

Why are European Elections important for Science

***Marton Kottmayer
EYCN Delegate Assembly
London, 29.01.2024***



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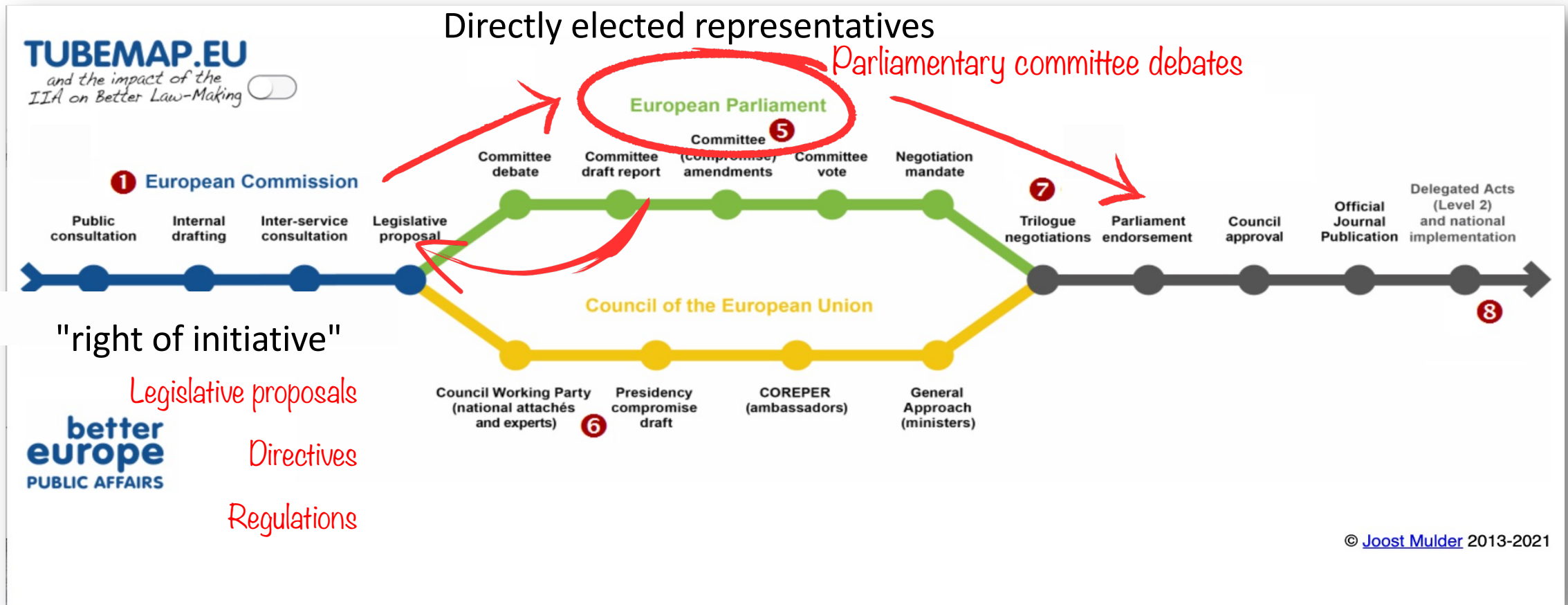
I. The framework

- European Parliament
- MEPs
- EP Groups
- National parties



European parliament

I. The Framework



European parliament – who's there?

I. The Framework

M E P



European parliament – who's there?

I. The Framework

*M*embers of the *E*uropean *P*arliament



<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/home>

<https://elections.europa.eu/en/>

European parliament – who's there?

I. The Framework

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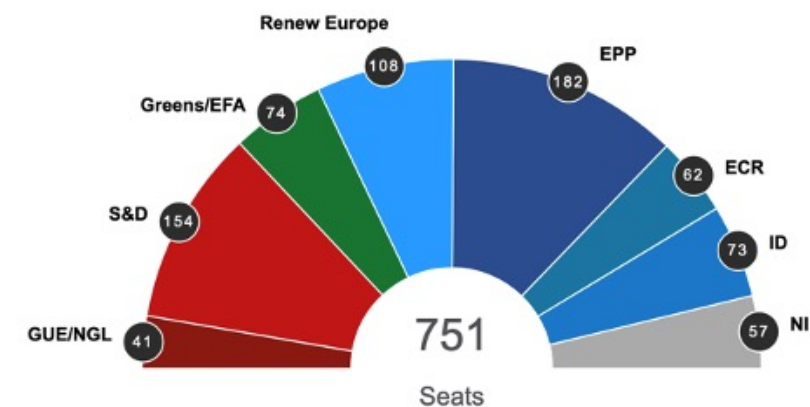
Directly elected

- *Degressive proportionality by country population (6-96)*
- *You can vote by nationality or residency in different country*



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European parliament – who's there?

