

Predict 09.EU

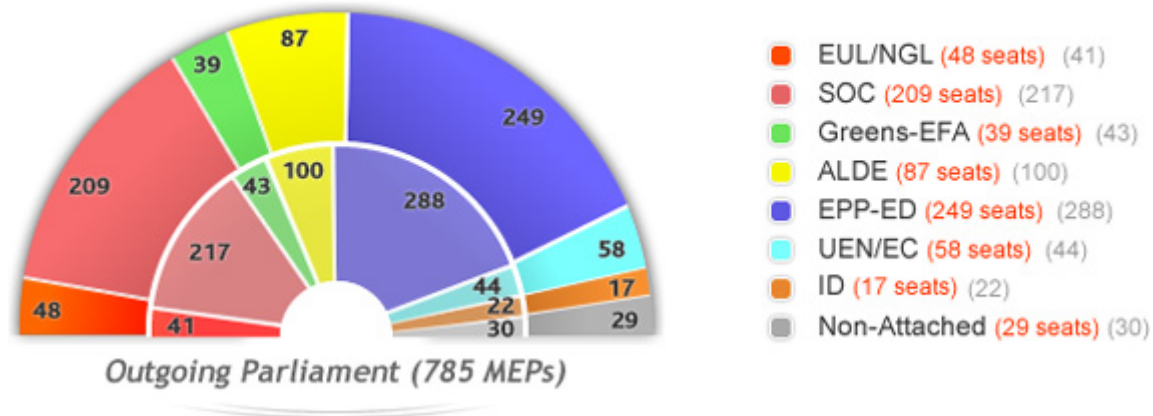
Predicting the *composition* of the new European Parliament



Burson-Marsteller

Predict09.eu is a prediction of the outcome of the June 2009 European Parliament elections and the resulting make-up of the next European Parliament. The prediction is based on a [statistical model](#) of the performance of national parties in European Parliament elections, developed by [three leading political scientists](#): Simon Hix (London School of Economics), Michael Marsh (Trinity College Dublin), and Nick Vivyan (London School of Economics). The prediction will be updated each week until the elections on 4-7 June.

*Predicted composition of the new parliament
(736 MEPs)*



Executive Summary

The European People's Party will still be the largest group in the next European Parliament, with approximately 249 seats, which is a decrease in percentage terms, from 37% to 34% of the MEPs. The Socialist group will win approximately 209 seats, which is a slight increase in percentage terms, from 27% to 28% of the MEPs. The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) will secure approximately 87 seats. A new European Conservative group, composed of the

British Conservatives and their allies, may be the fourth largest group, with about 56 seats. There will be approximately the same number of anti-European and Extreme Right MEPs (about 50 in total) in the new Parliament as in the current Parliament.

Whereas in the current European Parliament the combined forces of the centre-right are larger than the combined forces of the centre-left, in the new Parliament the centre-left are centre-right will be evenly balanced: with about 41% of the seats each, compared to 38% for the left and 40% for right in the previous parliament.

On the basis of our predicted make-up of the next European Parliament, José Barroso has a good chance of being re-elected as Commission President. However, this assumes that the Liberals (ALDE) would support an EPP-Conservative coalition in support of Barroso, which is not a foregone conclusion. An alternative “progressive” coalition, of Liberals, Socialists, Greens, and Radical Left MEPs could still block the re-election of Barroso.

Note: The total number of MEPs will fall from 785 in the current European Parliament to 736 in the new European Parliament elected in June.

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The prediction will be updated each week until the elections on 4-7 June.

Foreword by the President of the European Parliament

Hans-Gert Pöttering

The forthcoming European Elections on 4 - 7 June will be the seventh direct elections to the European Parliament. Since the first direct elections in 1979, the European Parliament has developed into a fully-fledged legislative body, sharing decision-making with the Council of Ministers in about 75% of European legislation. Today's Parliament is both powerful and influential. When the Lisbon Treaty comes into force, this figure would rise to co-decision in almost 100% of areas where the EU has the power to legislate.

Having the privilege to be one of five MEPs continuously a member since 1979, I have witnessed this gradual increase in democratic accountability of EU policy making. This June nearly 380 million citizens from across the European Union's 27 Member States will have the right to vote for the next European Parliament. In these challenging times the newly-elected Parliament will continue to need to address issues such as the current economic and financial situation, as well as climate change, immigration, and the promotion of peace and democracy in the world. This exercise by Professors Michael Marsh and Simon Hix is a useful contribution to understanding a very complex set of interacting factors, and seeking to get to grips with voter expectations. Hopefully this report, which has been commissioned by Burson-Marsteller, will add some excitement and interest to the contest which in turn will incite EU citizens to come out and vote in these elections. It is of vital importance that European citizens exercise their democratic right, because the European Parliament plays a crucial role in decision-making that affects the daily lives of each and every one of the EU's 500 million citizens.

Methodology

The methodology behind this prediction of the outcome in the June 2009 elections is as follows.

First, we collected the vote-shares each national party received in all the previous European Parliament elections, since 1979, in all 27 member states.

Second, we developed a statistical technique to work out the best 'predictors' of these national party vote-shares. We found that the most accurate model of party performance in European Parliament elections is to start from the opinion polls close to the elections, and then modify predictions made on the basis of these polls with information about the vote-share a party received at the previous national election, whether a party is in government, whether a national party is an anti-European party, and whether the European election was held within a year of a previous national election. Put another way, in all previous European Parliament elections, opinion polls are reasonable predictors of party performance, but tend to overestimate support for large governing parties, and underestimate support for small parties and anti-European parties. In a sense, our statistical model 'corrects' the opinion poll data and leads to more accurate prediction of European Parliament results.

Third, we used this model to predict the proportion of votes for each party in each member state in the 2009 European Parliament elections. We update these predictions as new opinion poll data becomes available. The latest national party vote-shares are available on [member state analysis page](#).

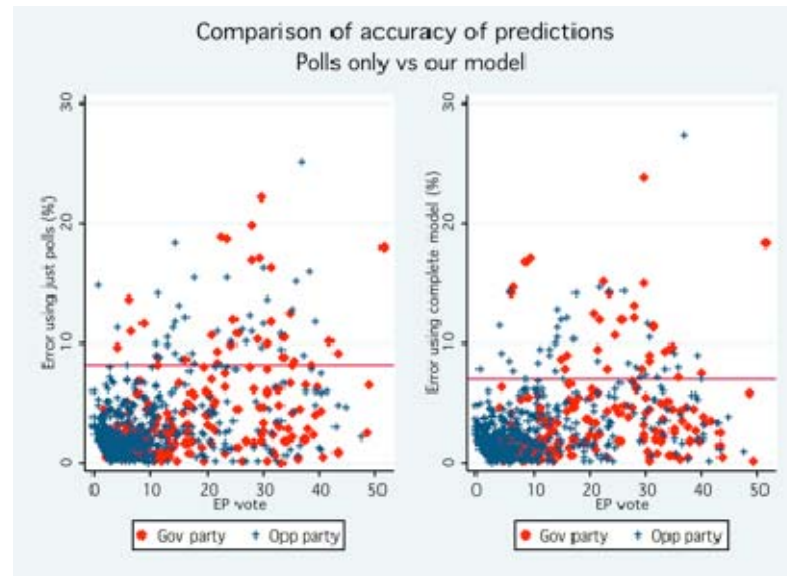
Fourth, from these predicted party vote-shares we calculated the number of MEPs each national party should win, according to the particular electoral system and seat-calculation method used in each member state.

