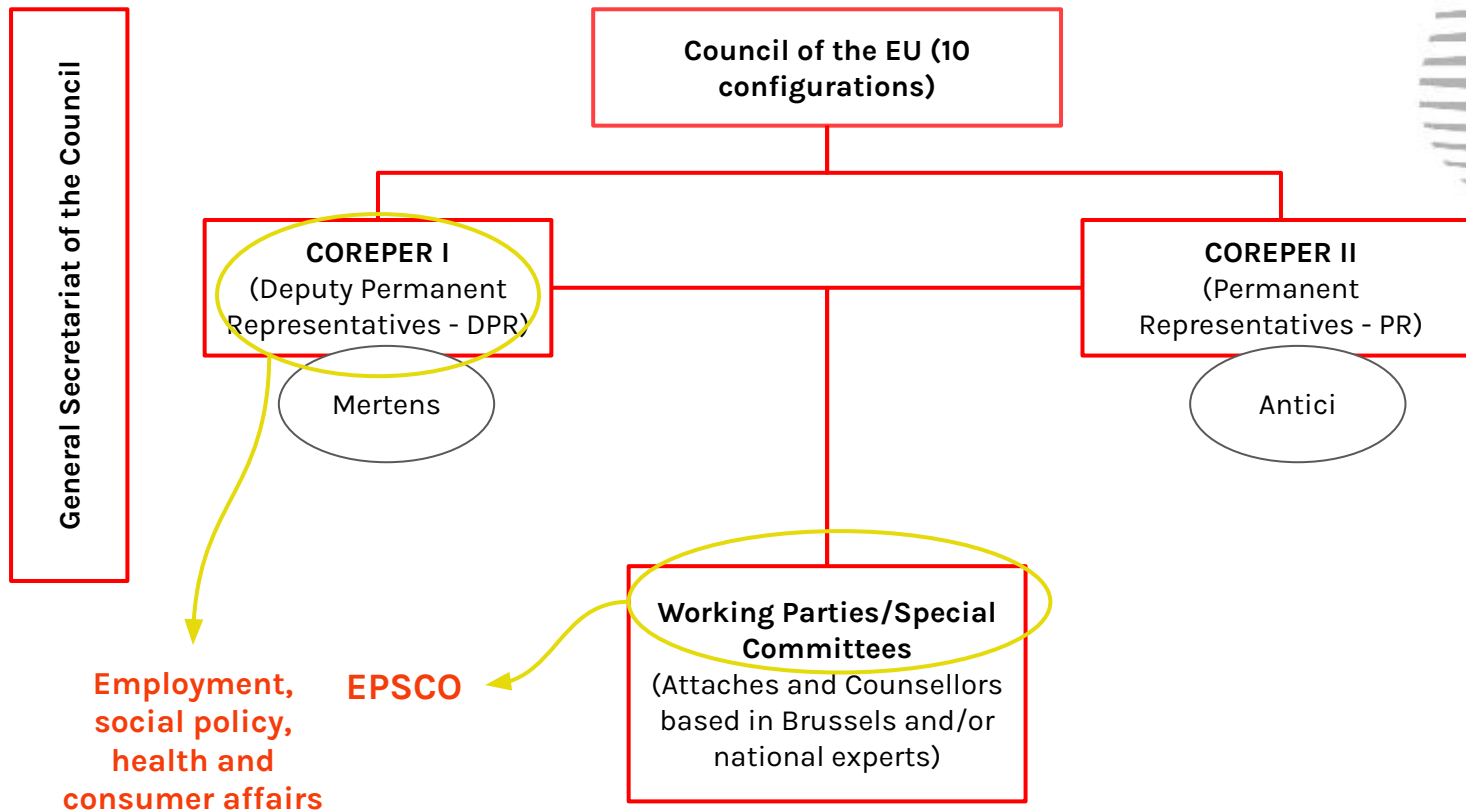
- Exerts budgetary authority together with EP (equal say).

## Executive Power (Shared with EC)

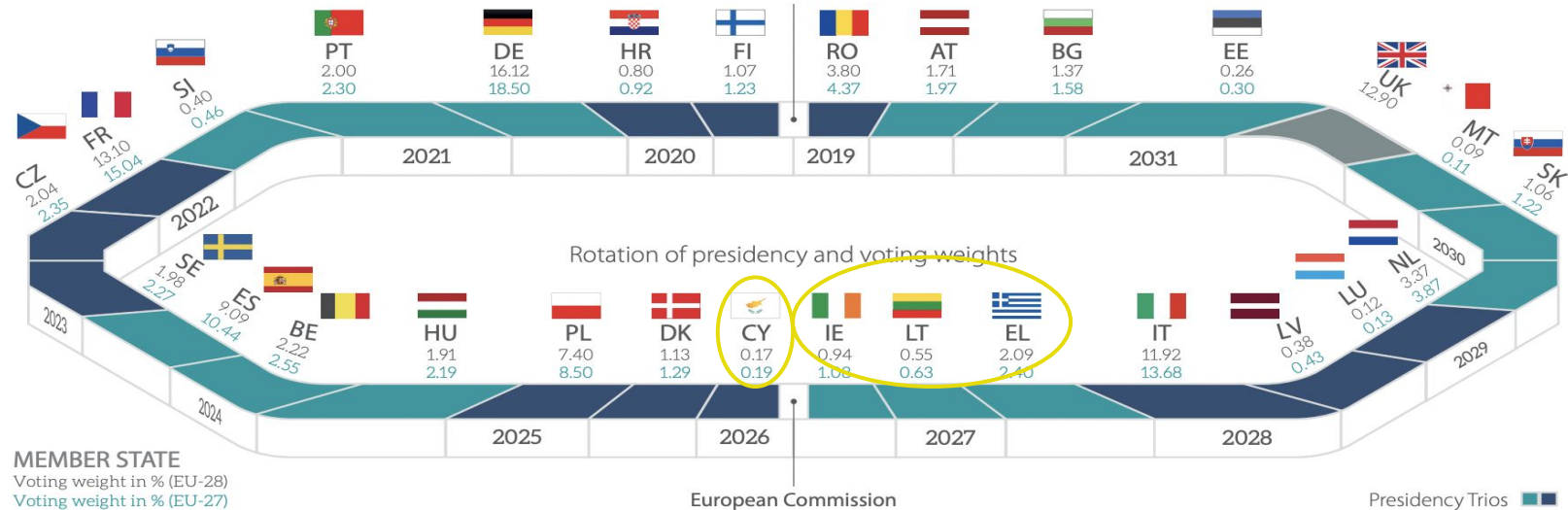
- Involvement in the implementing stage via implementing and delegated acts
- Limited areas where it exercises implementing powers