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Members of the European Parliament

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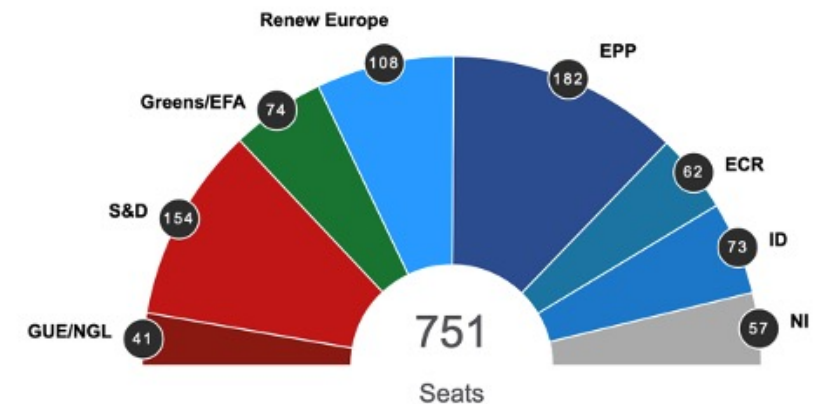
Representing

- *(Theoretically) NOT their countries --- primarily that's council*
- Party groupings
- Parties



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European parliament – who's there?

I. The Framework

Members of the European Parliament

National parties

- *Speak directly to their electorates*
- *Operate on country-level*
- *Release political programmes*
- *Possess specific, detailed agenda in most cases*

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- *Operate on supranational / European level*
- *Follow general ideologies, but details usually decided on national levels*
- *Some has brief programmes/international GA-s*

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/about-parliament/en/organisation-and-rules/organisation/political-groups>

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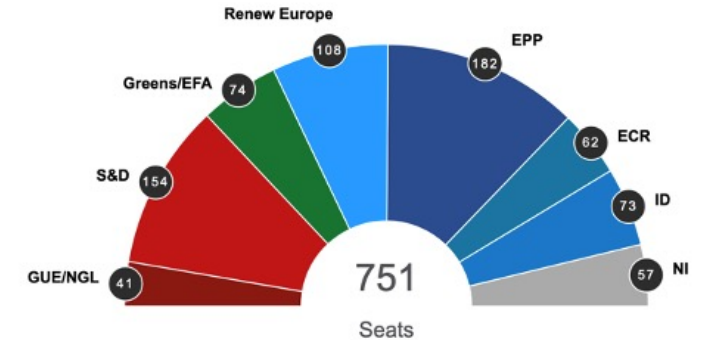
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I. The framework