Fifth, we used the predicted number of MEPs for each national party to calculate how many seats each political group in the European Parliament should win, as shown on the [European analysis page](#).

One might think that a much simpler way of predicting party vote-shares in European Parliament elections would be to look at the latest opinion polls in each member state. This is not, in fact, the case! Opinion polls for European Parliament elections are less accurate than opinion polls for national elections. This is because voters are usually thinking about national elections when answering European election polls. Also, large numbers of voters tell pollsters they intend to vote in the European Parliament elections yet less than 50% of voters end up turning out in the elections.

The figure below shows how our method is an improvement on an opinion poll-based method. The left-hand graph shows the difference (the "error") between the actual vote-share of every national party in every previous European Parliament election and the predicted vote share based on the party's standing in an opinion poll just before the election. The right-hand graph shows the difference between the actual vote-share each national party won and the predicted vote-share from our more complete statistical model. It can be seen that the scatter is compressed by our model. The red horizontal lines in the graphs indicate the point below which 90% of the observations are clustered. The line in the right-hand figure is lower than the line in the left-hand figure, illustrating how our model produces less error than does a poll-only model.

The Statistical Model in More Detail



The predictions made here derive from a statistical model estimated using data from European Parliament elections 1979-2004. The model contains the following information for each party:

- Opinion poll % from a couple of months before the EP election;
- The % vote at the previous general election – squared;
- The % vote at the previous general election – cubed;
- The % vote at the previous election for government parties only, all others coded at zero;
- The % vote at the previous election for anti-EU parties only, all others coded at zero;
- A variable coded at 1 for a government party if a government is within its first year, otherwise coded zero; and
- A constant term.

The model was estimated on 657 party-election cases using ordinary least squares regression with robust standard errors and all of these predictors were significant at the .05 level. The R-squared was 0.86 and the root Mean Squared Error (MSE) was 4.4. Using Spring poll standings rather than the result of the last general election provides for a less effective model, with a root MSE of 4.8 and an R-squared of 0.83. Using just the Spring opinion poll the root MSE is 4.9 and R-squared is 0.82.

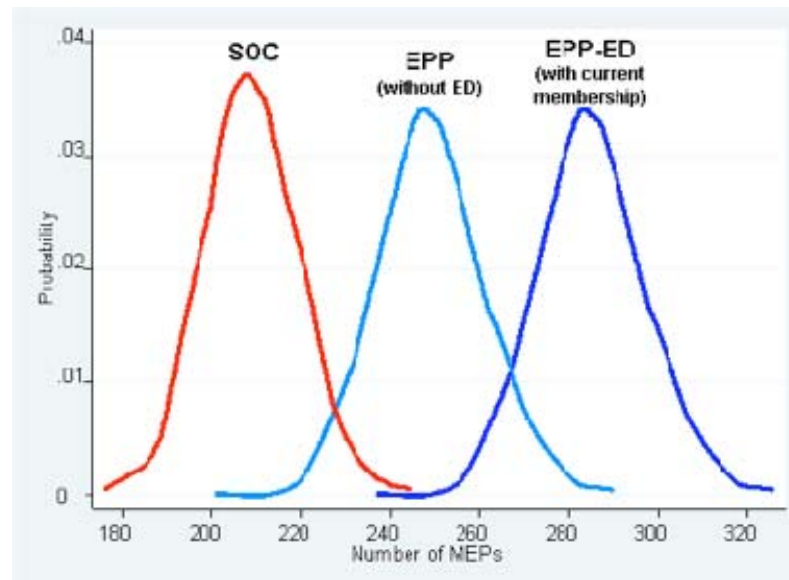
The model was then applied to current parties, and the results were used to estimate the seats that would be won by each party.

Overall Analysis

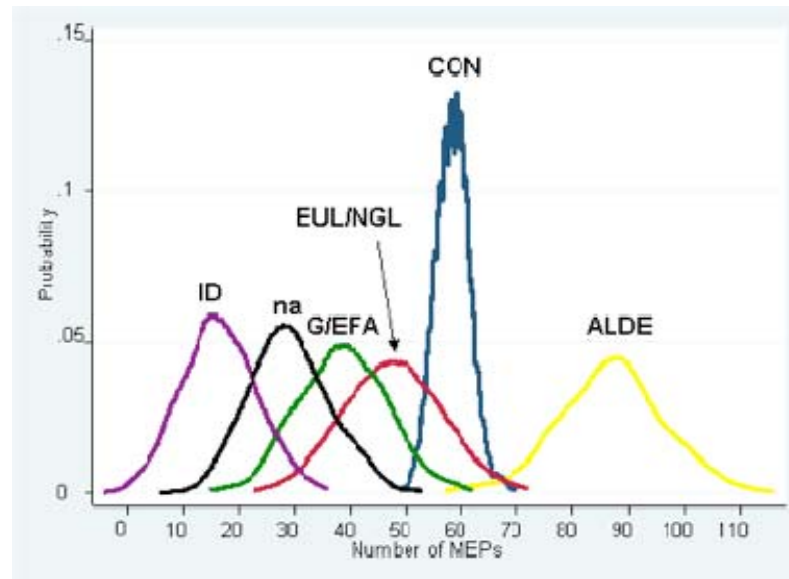
Range of Predicted EP Group Sizes

The homepage shows the average predicted number of seats for each European Parliament group from our model. We approximate the uncertainty surrounding these predictions using simulation techniques. Based on our model we generate 1,000 simulations of the election outcome. The results of these simulations, illustrated here, give us an idea of the likelihood of a range of possible outcomes of the elections. In each graph, the horizontal axis shows possible electoral outcomes, in terms of numbers of seats won by a European Parliament group. Each plotted curve summarizes our predicted probabilities of seat outcomes for each party. That is, if we take the area under the plotted curve between any two points on the seats axis, this area represents our predicted probability that the eventual number of seats won by a group will lie in the range between these two points. For example, our predicted probability that the EPP will win between 240 and 260 seats is 61%, while the predicted probability that the Socialists will win between 200 and 220 seats is 67%.

The first figure shows the range of outcomes for the two largest groups. Even if the British Conservatives and Czech ODS leave the EPP group, it is still highly probable that the EPP group will be the largest group in the next Parliament: with 240-260 MEPs, against 200-220 MEPs for the Socialists. In fact, we estimate that the Socialist group has only a 2% probability of being larger than the EPP group.

