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Research Report

Eurosceptics in the European Parliament: Isolated and divided in Brussels but driving national debates

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Table 1
Current distribution of seats in the European Parliament

Political group	Seats
European People's Party (EPP)	274
Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (S&D)	194
Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)	85
Greens/European Free Alliance	58
<i>European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)</i>	57
European United Left/Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL)	35
<i>Europe of Freedom and Democracy (EFD)</i>	31
Non-attached	32
<i>of which Eurosceptic</i>	26
Total	766

Source: European Parliament. Eurosceptic political groups in italics (categorization by the authors).

Table 2
Seats forecast for right-wing Eurosceptic political groups (as of 6 February 2014)

Political group	Seats	Change	National parties
European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)	40	-17	6
Europe of Freedom and Democracy (EFD)	27	-4	5
Alliance of FN/PVV/Lega Nord/VB/SD/FPÖ	35	+18	6
Initially non-attached (e.g. Jobbik)	15	+6	5
Total	117	+3	

Source: Own calculations on the basis of national polls conducted between December 2013 and February 2014. Variations in electoral system and low turnout in many member-states mean that particular caution must be applied when interpreting polls for European elections. Furthermore, at the time of publication specific polling for the European elections was not yet available for all countries, so that in some cases polls for national elections had to be used instead. These uncertainties apply in particular to the smaller parties.

The seat distributions are calculated in the basis of the specific national systems, but without including national peculiarities such as constituency-specific seat distribution. We would like to thank Electionista (<http://www.electionista.com>) for the compilation of European election polls.

Table 3**Polling and seats forecast for the ECR group (Source: own calculations as in Table 1)**

National party	MS	MS's EP seats in 2014	Current seats	Poll date	Polling organisation	Survey type	%	Forecast seats	Comments
Libertair, Direct, Democratisch (LDD)	BE	21	1	22 Jan 2014	Ipsos	National	<1%	0	In polls under "other"
Občanská Demokratická Strana (ODS)	CZ	21	9	30 Jan 2014	CVVM	National	5%	1	May fail to pass 5% threshold
Hrvatska stranka prave dr. Ante Starčević	HR	11	1	26 Jan 2014	Ipsos	National	2.2%	0	Expected to fail to pass 5% threshold
Modern Magyarország Mozgalom	HU	21	1	29 Jan 2014	Tarki	National		0	In polls under "other"
Movimento Conservatori Social Reformatori	IT	73	1	04 Feb 2014	IPR	EP2014		0	Not running in 2014
Lietuvos lenkų rinkimų akcija (LLRA)	LT	11	1	19 Jan 2014	Vilmorus	National	<1%	0	In polls under "other"
Tēvzemei un Brīvībai	LV	8	1	04 Feb 2014	Faktu	National	6.2%	1	
Christen Unie (CU)	NL	26	1	11 Jan 2014	TNS	EP2014	6.2%	1	Electoral pact with SGP (EFD), would receive 1 of 2 seats
Polska Razem Jarosława Gowina (split from PiS)	PL	51	4	20 Jan 2014	HH	EP2014	<1%	0	In polls under "other"
Prawo i Sprawiedliwość (PiS)	PL	51	7	20 Jan 2014	HH	EP2014	30%	17	
Noua Republică	RO	32	0	06 Feb 2014	INSCOP	EP2014	<1%	0	In polls under "other"
Občanská konservatívna strana	SK	13	0	28 Jan 2014	MVK	National	5.9%	1	Electoral pact with Most-HID, so one seat possible
Conservative Party	UK	73	25	14 Jan 2014	YouGov	EP2014	23%	18	
Ulster Conservatives and Unionists	UK	73	1	14 Jan 2014	YouGov	EP2014	n.a.	1	Stands only in Northern Ireland, not included in national polls
Independent			4						
Total			57					40	

Table 4: Polling and seats forecast for the EFD group and hitherto non-attached Eurosceptics (Source: own calculations as in Table 1)