Discussion / questions



II. Science-policy in EP

Parliament's power over funding opportunities

- *Budget*
- *Amendments*
- *Reports*

Parliament's input on science-policy issues

- *Parliamentary committees*
- *STOA*

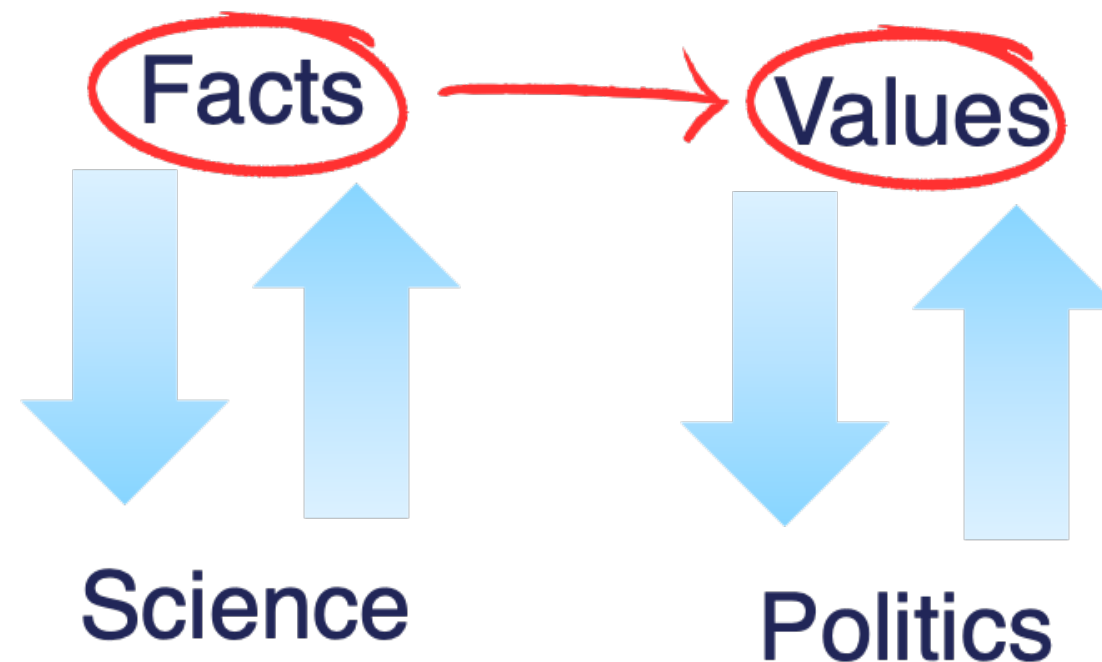
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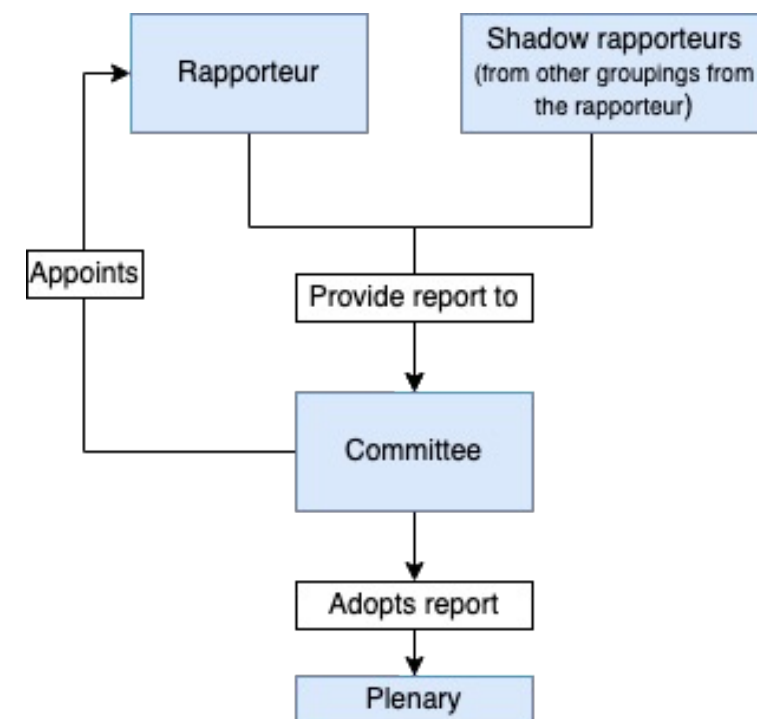
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EP process in Brief