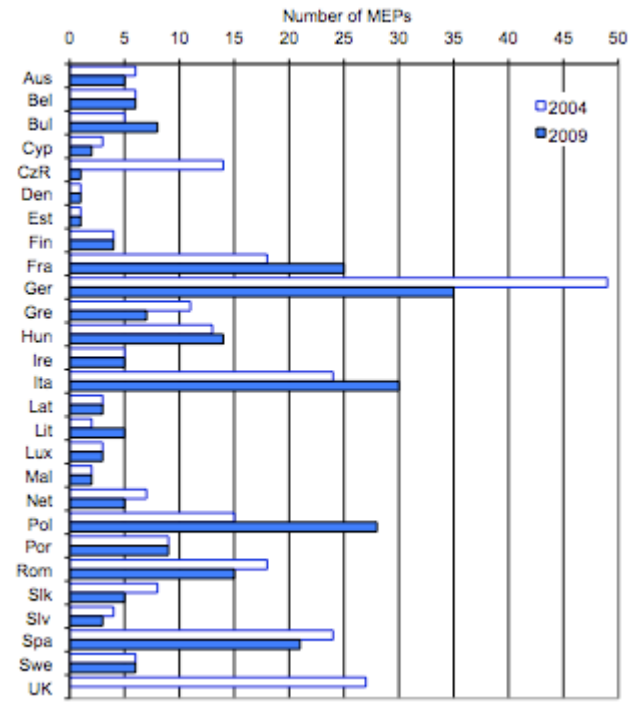


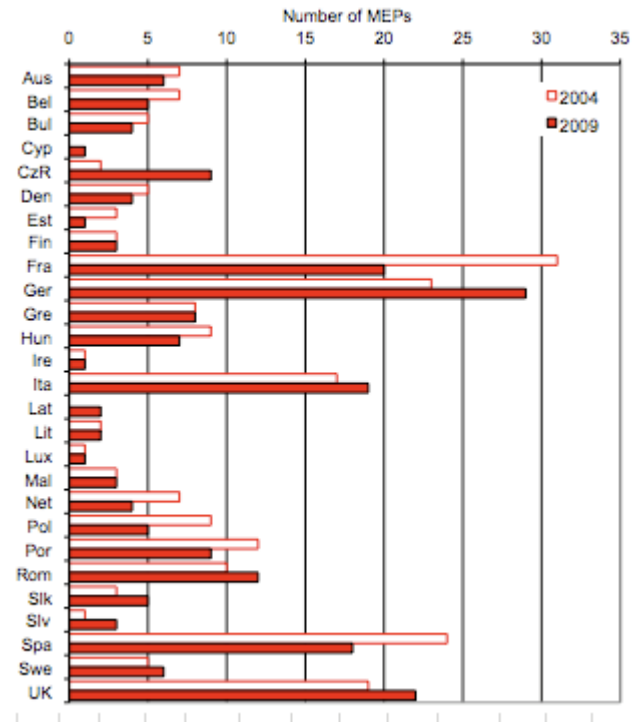
Turning to the smaller groups, it is almost certain that the ALDE will be the third largest group, with 80-100 MEPs. The British Conservatives and Czech ODS are planning to leave the EPP and form a new European Conservative group, perhaps with the remaining members of the Union for a European of Nations group – here we assume that the Italian *Allianza Nazionale* MEPs will join the EPP and the Irish *Fianna Fail* will join ALDE, which both currently seem likely. If this happens, it will almost certainly be the fourth largest group in the new European Parliament, with 52-60 MEPs. The two other groups on the centre-left will be next, with the European United Left/Nordic Green Left (EUL/NGL) with 40-50 MEPs, and the Greens/EFA (G/EFA) with 35-45 MEPs. The Independence/Democracy (ID), composed of Eurosceptic MEPs, should be the smallest group with 10-20 MEPs, but might be joined by some of the 30 or so non-attached (na) members, who will be elected to the new Parliament without an initial membership of one or other of the existing political groups.

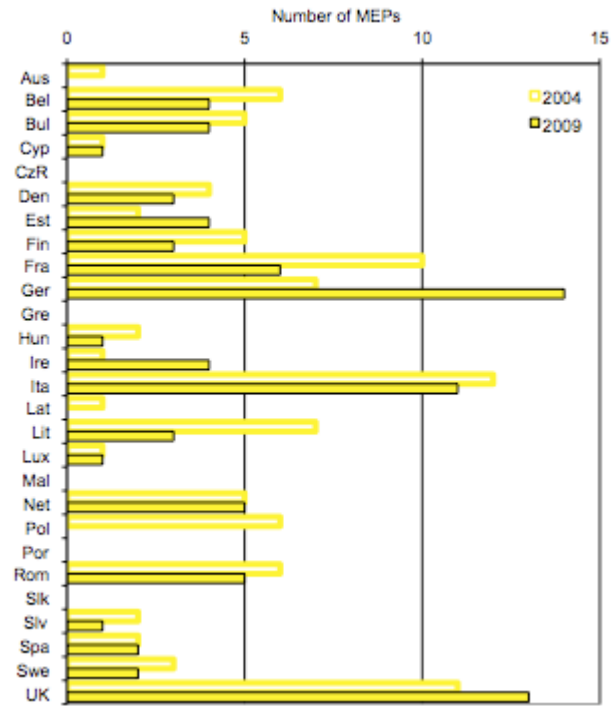


Balance of Power Inside the EP Groups

Although the overall balance of power between the political groups is unlikely to change dramatically between the current European Parliament and the new European Parliament, the June 2009 elections are likely to change the balance of power inside the three main groups.







Inside the EPP there are likely to be fewer German, British and Czech MEPs and more Polish, Italian and French. The German CDU/CSU is likely to remain the largest delegation in the EPP group. In the Socialists there are likely to be fewer French and Spanish MEPs and more German and Italian, with the German SPD the largest delegation. In the Liberals (ALDE) there are likely to be fewer French MEPs and more German, with the British and German delegations dominating the new group.

Analysis by Member State

The tables on this page show the mean predicted vote-shares and MEPs for each national party in June 2009, compared to the vote-shares and MEPs the parties won in the previous European Parliament elections. The parties in government in each member state are indicated with an asterisk. Also, with a reduction in the total seats in the Parliament from the current 785 to 736 most member states will have fewer MEPs after June. As a result, more parties will lose seats than win seats.

Some of these member state-level predictions should be interpreted with caution, as it is not clear yet which parties or coalitions of parties will stand in the upcoming elections in some countries. It is also not yet clear how the current economic crisis will affect voting behaviour and turnout, which might alter the election outcomes considerably in some countries. As a result, these member state-level predictions are likely to be less accurate than the aggregate-level predictions of the seat-shares of the [European political groups](#).

