



EUROPEAN NETWORK AGAINST RACISM

The voice of the anti-racist movement in Europe

ENAR'S ELECTION BREAKDOWN ETHNIC MINORITY CANDIDATES IN THE 2019 EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS

We at the European Network Against Racism (ENAR) analysed the racial and ethnic representation in the upcoming European Parliament Elections.[1] Reviewing candidate lists[2] from the 28 EU Member States, including approximately 6,500 candidates, we found:

1. PEOPLE OF COLOUR ARE HIGHLY UNDERREPRESENTED IN ALL CANDIDATES' LISTS

We estimate that people of colour (racial, ethnic and religious minorities) make up approximately 10% of the European Union population, but **make up less than 3%** (approximately 184 candidates) **of the candidates on the election lists.**

2. PEOPLE OF COLOUR RARELY MAKE THE TOP OF THE CANDIDATE LISTS – AFFECTING LIKELIHOOD OF ELECTION SUCCESS

Only 9% of people of colour candidates are list leaders, and 38% of them are in the top 5 on the candidate lists. Only 21 candidates have a clear WIN projection (excluding UK candidates). This is only marginally more than the number of POC MEPs in the current European Parliament.

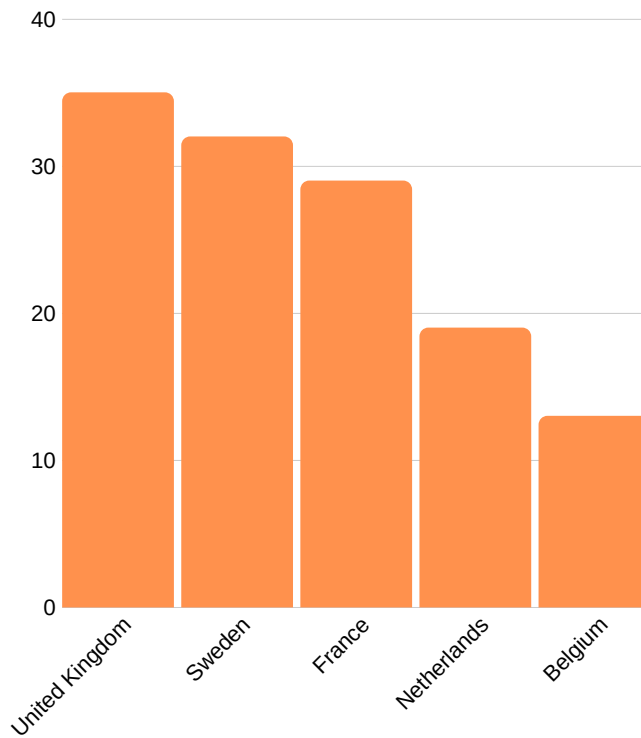
Of the projected winners, **9 are women of colour** and **13 are men of colour**. Three are black women, which is an increase from the last parliament in which only one black woman was elected to the European Parliament.

[1] This review was conducted third-party identification and therefore does not purport to be 100% representative. There is no EU-wide system of diversity monitoring and therefore no consistent way to Across Europe, there is no consistent way to measure racial, ethnic or religious diversity. Political parties do not publish information on the racial diversity of their election lists. Race and ethnicity are social constructs, and systems of data collection should be based on self-identification. For more info on equality data collection, please see: http://www.enar-eu.org/IMG/pdf/20084_equalitydatacollectionpublication-8-low.pdf and <http://www.enar-eu.org/Equality-data>.

[2] We thank Briefed.eu for the list of European election candidates.

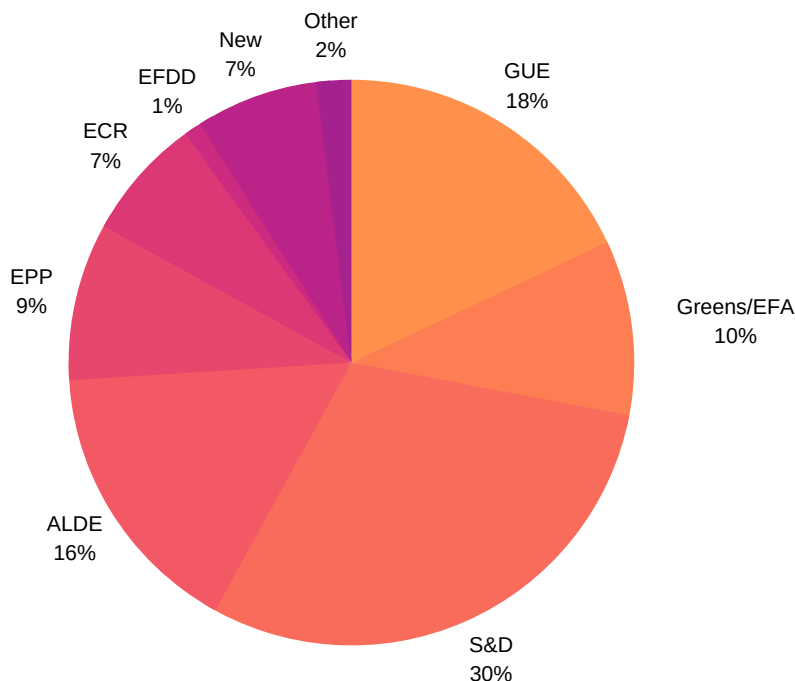
3. DIVERSITY IN THE LISTS DIFFERS WIDELY PER COUNTRY

The **United Kingdom, Sweden, France, the Netherlands and Belgium** presented the most racially diverse party lists. Without the UK representation, the number of diverse candidates drops drastically to 149 (2% representation). However, exploring election projections, Sweden, France and Germany are likely to have 4 POC elected MEPs each. **Ireland, Greece, Slovakia, Slovenia and Austria** have zero POC candidates.



4. LEFT-LEANING FACTIONS ARE THE MOST RACIALLY DIVERSE

Left-leaning political groups put forward the majority (59%) of POC candidates on their lists, compared to 16% from right-leaning groups. The most diverse political group is the Socialist and Democrats (S&D), and the least was the Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy group (EFDD), followed by the European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR).



5. VERY FEW PARTIES HAVE A RACIALLY DIVERSE LIST

Only 74 parties put forward a diverse candidate on their election list. The UK Labour party has the most diverse candidates, followed by La France Insoumise (France), Socialdemokraterna (Sweden), and Génération.s (France).

Party	Country	Total POC
Labour Party	UK	15
La France Insoumise	FR	13
Socialdemokraterna	SE	8
Génération.s	FR	7
Conservative Party	UK	6
Partij van de Arbeid	NL	6
Change UK	UK	5
Darbo Partija	LT	5
Centerpartiet	SE	5
La République En Marche	FR	4
La Sinistra	IT	4
ChristenUnie	NL	4
Liberalerna	SE	4

6. BREXIT WILL HAVE A HUGE EFFECT ON RACIAL DIVERSITY IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The departure of UK MEPs will likely greatly impact on racial diversity in the European Parliament. Currently, both the Labour and Conservative parties have diverse representatives in the Parliament. UK MEPs also bring a clear racial diversity angle, including cross-party agreement on the need for representation and equality data collection.

For more information, please contact Sarah Chander, Senior Advocacy Officer at ENAR: sarah@enar-eu.org