- 1 Minister for each EU Country
- Rotating Presidency every 6 months
- 10 Configurations

# Council of the EU



# Council of the EU: Composition



EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service

From 2015: 55% of the Member States with 65% of the population

# Council of the EU: Key Players



## Rotating Presidency

- Responsible for chairing Council of the EU meetings
- Sets Agenda
- Oversee and steers legislative discussions
- Fosters compromise
- Ensure continuity among different configurations

## COREPER

- Permanent representatives of each MSs in Brussels
- Prepares the groundwork for decisions made in the Council of the EU
- Negotiate legislative proposals and settle technical or political disagreements before they reach ministers for final approval

## WGs and Committees

- Civil servants and experts from MSs
- Examine and negotiate legislative proposals in detail before they reach the COREPER and Council level
- Handle the technical details and seek agreement on specific points

# The European Court of Justice: Overview



## Judicial Authority

- Supreme judicial body of the EU, ensuring uniform interpretation and application of EU law across all MS
- Its rulings are binding on all EU institutions, MSs, and national courts

## Resolving Conflicts

- Resolves disputes surrounding EU legislation between MSs, EU institutions, businesses, and individuals
- Rules on cases where EU law is contested or unclear, providing authoritative legal interpretation

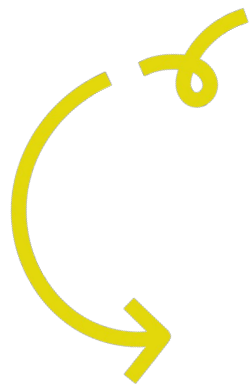
## Enforcing Compliance

- Challenges national laws that do not comply with EU law, requiring MSs to bring their legislation in line
- Pursues MSs that fail to implement EU law properly, including through financial penalties



# The EU Policy Making process

# SOURCES OF EUROPEAN LAW



Primary Law

International Agreements

**Legislative acts** (secondary)

Non-legislative acts



# How can you determine whether **the EU is competent to act?**

Read **Article 1 TEU**

High Contracting Parties establish the EU on which they  
**confer competences to attain objectives** they have in  
common

# Key types of EU legislation:

## Binding:

- **Regulation** (Applicable in its entirety)
- **Directive** (Member states implement)
- **Decision** (Applies only to those addressed)

## Non-Binding:

- **Recommendations** (call a party out)
- **Opinions** (can be a precursor to legal action)

# Key types of EU legislation:

## Regulation

**Regulations** are binding EU laws with general application, fully enforceable across all Member States without national implementation.

## Directive

**Directives** bind Member States to achieve specific results but allow flexibility in form and methods of transposition into national law.