[Austria](#) - [Belgium](#) - [Bulgaria](#) - [Cyprus](#) - [Czech Republic](#) - [Denmark](#) - [Estonia](#) - [Finland](#) - [France](#) - [Germany](#) - [Greece](#) - [Hungary](#) - [Ireland](#) - [Italy](#) - [Latvia](#) - [Lithuania](#) - [Luxembourg](#) - [Malta](#) - [Netherlands](#) - [Poland](#) - [Portugal](#) - [Romania](#) - [Slovakia](#) - [Slovenia](#) - [Spain](#) - [Sweden](#) - [United Kingdom](#)

Austria

With growing Euroscepticism in Austria and a grand coalition government we predict that the two main parties – the SPÖ and ÖVP – will see a major decline in their vote-shares. They may not lose too many seats, however, as the electoral system formula in Austria favours the larger parties. It is not yet clear with Hans-Peter Martin will stand again in the elections. We assume that he will not. We expect the new right-wing party, BZÖ, to pick up one seat.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|--------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| AUSTRIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs* | SPO | 33,4 | 31,9 | -1,5 | 7 | 6 | -1 | SOC | SOC |
| Österreichische Volkspartei* | OVP | 32,7 | 28,9 | -3,8 | 6 | 5 | -1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs | FPO | 6,3 | 19,9 | 13,6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | na | na |
| Die Grünen - Die Grüne Alternative | GRUNEN | 12,8 | 10,0 | -2,8 | 2 | 2 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Bündnis Zukunft Österreich | BZO | 0,0 | 9,2 | 9,2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | na |
| Total | | | | | 18 | 17 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, 4% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Belgium

We predict that the result in Belgium will be even more fragmented than five years ago. All the main parties should lose seats except the Flemish Socialists (currently in opposition) and the Wallonian Christian Democrats (CDH). The main winners will be the new right-libertarian party in Flanders, Lijst Dedecker, which we expect to pick up two seats, and the Front National in Wallonia, which might win one seat.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|------------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| BELGIUM | | | | | | | | | |
| Dutch-speaking region | | | | | | | | | |
| Christen-Democratisch & Vlaams* | CD&V | 17,4 | 14,8 | -2,6 | 4 | 3 | -1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Socialistische Partij Anders-Spirit | SPA-Spirit | 11,0 | 11,4 | 0,4 | 3 | 3 | 0 | SOC | SOC |
| Vlaams Belang | VB | 14,3 | 10,8 | -3,5 | 3 | 2 | -1 | na | na |
| Vlaamse Liberale en Democraten* | VLD | 13,6 | 10,1 | -3,5 | 3 | 2 | -1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Lijst Dedecker | LD | | 8,0 | 8,0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | | na |
| Groen | GROEN | 4,9 | 5,5 | 0,6 | 1 | 1 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| French-speaking region | | | | | | | | | |
| Mouvement Réformateur* | MR | 10,3 | 10,6 | 0,3 | 3 | 2 | -1 | ALDE & EPP-ED | ALDE |
| Parti socialiste* | PS | 13,5 | 10,4 | -3,1 | 4 | 2 | -2 | SOC | SOC |
| Centre Démocrate Humaniste* | CDH | 5,7 | 7,1 | 1,4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Ecologistes Confédérés pour l'Organisation de Luttes Originales | Ecolo | 3,7 | 7,0 | 3,3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Front national | FN | | 4,3 | 4,3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | na |
| German-speaking region | | | | | | | | | |
| Christlich Soziale Partei | CSP | 0,4 | 0,4 | 0,0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Total | | | | | 24 | 22 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), 3 regional districts (13 Dutch-speaking, 8 French-speaking, 1 German-speaking), no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Bulgaria

The main centre-right opposition party in Bulgaria, Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria (GERB), is running higher in the opinion polls than the main governing party, the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP). However, an unusually large number of Bulgarian voters remain undecided, so we are uncertain whether the current support for GERB will hold up in June.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2007 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2007 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|--------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| BULGARIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Grazhdani za evropeysko razvitie na Balgaria | GERB | 21,7 | 33,6 | 11,9 | 5 | 6 | 1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Balgarska Sotsialisticheska Partiya* | BSP | 21,4 | 22,6 | 1,2 | 5 | 4 | -1 | SOC | SOC |
| Natsionalno dvizhenie za stabilnost i vazhod* | NDSV | 6,3 | 9,5 | 3,2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Dvizhenie za Prava i Svobodi* | DPS | 20,3 | 9,4 | -10,9 | 4 | 2 | -2 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Natsionalno Obединenie Ataka | Ataka | 14,2 | 8,2 | -6,0 | 3 | 1 | -2 | na | na |
| Napred (1) | NAPRED | 2,4 | 7,1 | 4,7 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | EPP-ED |
| Obединeni Demokratichni Sili | ODS | 4,7 | 5,4 | 0,7 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | EPP-ED |
| Demokrati za Silna Balgariya | DSB | 4,4 | 4,3 | -0,1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | | | | | 18 | 17 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, largest remainder method (Hare-Niemeyer), single national district, 5% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>(1) VMRO for 2004 votes</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Cyprus

We predict that the left-wing Cypriot President's party, AKEL, will win fewer votes than the main conservative opposition party, DISY. But, with only 6 seats at stake we do not expect any seat changes in June.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| CYPRUS | | | | | | | | | |
| Dimokratikos Synagermos | DISY | 28,2 | 31,5 | 3,3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Anorthotiko Komma Ergazomenou Laou* | AKEL | 27,9 | 29,3 | 1,4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Dimokratiko Komma* | DIKO | 17,1 | 16,4 | -0,7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Kinima Sosialdimokraton Eniaia Dimokratiki Enosi Kentrou* | EDEK | | 9,3 | 9,3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | SOC |
| Total | | | | | 6 | 6 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, largest-remainder method (Hare), single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Czech Republic

With the collapse of the conservative ODS government in March, in the middle of the Czech Presidency of the EU Council, it is not yet clear whether this will benefit the other main party, the Social Democrats (CSSD). Nevertheless, we predict that the Social Democrats will be the main winners of the election, with the Greens (SZ) also picking up a seat. We also expect the ODS to leave the EPP group and sit with the British Conservatives in a new "European Conservative" group.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|---------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| CZECH REPUBLIC | | | | | | | | | |
| Česká strana sociálně demokratická | CSSD | 8,8 | 39,2 | 30,4 | 2 | 9 | 7 | SOC | SOC |
| Občanská demokratická strana* | ODS | 30,0 | 33,3 | 3,3 | 9 | 8 | -1 | EPP-ED | EC |
| Komunistická strana Čech a Moravy | KSCM | 20,3 | 13,5 | -6,8 | 6 | 3 | -3 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Křesťanská a demokratická unie - Československá strana lidová* | KDU-CSL | 11,3 | 7,3 | -4,0 | 2 | 1 | -1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Strana zelených* | SZ | 3,2 | 6,7 | 3,5 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | G/EFA |
| Total | | | | | 24 | 22 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Denmark

We predict the main opposition party, the Social Democrats (SD), to come out on top in Denmark, but will not do anywhere near as well as they did five years ago, and hence might even lose a seat. Meanwhile, we expect the Socialist People's Party (SFP) and the Danish People's Party (DFP) to pick up an extra seat each.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| DENMARK | | | | | | | | | |
| Socialdemokratiet | SD | 32,6 | 23,7 | -8,9 | 5 | 4 | -1 | SOC | SOC |
| Venstre, Danmarks Liberale Parti* | V | 19,4 | 21,2 | 1,8 | 3 | 3 | 0 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Socialistisk Folkeparti | SFP | 8,0 | 13,9 | 5,9 | 1 | 2 | 1 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Dansk Folkeparti | DFP | 6,8 | 12,4 | 5,6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | UEN | EC |
| Det Konservative Folkeparti* | KF | 11,3 | 8,2 | -3,1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| JuniBevægelsen | JB | 9,1 | 7,6 | -1,5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | IND/DEM | IND/DEM |
| Folkebevægelsen mod EU | FmEF | 5,2 | 5,0 | -0,2 | 1 | 0 | -1 | EUL/NGL | |
| Det Radikale Venstre | RV | 6,4 | 4,9 | -1,5 | 1 | 0 | -1 | ALDE | |
| Kristendemokraterne | K | 1,3 | 3,1 | 1,8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | | | | | 14 | 13 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Estonia