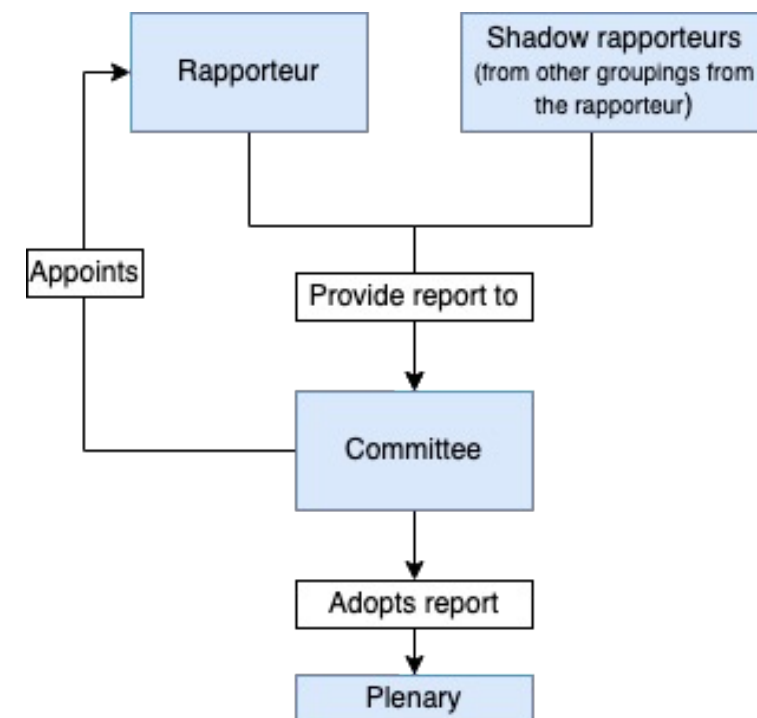
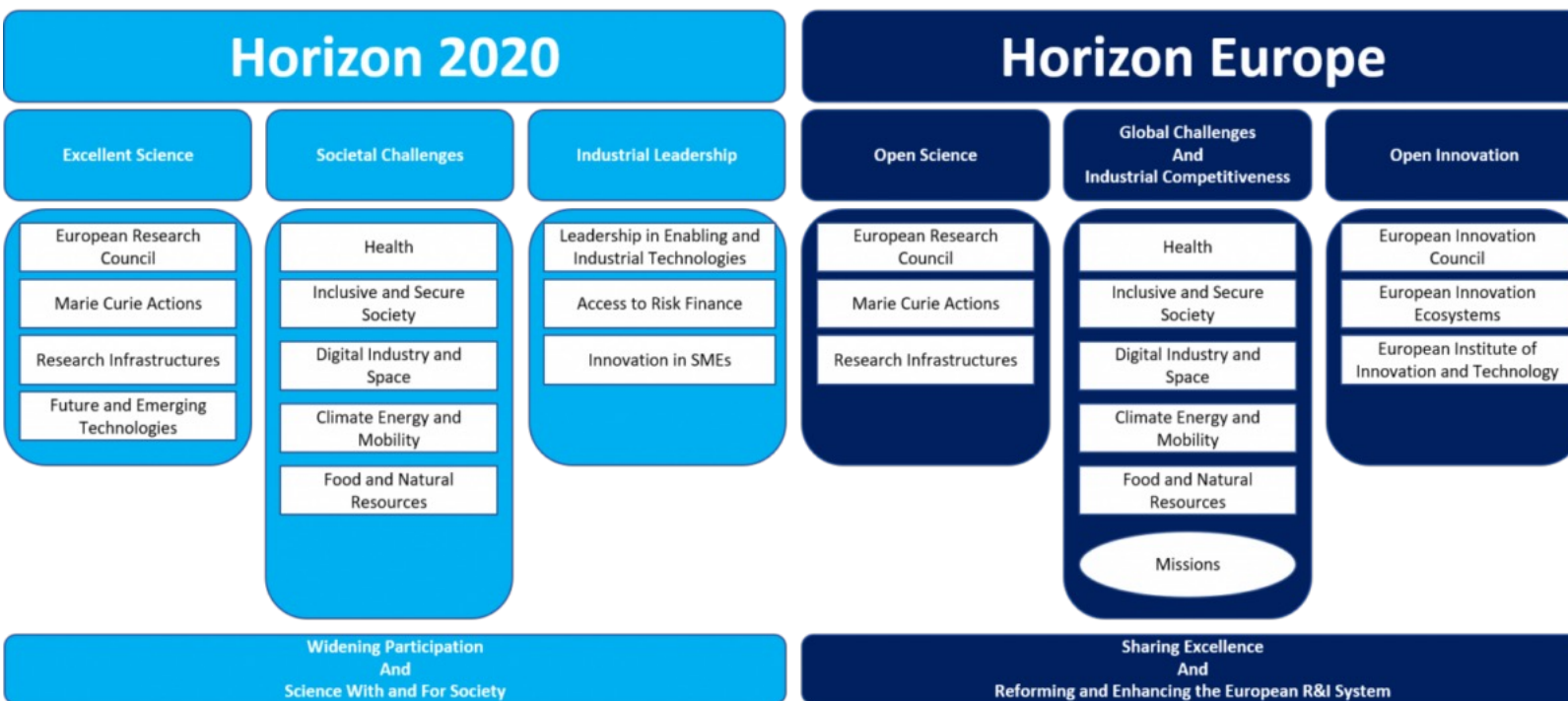