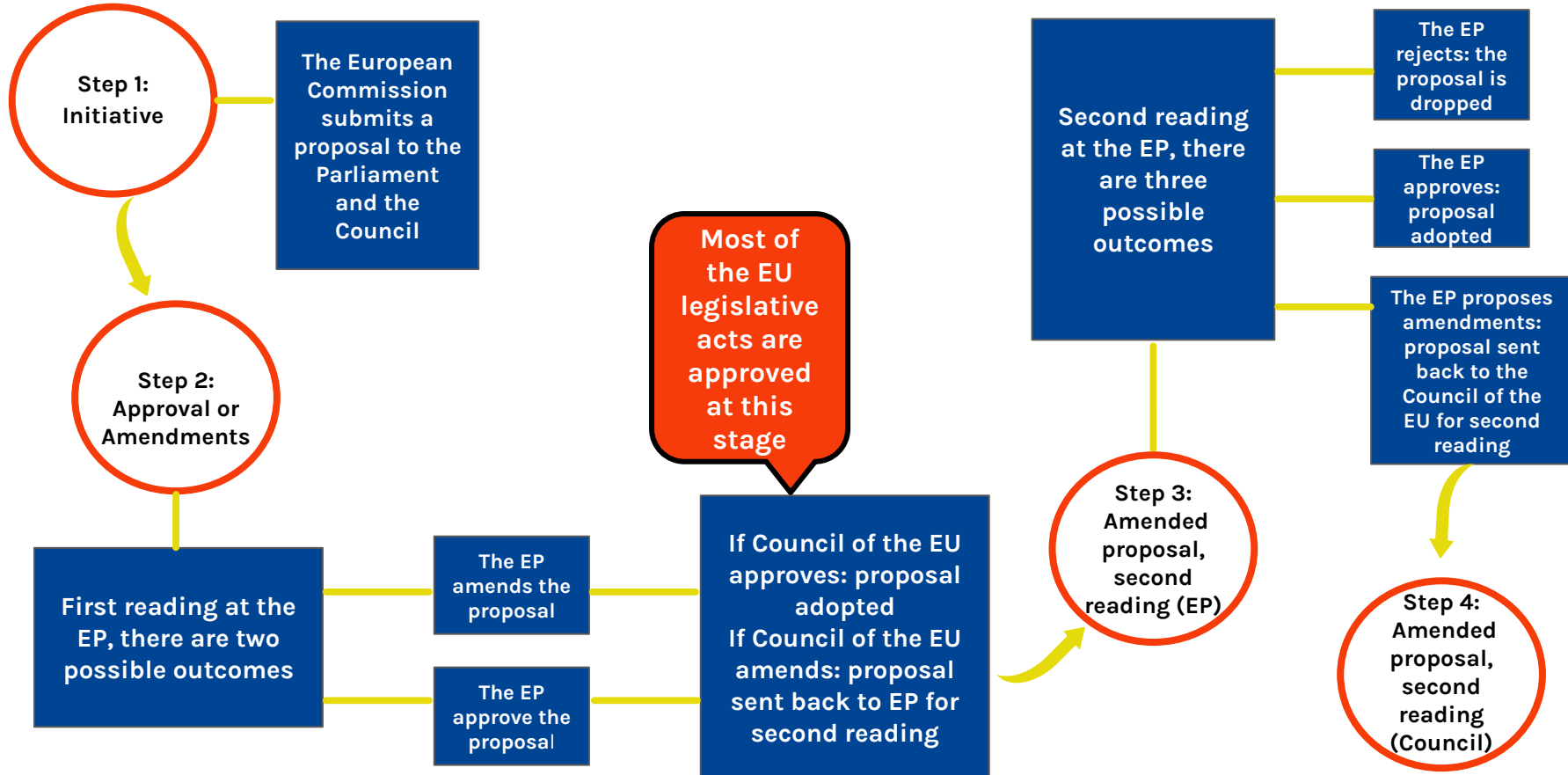
## Decision

**Decisions** bind entirely but only those specifically addressed, such as individual states, companies, or persons

# Legislative procedure(s)

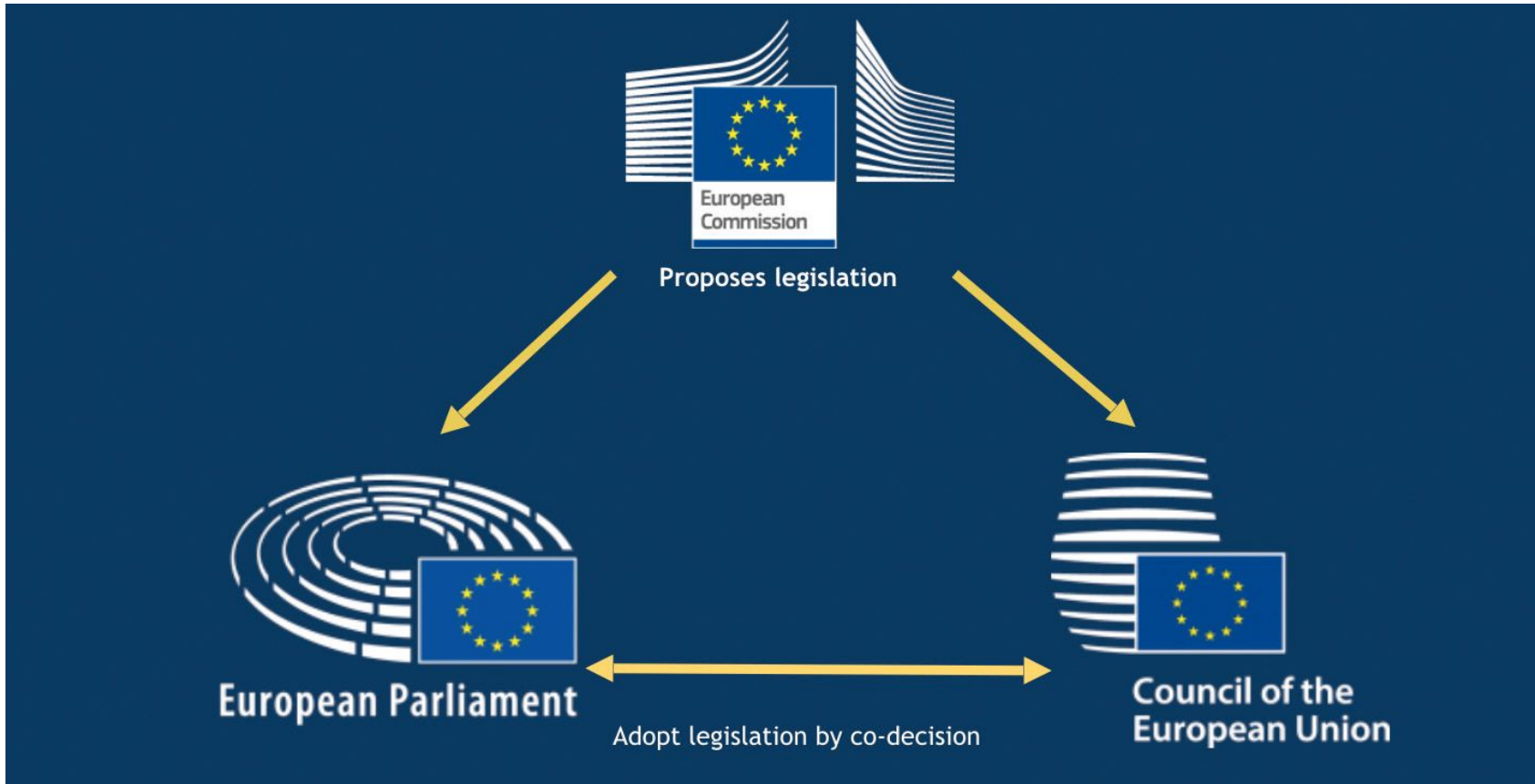
Ordinary legislative procedure (**OLP**) **main legislative procedure**, but other procedures (E.g. **Unanimity & Consent/Consultation procedure**) **still used** in some cases, including certain aspects of social policy (e.g. Combating Discrimination).