We expect the main opposition party in Estonia, the Centre Party (KESK), to win the elections and pick up a seat, while the main losers are likely to be the Social Democrats (SDE) who are currently very low in the polls and unlikely to pick up support because they are in government.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|-----------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| ESTONIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Eesti Keskerakond | KESK | 17,5 | 29,3 | 11,8 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Eesti Reformierakond* | Ref | 12,2 | 28,6 | 16,4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Isamaa ja Res Publica Liit* | IRL | 17,2 | 14,5 | -2,7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Sotsiaaldemokraatlik Erakond* | SDE | 36,8 | 11,2 | -25,6 | 3 | 1 | -2 | SOC | SOC |
| Erakond Eestimaa Rohelised | EER | | 8,9 | 8,9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Eestimaa Rahvaliid | Rahvaliid | 8,1 | 7,5 | -0,6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | | | | | 6 | 6 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Finland

With only 13 seats up for grabs, a broad coalition government, and some high profile MEPs, we expect the election outcome to be relatively stable in Finland. Nevertheless, we predict the new nationalist and Eurosceptic party, True Finns (PS), to win a seat at the expense of the Centre Party (KESK).

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| FINLAND | | | | | | | | | |
| Kansallinen Kokoomus* | KOK | 23,7 | 22,2 | -1,5 | 4 | 4 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Suomen Sosialidemokraattinen Puolue | SDP | 21,1 | 21,5 | 0,4 | 3 | 3 | 0 | SOC | SOC |
| Suomen Keskusta* | KESK | 23,3 | 20,8 | -2,5 | 4 | 3 | -1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Vihreä liitto* | VIHR | 10,4 | 8,9 | -1,5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Vasemmistoliitto | VAS | 9,1 | 8,8 | -0,3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Perussuomalaiset | PS | | 7,1 | 7,1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | na |
| Kristillisdemokraatit | KD | 0,6 | 5,5 | 4,9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Svenska folkpartiet* | SFP | 5,7 | 5,2 | -0,5 | 1 | 0 | -1 | EPP-ED | |
| Total | | | | | 14 | 13 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

France

Despite the fact that the French conservatives, the UMP, are in government, we predict that they will do well in the elections while the French Socialists (PS) will do worse than they did five years ago, when President Chirac was unpopular and the Socialists were riding high in the polls. We also predict that the new Anti-Capitalist Party (NPA) will win seats, while the Front National should lose seats and the Greens lose several seats.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|----------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| FRANCE | | | | | | | | | |
| Union pour un Mouvement Populaire* | UMP | 16,6 | 25,7 | 9,1 | 17 | 25 | 8 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Parti socialiste | PS | 28,9 | 21,6 | -7,3 | 31 | 20 | -11 | SOC | SOC |
| Nouveau parti anticapitaliste | NPA | | 11,0 | 11,0 | 0 | 10 | 10 | | EUL/NGL |
| Mouvement Démocrate+Avenir Démocrate | MoDem+AD | 12,0 | 9,6 | -2,4 | 11 | 6 | -5 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Debout la République | DLR | 1,7 | 6,6 | 4,9 | 0 | 3 | 3 | | na |
| Mouvement pour la France* | MPF | 6,7 | 5,7 | -1,0 | 3 | 1 | -2 | IND/DEM | IND/DEM |
| Les Verts-Europe-Ecologie | Verts | 7,4 | 5,6 | -1,8 | 6 | 2 | -4 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Front national | FN | 9,8 | 5,4 | -4,4 | 7 | 3 | -4 | na | na |
| Parti communiste français/Rassemblement Démocratique de la Martinique | PCF+RDM | 5,3 | 4,7 | -0,6 | 3 | 2 | -1 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Lutte Ouvrière | LO | 2,6 | 4,1 | 1,5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | | | | | 78 | 72 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), 8 regional districts, 5% regional threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Germany

We predict that the German Christian Democrats (CDU/CSU) should win more seats than the Social Democrats (SPD). However, the SPD should pick up seats compared to their dismal performance in 2004, while the CDU/CSU, who were in opposition when the elections were held five years ago, are likely to lose seats overall. As a result of a swing against the two parties in the grand coalition, we also predict that the Left Party (LINKE) and the Liberals (FDP) will win seats, while the Greens may lose some seats.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|--------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| GERMANY | | | | | | | | | |
| Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands* | SPD | 21,5 | 28,7 | 7,2 | 23 | 29 | 6 | SOC | SOC |
| Christlich Demokratische Union Deutschlands* | CDU | 36,5 | 27,7 | -8,8 | 40 | 28 | -12 | EPP-EP | EPP-ED |
| Freie Demokratische Partei - Die Liberalen | FDP | 6,1 | 13,3 | 7,2 | 7 | 14 | 7 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Die Linke | LINKE | 6,1 | 10,4 | 4,3 | 7 | 11 | 4 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Bündnis 90/Die Grünen | GRUNEN | 11,9 | 9,7 | -2,2 | 13 | 10 | -3 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Christlich-Soziale Union* | CSU | 8,0 | 6,8 | -1,2 | 9 | 7 | -2 | EPP-EP | EPP-ED |
| Total | | | | | 99 | 99 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, largest remainder method (Hare-Niemeyer), single national district, 5% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Greece

We predict that the conservative New Democracy (ND) party, which is in government in Athens, will be punished by the voters in June. However, the main opposition Socialist Party (PASOK) is unlikely to pick up more than one seat, with one of the radical left parties, SYN, the ultra-conservative party, LAOS, and the Greens each likely to gain a seat.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| GREECE | | | | | | | | | |
| Panellinio Socialistiko Kinima | PASOK | 34,0 | 38,0 | 4,0 | 8 | 8 | 0 | SOC | SOC |
| Nea Dimokratia* | ND | 43,1 | 33,1 | -10,0 | 11 | 7 | -4 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Kommounistiko Komma Elladas | KKE | 9,5 | 8,7 | -0,8 | 3 | 2 | -1 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Laikos Orthodoxos Synagermos | LAOS | 4,1 | 7,9 | 3,8 | 1 | 2 | 1 | IND/DEM | IND/DEM |
| Synaspismos tis Aristeras ton Kinimaton kai tis Oikologias | SYN | 4,2 | 7,5 | 3,3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Oikologoi Prasinoi | OP | | 4,8 | 4,8 | | 1 | 1 | | G/EFA |
| Total | | | | | 24 | 22 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, largest remainder method (Hare), single national district, 3% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Hungary

Support for the governing Socialist Party (MSzP) has collapsed in Hungary, while the conservative opposition Fidesz are running extraordinarily high in the polls. However, we predict that the way the seats are allocated in Hungary, via the d'Hondt system, should mean that Fidesz should not gain more than a couple of seats at the Socialists expense.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|--------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| HUNGARY | | | | | | | | | |
| Fidesz-Magyar Polgári Szövetség | Fidesz | 47,4 | 54,3 | 6,9 | 12 | 13 | 1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Magyar Szocialista Párt* | MSzP | 34,3 | 29,9 | -4,4 | 9 | 7 | -2 | SOC | SOC |
| Szabad Demokraták Szövetsége | SzDSz | 7,7 | 6,4 | -1,3 | 2 | 1 | -1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Magyar Demokrata Fórum | MDF | 5,3 | 5,9 | 0,6 | 1 | 1 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Total | | | | | 24 | 22 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, 5% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Ireland

The governing Fianna Fáil party in Ireland is at an all time low in the opinion polls, while the opposition Fine Gael is running ahead. However, we do not expect many seats to change hands in Ireland because of the small regional districts. We also expect Fianna Fáil to leave the Union for a Europe of Nations (UEN) group and join the Liberals (ALDE).