National Party	MS	MS's EP seats in 2014	Current seats	Poll date	Polling organisation	Survey type	%	Forecast seats	Comments
Europe of Freedom and Democracy (EFD)									
People for Real, Open and United Democracy	BU	17	1	26 Jan 2014	Alpha Research	EP2014	<1%	0	In polls under "other"
Dansk Folkeparti	DK	13	1	02 Feb 2014	Voxmeter	National	17.1%	3	
Perussuomalaiset (The Finns)	FI	13	1	17 Jan 2014	Tietoykkönen	EP2014	15.9%	2	
Mouvement pour la France	FR	74	1	26 Jan 2014	IFOP	EP2014	<1%	0	Formerly Libertas
Popular Orthodox Rally	GR	21	2	03 Dec 2013	GPO	EP2014	<1%	0	
Lega Nord	IT	73	6	04 Feb 2014	IPR	EP2014	5%	(4)	Intends to join FN alliance
Io amo l'Italia	IT	73	1	04 Feb 2014	IPR	EP2014	n.a.	0	Not running in 2014
Partija Tvarka ir teisingumas	LV	8	2	19 Jan 2014	Vilmorus	National	11%	1	
Staatkundig Gereformeerde Partij (SGP)	NL	26	1	11 Jan 2014	TNS	EP2014	6.2%	1	Electoral pact with CU (ECR), would receive 1 of 2 seats
Solidarna Polska (split from PiS)	PL	51	4	20 Jan 2014	HH	EP2014	<1%	0	In polls under "other"
Slovenská národná strana (SNS)	SK	13	1	28 Jan 2014	MVK	National	2.9%	0	Estimated to fail 5% threshold
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	UK	73	8	14 Jan 2014	YouGov	EP2014	26%	20	
Independents			2						
Total			31					27	
Alliance led by Front National (FN)									
Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs (FPÖ)	AT	18	2	31 Jan 2014	Gallup	EP2014	22%	4	
Vlaams Belang (VB)	BE	21	1	22 Jan 2014	IPSOS	National	9.6%	1	Standing only in Flanders
Front National (FN)	FR	74	3	26 Jan 2014	IFOP	EP2014	23%	19	
Lega Nord	IT	73	6	04 Feb 2014	IPR	EP2014	5%	4	Currently still in EFD, 4% hurdle
Partij voor de Vrijheid (PVV)	NL	26	4	11 Jan 2014	TNS	EP2014	17.2%	5	
Sverigedemokraterna (SD)	SE	20	0	30 Jan 2014	Ipsos	National	7.3%	2	
Total			16					35	
Non-attached									
Bündnis Zukunft Österreich	AT	18	1	31 Jan 2014	Gallup	EP2014	<1%	0	In polls under "other"
ATAKA/National Democratic Party	BU	17	1	26 Jan 2014	Alpha Research	EP2014	n.a.	0	Poll indicates only number of seats
Alternative für Deutschland (AfD)	DE	96	0	26 Jan 2014	Emnid	EP2014	7%	7	
Golden Dawn	GR	21	0	03 Dec 2013	GPO	EP2014	10.7%	2	
Independent Greeks	GR	21	0	03 Dec 2013	GPO	EP2014	7.2%	1	
Jobbik	HU	21	3	29 Jan 2014	Tarki	National	14%	3	
Artikel 50 (split from PVV)	NL	26	1	11 Jan 2014	TNS	EP2014	<1%	0	In polls under "other"
Partidul România Mare	RO	32	2	06 Feb 2014	Inscop	EP2014	<1%	0	In polls under "other"
Partidul Poporului – Dan Diaconescu	RO	32	0	06 Feb 2014	Inscop	EP2014	4.6%	1	
British Democratic Party	UK	73	1	14 Jan 2014	YouGov	EP2014	<1%	0	In polls under "other"
British National Party	UK	73	1	14 Jan 2014	YouGov	EP2014	<1%	0	
Democratic Unionist Party	UK	73	1	14 Jan 2014	YouGov	EP2014	n.a.	1	Stands only in Northern Ireland, not included in national polls
Total			11					15	