# Ordinary Legislative Procedure

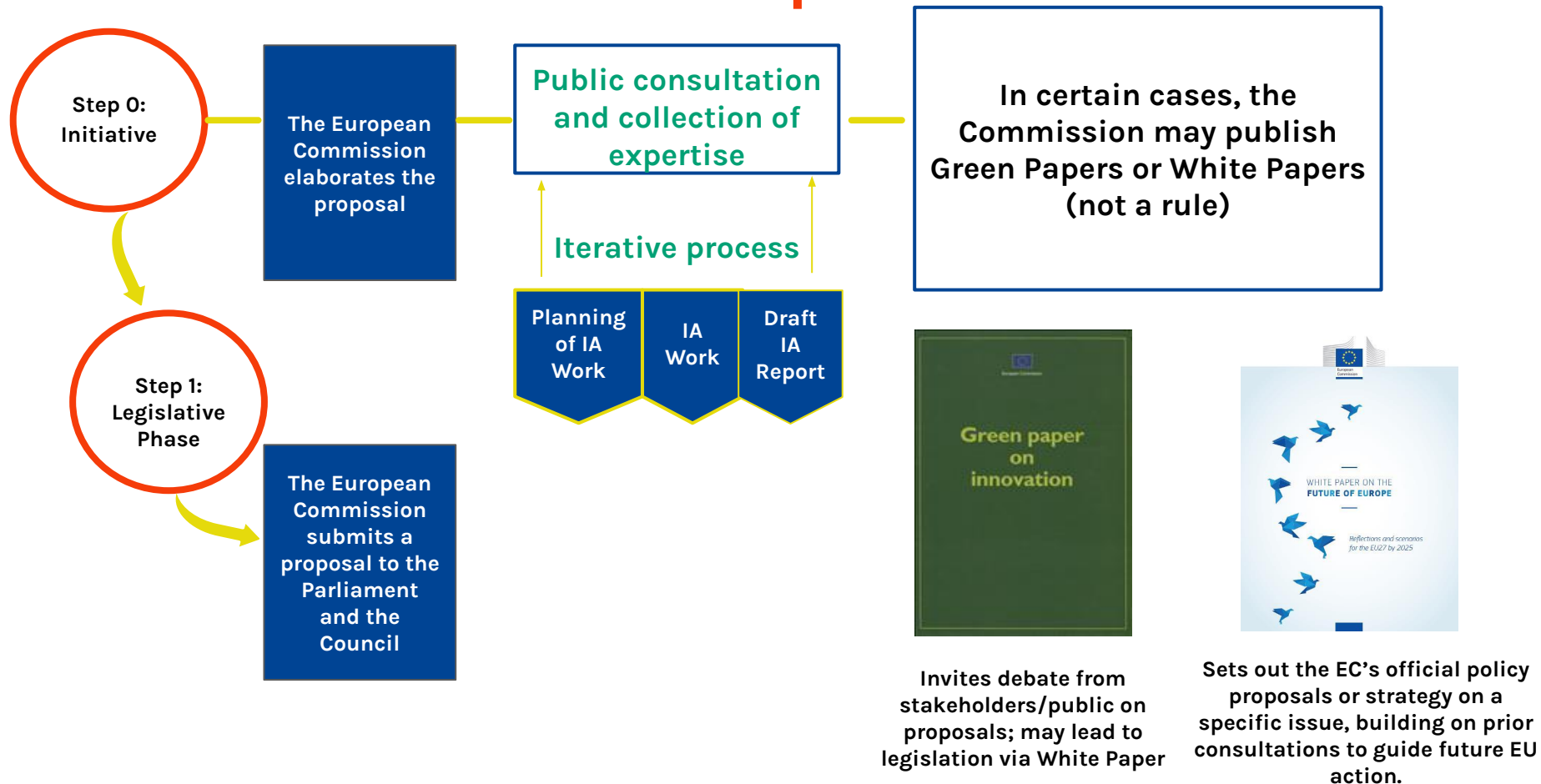




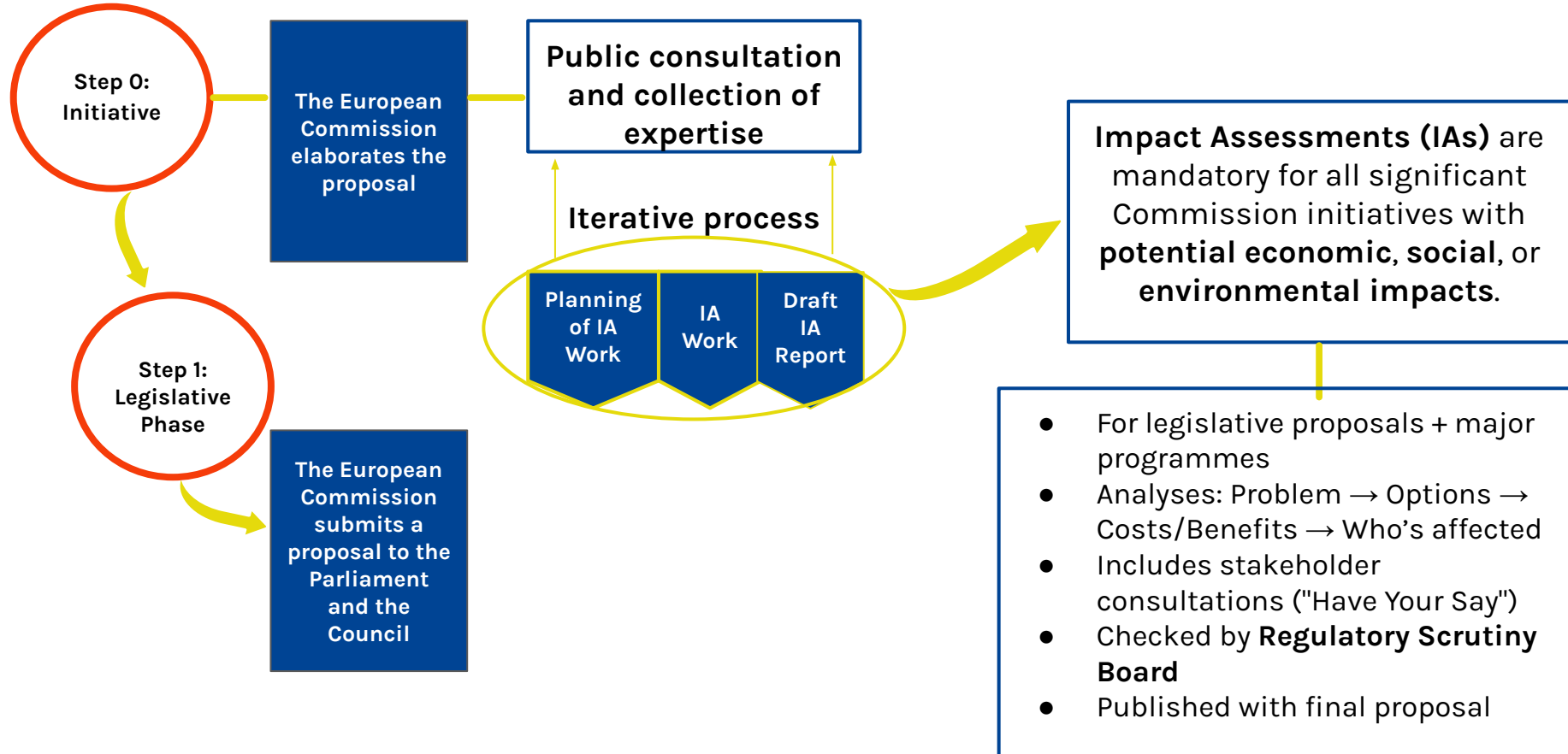
# Legislative procedure(s): the OLP



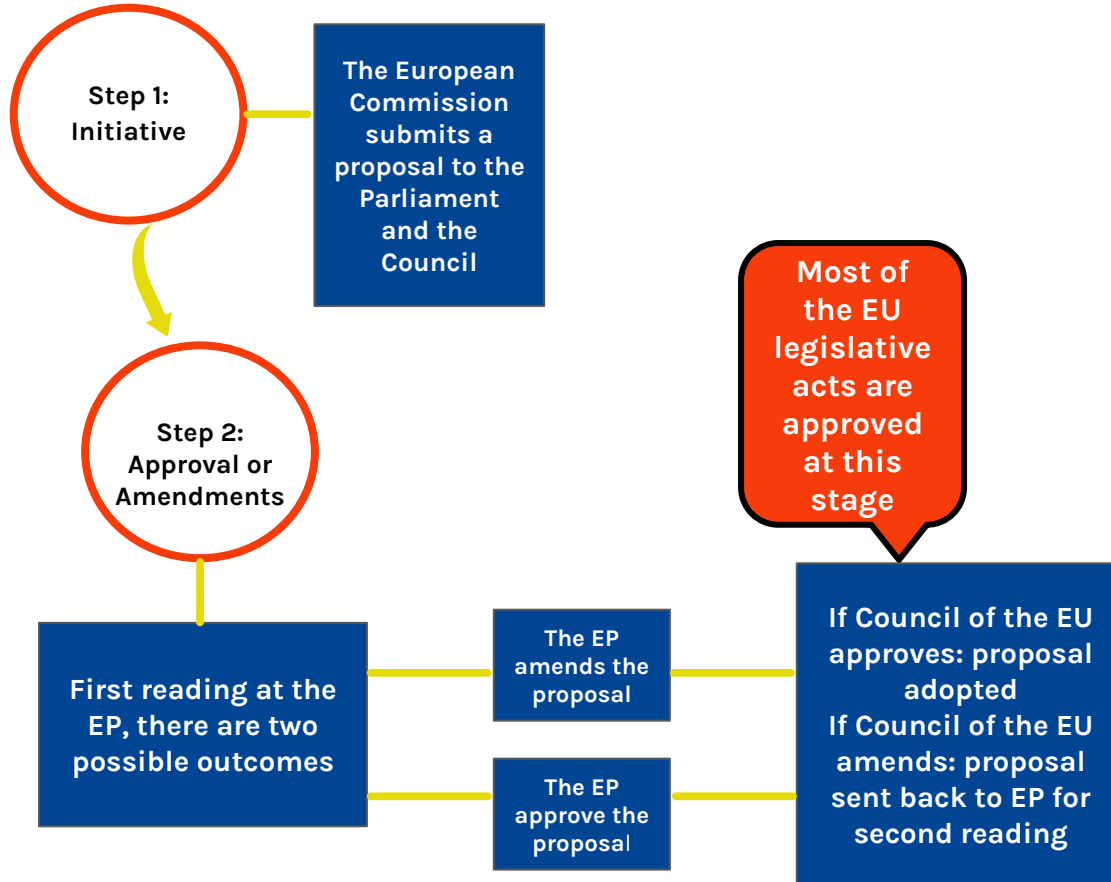