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|----------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| IRELAND | | | | | | | | | |
| Fianna Fáil* | FF | 29,5 | 31,6 | 2,1 | 4 | 4 | 0 | UEN | ALDE |
| Fine Gael | FG | 27,8 | 31,1 | 3,3 | 5 | 5 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Labour Party | Lab | 10,6 | 13,7 | 3,1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | SOC | SOC |
| Independent | Ind-anti | 15,5 | 9,2 | -6,3 | 2 | 1 | -1 | ALDE IND/DEM | IND/DEM |
| Sinn Féin | SF | 11,1 | 7,8 | -3,3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Green Party* | GP | 4,3 | 6,6 | 2,3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | | | | | 13 | 12 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: Single-Transferable-Vote, 4 regional districts, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Italy

Italian European elections are notoriously difficult to predict because of the changing party and coalition line-up in elections. For example, this will be the first election battle between the two new large parties: Berlusconi's The People of Freedom (PdL) and the centre-left Democratic Party (PD). We predict that Berlusconi's party will do slightly worse than the opinion polls are currently predicting, but will only lose one seat compared to five years ago. On the other side, we expect the PD to do slightly worse this time than in 2004, and for the PD delegation to be split between the Socialist group and the Liberal (ALDE) group.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|----------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| ITALY | | | | | | | | | |
| Partito Democratico | PD | 31,1 | 29,8 | -1,3 | 14 | 17 | 3 | SOC | SOC |
| Margherita/Movimento Repubblicani Europei | Marg/MRE | | | | 8 | 6 | -2 | ALDE&EPP-ED | ALDE |
| Partito Socialista | PS | | 3,3 | 3,3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | SOC | SOC |
| Südtiroler Volkspartei | SVP | | 1,0 | 1,0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Il Popolo della Libertà* | PdL | 32,5 | 32,5 | 0,0 | 26 | 25 | -1 | EPP-ED&UEN | EPP-ED |
| Partito della Rifondazione Comunista | RC | 6,1 | 5,2 | -0,9 | 5 | 3 | -2 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Federazione dei Verdi | FV | 2,5 | | | 2 | 1 | -1 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Unione Democratici di Centro | UDC | 5,9 | 5,3 | -0,6 | 5 | 4 | -1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Lega Nord* | LN | 5,0 | 7,0 | 2,0 | 4 | 5 | 1 | IND/DEM | IND/DEM |
| Partito dei Comunisti Italiani | PDCI | 2,4 | | | 2 | 0 | -2 | EUL/NGL | |
| Lista Emma Bonino | EB | 2,2 | | | 2 | 0 | -2 | ALDE | |
| Italia dei Valori | IdV | 2,1 | 6,6 | 4,5 | 2 | 5 | 3 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Nuovo Partito Socialista Italiano | NPSI | 2,0 | | | 2 | 0 | -2 | ALDE | |
| Movimento Sociale Fiamma tricolore | MSFT | 0,7 | 3,7 | 3,0 | 1 | 3 | 2 | na | na |
| Alternativa sociale: Lista Mussolini | ASLM | 1,2 | | | 1 | 0 | -1 | na | |
| Partito Pensionati | PP | 1,1 | | | 1 | 0 | -1 | EPP-ED | |
| Total | | | | | 78 | 72 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, largest-remainder method (Hare), single national district (but lists presented in 5 regions), 4% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Latvia

The Latvian government resigned at the end of February and has not yet been replaced. Also, Latvian opinion poll data are hard to come by. Add to this a disastrous economic situation. Hence, the upcoming European elections in Latvia are very difficult to predict. Nevertheless, we expect that main winners to be the centre-left Harmony Centre (SC) to do better than last time, picking up a couple of seats, and the rightwing Fatherland and Freedom Party (TB/LNNK) to be the main losers.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|---------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| LATVIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Jaunais laiks | JL | 19,7 | 20,4 | 0,7 | 2 | 2 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Saskaņas Centrs | SC | 4,8 | 20,4 | 15,6 | 0 | 2 | 2 | | SOC |
| Zaļo un Zemnieku Savienība* | ZZS | 4,3 | 14,3 | 10,0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | G/EFA |
| Tautas partija* | TP | 6,6 | 12,3 | 5,7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Par Cilvēka Tiesībām Vienotā Latvijā | PCTVL | 10,7 | 8,9 | -1,8 | 1 | 1 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Tēvzemei un Brīvībai/LNNK | TB/LNNK | 29,8 | 7,4 | -22,4 | 4 | 1 | -3 | UEN | EC |
| Latvijas Pirmā Partija/Latvijas Ceļš* | LPP/LC | 9,7 | 6,3 | -3,4 | 1 | 0 | -1 | ALDE | |
| Latvijas Sociāldemokrātiskā Strādnieku Partija | LSDSP | 4,8 | 5,9 | 1,1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Visu Latvijai | VL | | 4,2 | 4,2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | | | | | 9 | 8 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (Sainte-Laguë), single national district, 5% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Lithuania

We are predicting that there will not be much change in the fortunes of the parties in Lithuania since the result in the parliamentary in October 2008. As a result, the three governing parties should win some seats, mainly at the expense of the main opposition Labour Party (DP), whose support has collapsed since the European elections in 2004.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| LITHUANIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Tėvynės sąjunga* | TS | 12,6 | 24,7 | 12,1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Liberalų demokratų partija | LDP | 6,8 | 17,3 | 10,5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | UEN | EC |
| Lietuvos socialdemokratų partija | LSP | 14,4 | 16,2 | 1,8 | 2 | 2 | 0 | SOC | SOC |
| Tautos Priskėlimo Partija* | TPP | | 12,8 | 12,8 | 0 | 2 | 2 | | EPP-ED |
| Lietuvos Respublikos Liberalų Sąjūdis* | LRLS | | 11,3 | 11,3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | ALDE |
| Darbo partija | DP | 30,2 | 11,1 | -19,1 | 5 | 1 | -4 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Liberalų ir centro sąjunga* | LCS | 11,2 | 6,7 | -4,5 | 2 | 1 | -1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Valstiečių ir Naujosios demokratijos partijų sąjunga | VNDPS | 7,4 | | -7,4 | 1 | 0 | -1 | UEN | |
| Total | | | | | 13 | 12 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List-PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, 5% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Luxembourg