The EP & Funding opportunities

II. Science-policy in EP

Horizon Europe – framework programmes

EP process in Brief



II. Science-policy in EP

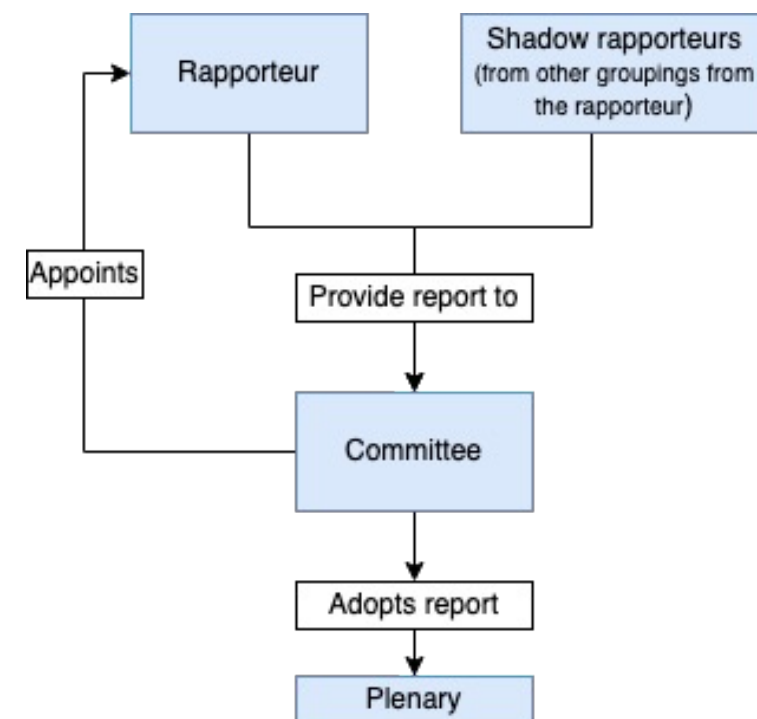
Horizon Europe – framework programmes

The tale of FP10 (2028)

- *Interim evaluation of current programme & Setting up Expert Group*
<-- We're here
- *Member states: European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC) FP10 task force report*
- *Independent expert group report*
- *Commission proposal - to be agreed by Member states & **Parliament***
- *Finally – agreement on 7 year budget*
- *Launch of FP10 in 2028*

<https://sciencebusiness.net/news/fp10/how-make-european-research-framework-programme>

EP process in Brief

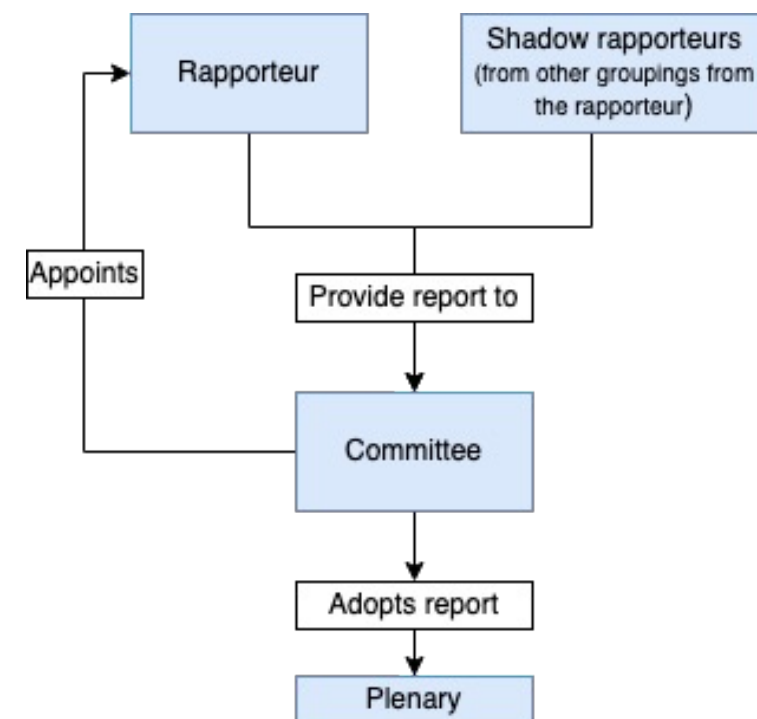


II. Science-policy in EP

Horizon Europe & ERC

- *while Horizon and ERC is primarily in the hands of the Commission, MEP– often have structured dialogues and scrutinize this work through*
 - **Structured interinstitutional dialogues**
 - **Reports on horizon-related topics, amendment proposals**
 - **Negotiations & votes**
 - **The "Budget waltz" between Council and Parliament - Trilogue negotiations**
 - *Parliament must approve budget*

EP process in Brief



II. Science-policy in EP

Relevant committees...