# OLP: Step 0



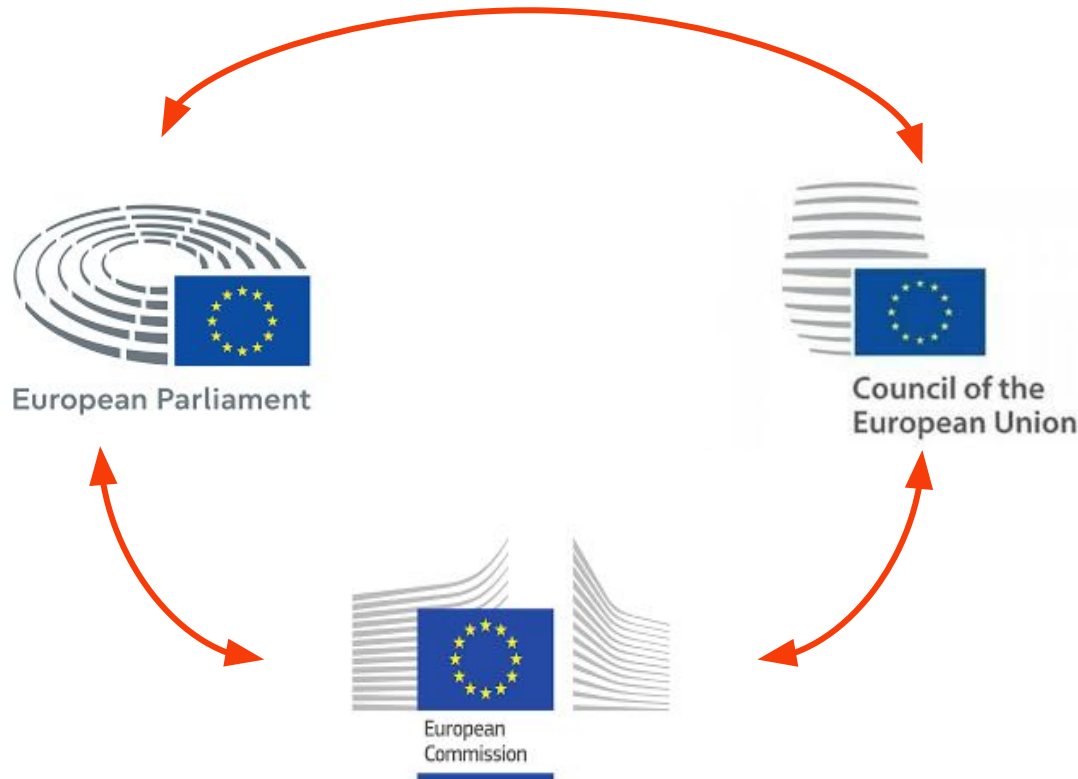
# OLP: Step 0



# OLP: Steps 1-2



# Trilogue meetings



## WHAT

Informal tripartite meetings on legislative proposals between representatives of the