Luxembourg is holding a national election on the same day as the European election. However, with only 6 seats at stake we do not expect any seats to change hands, despite a decline in support for the two parties in the grand coalition government.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| LUXEMBOURG | | | | | | | | | |
| Chrëschtlech Sozial Vollekspartei* | CSV | 37,1 | 33,1 | -4,0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Lëtzebuurger Sozialistesche Arbechterpartei* | LASP | 22,1 | 21,8 | -0,3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | SOC | SOC |
| Demokratesch Partei | DP | 14,9 | 16,1 | 1,2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Déi Gréng | G | 15,0 | 11,5 | -3,5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Alternativ Demokratesch Reformpartei | ADR | 8,0 | 9,9 | 1,9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | | | | | 6 | 6 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Malta

As was the case in 2004, we predict that the governing Maltese Nationalist Party (PN) will lose the election to the opposition Labour Party (MLP), with 3 seats for the MLP and 2 for PN.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| MALTA | | | | | | | | | |
| Partit Laborista | MLP | 48,4 | 50,6 | 2,2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | SOC | SOC |
| Partit Nazzjonalista* | PN | 39,8 | 45,0 | 5,2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Alternattiva Demokratika | AD | 10,0 | 4,4 | -5,6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | | | | | 5 | 5 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: Single-Transferable-Vote, single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Netherlands

The big uncertainty in the Dutch election will be the performance of Geert Wilders rightwing populist Party for Freedom (PvdV). We predict that he will win 3 seats, but he may win more. The main losers will be the two main governing parties, the Christian Democrats (CDA) and the Labour Party (PvdA).

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| NETHERLANDS | | | | | | | | | |
| Christen Democratisch Appèl* | CDA | 24,4 | 20,0 | -4,4 | 7 | 5 | -2 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Partij van de Arbeid* | PvdA | 23,6 | 16,1 | -7,5 | 7 | 4 | -3 | SOC | SOC |
| Socialistische Partij | SP | 7,0 | 13,8 | 6,8 | 2 | 4 | 2 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Volkspartij voor Vrijheid en Democratie | VVD | 13,2 | 12,4 | -0,8 | 4 | 3 | -1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Partij voor de Vrijheid | PVV | 0,0 | 11,6 | 11,6 | 0 | 3 | 3 | | na |
| ChristenUnie* | CU | 5,9 | 8,3 | 2,4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | IND/DEM | IND/DEM |
| Democraten 66 | D66 | 4,2 | 8,0 | 3,8 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| GroenLinks | GL | 7,4 | 6,2 | -1,2 | 2 | 1 | -1 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Partij voor de Dieren | PvdD | 3,2 | 3,5 | 0,3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | G/EFA |
| Total | | | | | 27 | 25 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Poland

The governing centre-right Civic Platform (PO) is still remarkably popular in Poland. But, while support for the conservative Law and Justice party (PiS) has fallen since the general election in 2007, it is still well above its standing in 2004. We consequently predict that these two parties will be the main winners in the European elections in June.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|------------------------------------|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| POLAND | | | | | | | | | |
| Platforma Obywatelska* | PO | 24,1 | 48,4 | 24,3 | 15 | 25 | 10 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Prawo i Sprawiedliwość | PiS | 12,7 | 34,3 | 21,6 | 7 | 17 | 10 | UEN | EC |
| Lewica i Demokraci | LiD | 9,3 | 10,6 | 1,3 | 5 | 5 | 0 | SOC | SOC |
| Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe* | PSL | 6,3 | 6,8 | 0,5 | 4 | 3 | -1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Samobrona RP | SRP | 10,8 | | -10,8 | 6 | 0 | -6 | na | |
| Naprzód Polsko (1) | NP | 15,9 | | -15,9 | 10 | 0 | -10 | IND/DEM | |
| Unia Wolności/Partia Demokratyczna | UW | 7,3 | | -7,3 | 4 | 0 | -4 | ALDE | |
| Socjaldemokracja Polska | SdPL | 5,3 | | -5,3 | 3 | 0 | -3 | SOC | |
| Total | | | | | 54 | 50 | | | |

Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district (but lists presented in 13 regions), 5% national threshold

(1) Liga Polskich Rodzin (LPR) for 2004 votes

Portugal

The European elections in June in Portugal will be a dry run for the national parliamentary elections which will take place in September. The governing Socialists (PS) are currently ahead in the polls, but we expect the opposition centre-right Social Democrats (PSD) to close the gap. However, we predict these two parties to both lose seats, while the conservative CDS-PP and the Left Bloc (BE) should pick up seats.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|--------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| PORTUGAL | | | | | | | | | |
| Partido Socialista* | PS | 44,5 | 38,8 | -5,7 | 12 | 9 | -3 | SOC | SOC |
| Partido Social Democrata | PSD | 33,3 | 31,0 | -2,3 | 9 | 7 | -2 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Centro Democrático Social/Partido Popular | CDS-PP | | | | | | | | |
| Coligação Democrática Unitária | CDU | 9,1 | 10,9 | 1,8 | 2 | 2 | 0 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Bloco de Esquerda | BE | 4,9 | 9,5 | 4,6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Total | | | | | 24 | 22 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Romania

A new Democratic Liberal Party (PD-L) and Social Democrat (PSD) was took office in Bucharest in December 2008 and is currently enjoying a honeymoon period. However, the new PD-L party should lose seats compared to the combined performance of the two former parties in the last European elections in Romania in 2007.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2007 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2007 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| ROMANIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Partidul Social Democrat* | PSD | 23,1 | 27,0 | 3,9 | 10 | 12 | 2 | SOC | SOC |
| Partidul Democrat-Liberal* | PD-L | 28,8 | 28,5 | -0,3 | 13 | 13 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Partidul Liberal Democrat | PLD | 7,8 | | | | | | | |
| Independent | Ind | 3,4 | 13,5 | 10,1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | G/EFA | na |
| Partidul Național Liberal | PNL | 13,4 | 13,1 | -0,3 | 6 | 5 | -1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Uniunea Democrată Maghiară din România | UDMR | 5,5 | 5,8 | 0,3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Partidul România Mare | PRM | 4,2 | 3,1 | -1,1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | | | | | 35 | 33 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, 5% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Slovakia

We expect the main governing party in Slovakia, the Social Democrats (Smer), to perform much better in the European elections this year than they did five years ago. We also expect the Slovak National Party (SNS), which is a junior coalition partner, in the government to pick up 2 seats. In contrast, we expect the Christian Democrats (KDH) and the conservative People's Union (HZDS) to lose seats.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|---------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| SLOVAKIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Smer - sociálna demokracia* | Smer | 16,9 | 35,3 | 18,4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | SOC | SOC |
| Slovenská demokratická a kresťanská únia | SDKU | 17,1 | 16,7 | -0,4 | 3 | 2 | -1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Strana maďarskej koalície - Magyar | | | | | | | | | |
| Koalíció Pártja | SMK-MKP | 13,2 | 10,7 | -2,5 | 2 | 2 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Slovenská národná strana* | SNS | 2,0 | 10,5 | 8,5 | 0 | 2 | 2 | | na |
| Kresťanskodemokratické hnutie | KDH | 16,2 | 10,0 | -6,2 | 3 | 1 | -2 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Hnutie za demokratické Slovensko* | HZDS | 17,0 | 8,2 | -8,8 | 3 | 1 | -2 | na | na |
| Komunistická strana Slovenska | KSS | 4,5 | 4,4 | -0,1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Slobodné fórum | SF | 3,3 | 4,1 | 0,9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Občianska konzervatívna strana | OKS | 1,0 | 0,0 | -1,0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | | | | | 14 | 13 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, largest remainder method (Droop), single national district, 5% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Slovenia