- *Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI)*
- *Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)*
- *And others, such as Agriculture, Culture and education...*

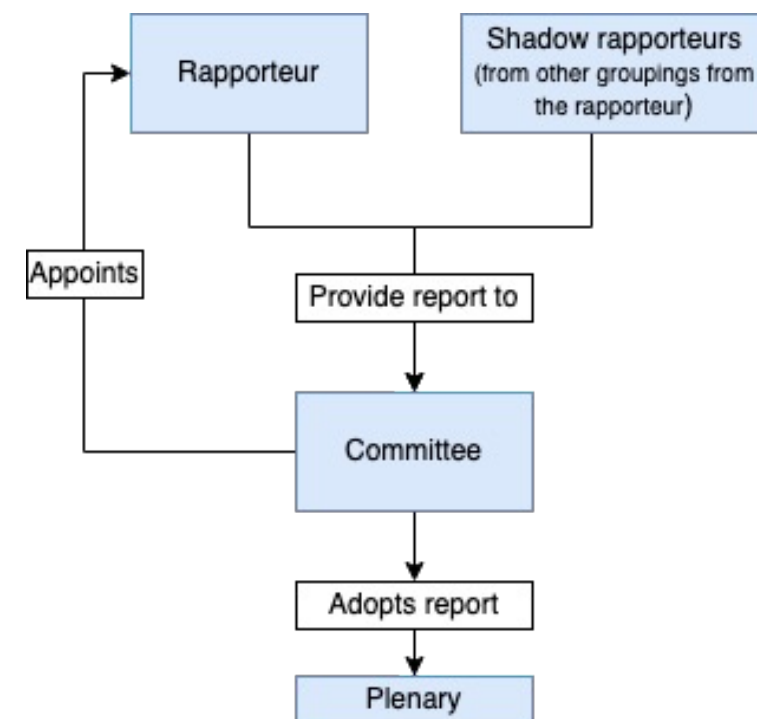
...report on science-related topics such as

- *Grouping of hazardous chemicals, PFAS, environmental and health protection*
- *Pesticides, agriculture*
- *Research agreements*

...hold dialogues with relevant agencies such as

- *European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)*
- *European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)*

EP process in Brief



EuChemS event co-chaired by MEP

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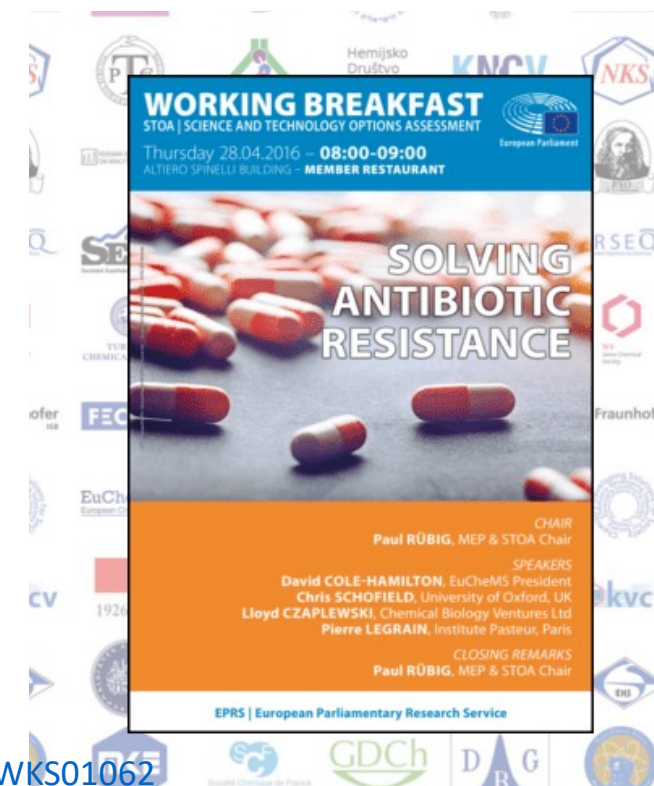


<https://www.euchems.eu/mep-maria-spyraki-chairs-euchems-event-on-the-element-of-phosphorus/>

II. Science-policy in EP

Panel for the Future of Science and Technology (STOA)

- *Consists of interested expert MEPs*
- *Holds discussions and events on*
 - *Frontier science*
 - *Pharmaceuticals, AI, Antimicrobial resistance*
 - *Academia*
 - *Academic freedom, academic integrity & security*
- *Earlier EuChemS Collaboration*



<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/stoa/en/events/details/stoa-working-breakfast-on-solving-antibi/20171023WKS01062>

II. Science-policy in EP

Discussion / questions