Parliament, the Council and the Commission

## WHERE

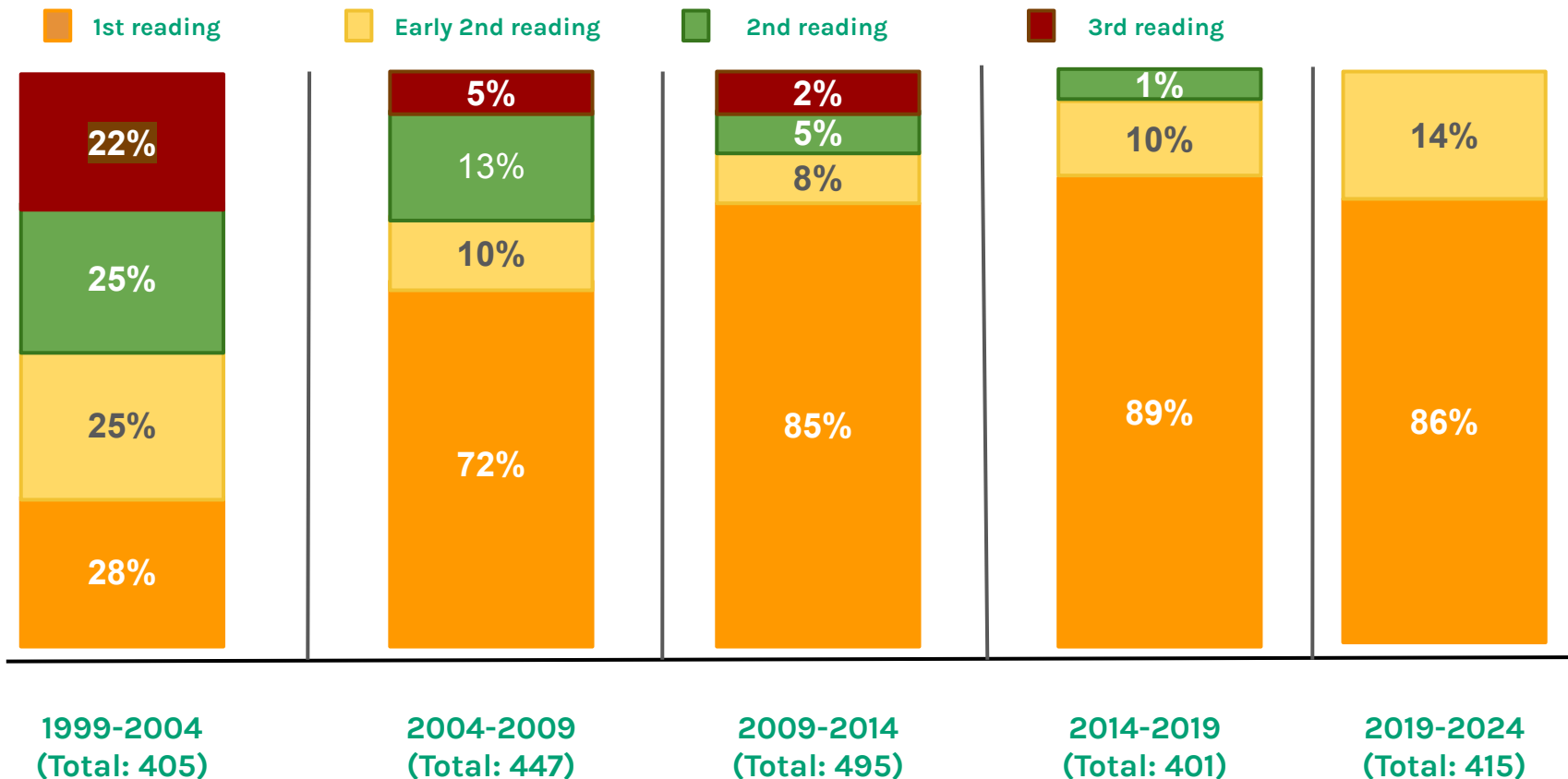
Not explicitly named, under OLP (Art. 294 TFEU), Parliament Rules of Procedure and interinstitutional agreements

## WHY

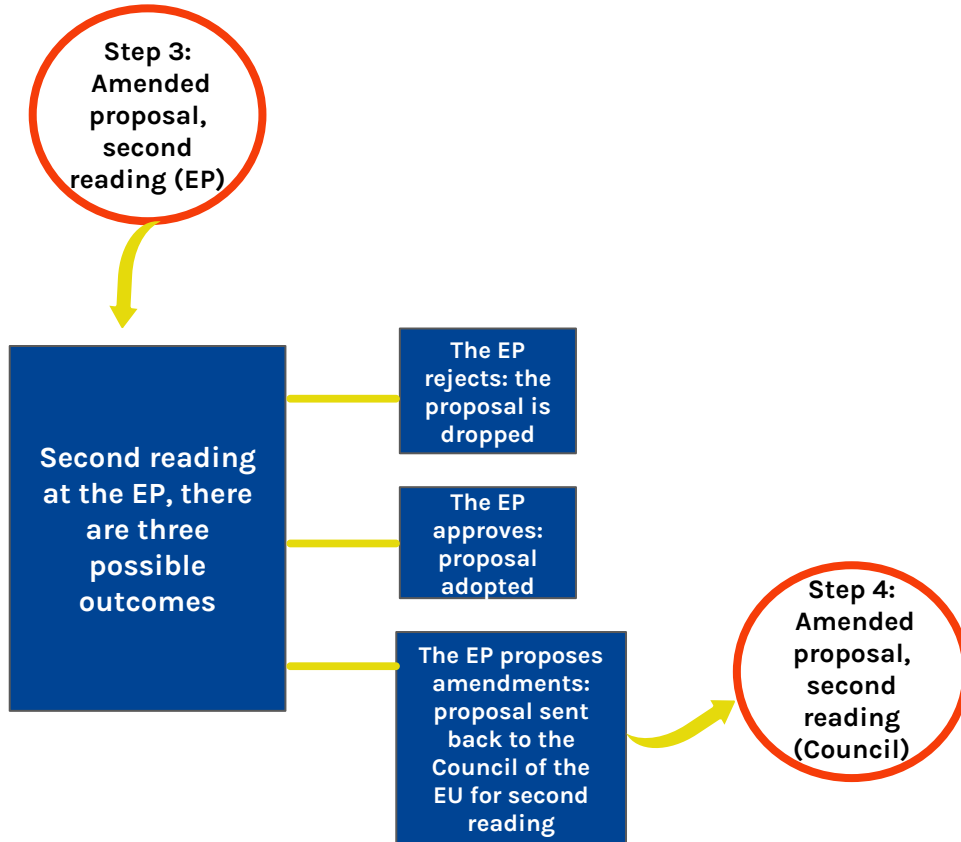
Faster process, efficient agreement between co-legislators

*NOTE: Must still be approved formally by Parliament and Council*

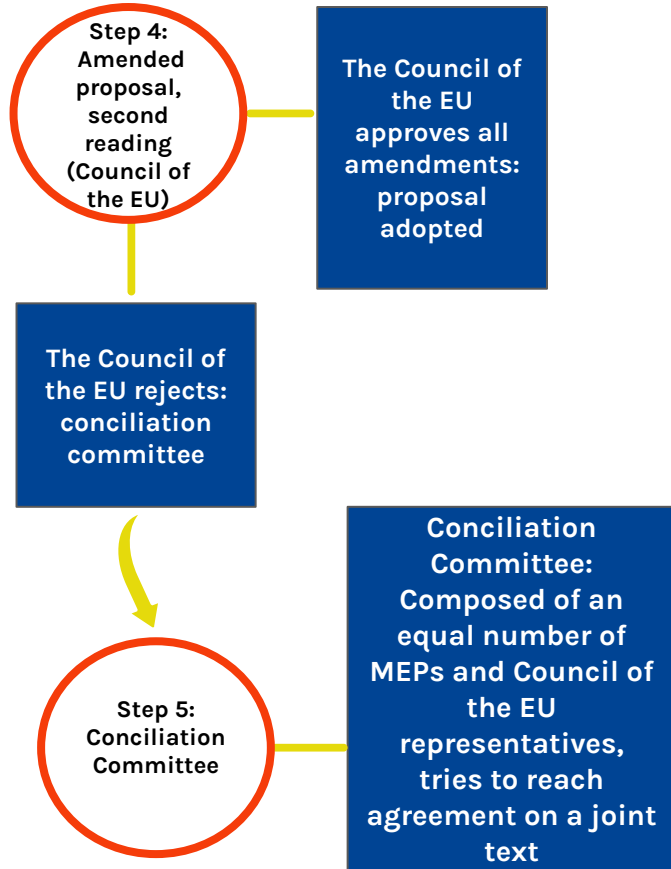
# TRILOGUES



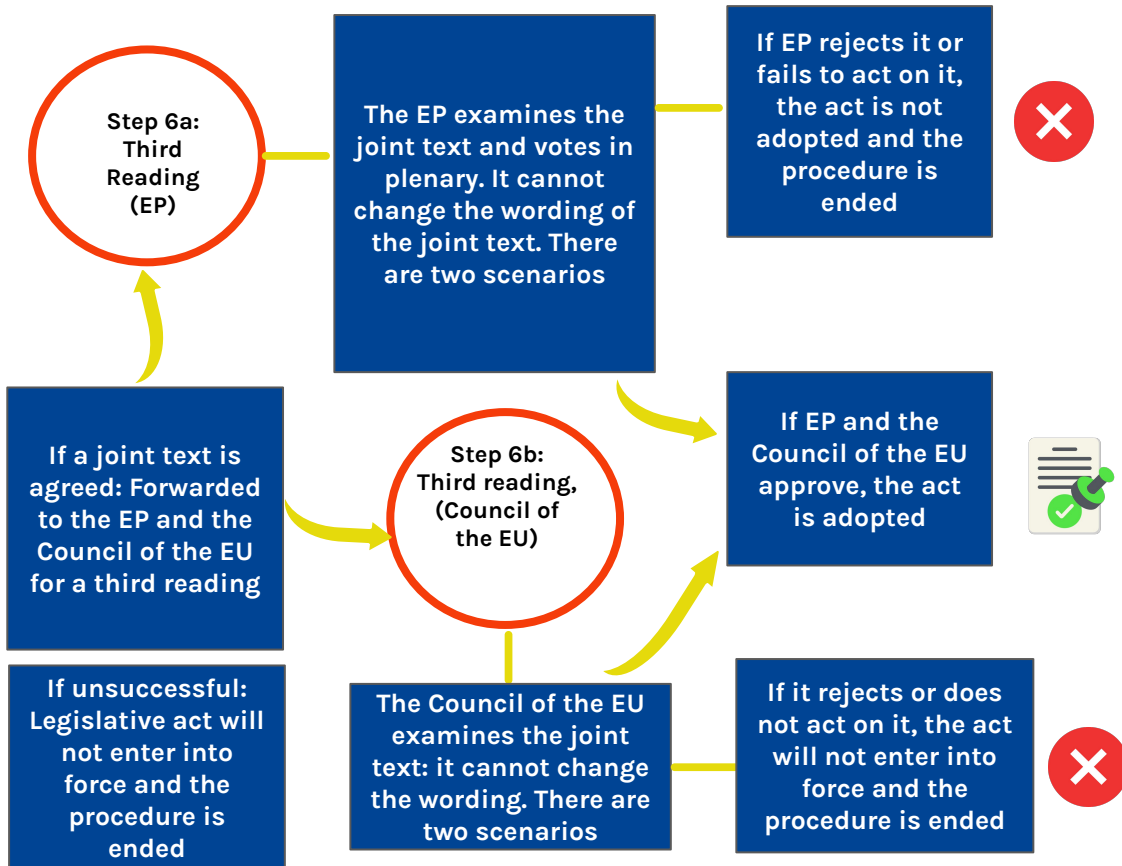
# OLP: Steps 3-4



# Ordinary Legislative Procedure



# Ordinary Legislative Procedure



# Consent Procedure

A legislative or non-legislative procedure where the **European Parliament (EP)** is not a co-author of the act with the **Council of the European Union** (like in the OLP) but can still exercise its **power of veto or approval**.

*Used for: EU enlargement · International agreements · Certain legislative acts (e.g. Art. 19 (1) TFEU: anti-discrimination)*

## Parliament's Role:

Must approve or reject a proposal in full – no amendments. A binary yes or no vote.

## Council's Role:

Decides by unanimity in sensitive areas. Every Member State must agree.

## Key Limitation

Parliament cannot break a Council deadlock. If one state objects, the proposal fails.



# Current files of Interest for Cerebral Palsy Europe

# Consent Procedure

## Example: The Horizontal Anti-Discrimination Directive

Aligns anti-discrimination protections across the EU. Covers areas of employment, healthcare, education, services

2008

Commission proposes directive to extend anti-discrimination protections (disability, age, religion, sexual orientation) beyond the workplace.

2009+

European Parliament gives its consent — strong cross-party support.

2008-2025

Council deadlocked. Unanimity never achieved. A small number of Member States consistently block adoption.

Today

Directive still not adopted — a significant gap in EU equality law after 15+ years.

# European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)

EU's main investment fund for people

€142.7B  
Total budget  
2021-2027

## KEY PRIORITIES:

- **Employment:** Access to jobs, supported employment, workplace adjustments and anti-discrimination measures.
- **Education & Skills:** Inclusive education, vocational training and lifelong learning for people with disabilities.
- **Social Inclusion:** Funding community-based support, deinstitutionalisation and independent living programmes.
- **Health & Care:** Improving access to healthcare, rehabilitation and long-term support services.

# EU Protection of Vulnerable Adults Regulation

*Regulation 2023/0169(COD) - In Trilogues*

## WHY THIS LAW EXISTS

- Moving across EU countries can break your legal protections
- National rules aren't always recognised abroad
- Only 13/27 MSs from the EU follow the same international standards (2000 Hague Convention on Adult Protection)

## WHAT IT DOES

- Makes protections valid EU-wide
- Lets you choose who handles your protection
- Creates a European Certificate of Representation

## WINS FOR THE DISABILITY COMMUNITY

- Supported decision-making: your preferences must guide all decisions
- Full guardianship & curatorship to be phased out within 15 years of the law entering force.
- No central EU register: protected privacy and confidentiality of personal data
- Free access to information on your rights, safeguards and support in your country

*Parliament's Position (Adopted July 2025)*



# Miro - Interactive Session: Stakeholder Mapping



# Interactive Session: Stakeholder Mapping

**Exercise:** Identify and map the key stakeholders (key players) for **one file of your choice** from those presented (ESF+, EU Protection of Vulnerable Adults Regulation, Anti-Discrimination Directive)

## Steps:

Log in to Miro (link provided in the chat).

To complete the exercise:

- Choose one of the whiteboards.
- Add your **name** (if you're comfortable) and your **selected file**.

This will be your *personal stakeholder map*.

- Click on a sticky note, drag it anywhere on the board, and label it with the name of the stakeholder you identified.
- Use as many sticky notes as you need.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Have fun! :)

# Takeaways

- **Know your procedures:** being able to navigate procedures is the key to insert your issue at the right moment, at the right place;
- **Know who does what:** the landscape of stakeholders is vast: be sure not to overcomplicate and spend time on the right people;
- **Politics matter:** it's not just about the EU, it's also about the Member States



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EU Transparency Register

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