The Slovenian Social Democrats (SD), who won the parliamentary elections in September 2008, are running high in the polls, and should pick up seats. We also predict that the main opposition party, the centre-right Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS) should gain a seat. The new New Politics (Zares) party should also win a seat, while the Liberal Democrats (LDS) and the Christian People's Party (NSi) have seen their support collapse, and so should lose seats.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| SLOVENIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Socialni demokrati* | SD | 14,2 | 31,0 | 16,8 | 1 | 3 | 2 | SOC | SOC |
| Slovenska demokratska stranka | SDS | 17,7 | 29,6 | 11,9 | 2 | 3 | 1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Zares* | Zares | | 12,2 | 12,2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | ALDE |
| Slovenska Nacionalna Stranka | SNS | 5,0 | 8,8 | 3,8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Liberalna Demokracija Slovenije* | LDS | 21,9 | 6,9 | -15,0 | 2 | 0 | -2 | ALDE | |
| Demokratska stranka upokojencev Slovenije* | DeSUS | | 6,1 | 6,1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Slovenska ljudska stranka | SLS | 8,4 | 5,4 | -3,0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Nova Slovenija | NSi | 23,5 | | -23,5 | 2 | 0 | -2 | EPP-ED | |
| Total | | | | | 7 | 7 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List-PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Spain

Since this will be a mid-term election in the middle of an economic crisis, we predict the governing Socialist Workers Party (PSOE) to lose quite a few seats. However, we do not expect the opposition People's Party (PP) to win seats either. Instead, we predict the votes to go to the smaller regionalist coalitions and the centrist Union of Progress and Democracy (UPyD).

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|---------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| SPAIN | | | | | | | | | |
| Partido Popular | PP | 41,5 | 40,2 | -1,3 | 24 | 21 | -3 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Partido Socialista Obrero Español - Los Verdes | | 43,7 | 37,4 | -6,3 | | | | | |
| Partido Socialista Obrero Español* | PSOE | | | | 24 | 18 | -6 | SOC | SOC |
| Los Verdes | LV | | | | 1 | 1 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Galeuzca | | | | | | | | | |
| Convergència i Unió | CIU | 5,2 | 5,2 | 0,0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Partido Nacionalista Vasco | PNV | | | | 1 | 1 | 0 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Bloque Nacionalista Galego | BNG | | | | 0 | 1 | 1 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Izquierda Unida - Iniciativa Per Catalunya Verds | | | | | | | | | |
| Izquierda Unida | IU | 4,1 | 5,8 | 1,7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Iniciativa Per Catalunya Verds - Esquerra Unida i Alternativa | IC-V | | | | 1 | 1 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Europa de los Pueblos/Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya | EdP/ERC | 2,5 | 6,1 | 3,6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Unión Progreso y Democracia | UPyD | | 5,2 | 5,2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | | ALDE |
| Total | | | | | 54 | 50 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), single national district, no threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

Sweden

We predict that the main opposition party, the Social Democrats (SAP) will do well in the elections, and win 2 seats. However, this is likely to be mainly at the expense of the anti-European June List (JL), as the left-wing supporters of this party will go back to the Social Democrats now that that party is no-longer in government. Amongst the governing parties, the Moderate Party (M) is likely to gain an extra seat, while the Liberals (FPL) could lose a seat.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|---|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| SWEDEN | | | | | | | | | |
| Socialdemokratiska arbetarparti | SAP | 24,6 | 34,5 | 9,9 | 5 | 6 | 1 | SOC | SOC |
| Moderata Samlingspartiet* | M | 18,2 | 25,2 | 7,0 | 4 | 5 | 1 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Centerpartiet* | CP | 6,3 | 6,5 | 0,2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Miljöpartiet | MP | 6,0 | 6,3 | 0,3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Folkpartiet liberalerna* | FPL | 9,9 | 6,3 | -3,6 | 2 | 1 | -1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| Junilistan | JL | 14,5 | 6,2 | -8,3 | 3 | 1 | -2 | IND/DEM | IND/DEM |
| Vänsterpartiet | VP | 12,8 | 6,1 | -6,7 | 2 | 1 | -1 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Kristdemokraterna* | KD | 5,7 | 4,8 | -0,9 | 1 | 1 | 0 | EPP-ED | EPP-ED |
| Sverigedemokraterna | SD | | 4,2 | 4,2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | na |
| Total | | | | | 19 | 18 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: List PR, divisor method (modified Sainte-Laguë), single national district, 4% national threshold</i> | | | | | | | | | |

United Kingdom

The opposition Conservative Party is running well ahead of the governing Labour Party in the polls. However, the Labour Party did extremely badly in the European elections in 2004 and the electoral system (regional districts with d'Hondt) should mean that Labour should not lose any seats and may even win one or two. The main losers of the election are likely to be the Eurosceptic UK Independence Party, many of whose voters are likely to go back to the Conservative Party or to the extreme right British National Party, who could possibly win a seat.

| Party | Abbr. | Votes 2004 | Predicted Votes 2009 | Change | MEPs 2004 | Predicted MEPs 2009 | Change | EP Group 2004 | EP Group 2009 |
|--|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| UNITED KINGDOM | | | | | | | | | |
| Great Britain | | | | | | | | | |
| Conservative Party | CON | 26,7 | 33,5 | 6,8 | 27 | 27 | 0 | EPP-ED | EC |
| Labour Party* | LAB | 22,6 | 26,7 | 6,1 | 19 | 22 | 3 | SOC | SOC |
| Liberal Democrat Party | LD | 14,9 | 19,1 | 4,2 | 12 | 13 | 1 | ALDE | ALDE |
| UK Independence Party | UKIP | 16,1 | 7,4 | -8,7 | 12 | 4 | -8 | IND/DEM | IND/DEM |
| Green Party | GRN | 6,3 | 5,1 | -1,2 | 2 | 0 | -2 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Scottish National Party | SNP | 1,4 | 2,2 | 0,8 | 2 | 2 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Plaid Cymru - Parti of Wales | PC | 1,0 | 1,3 | 0,3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | G/EFA | G/EFA |
| Northern Ireland | | | | | | | | | |
| Democratic Unionist Party | DUP | | | | 1 | 1 | 0 | na | na |
| Sinn Féin | SF | | | | 1 | 1 | 0 | EUL/NGL | EUL/NGL |
| Ulster Unionist Party | UUP | | | | 1 | 1 | 0 | EPP-ED | EC |
| Total | | | | | 78 | 72 | | | |
| <i>Electoral System: Great Britain: List PR, divisor method (d'Hondt), 11 regional districts, no threshold; Northern Ireland: Single-Transferable-Vote, one district, no</i> | | | | | | | | | |

About the Authors

Simon Hix

Simon Hix is Professor of European and Comparative Politics at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He has written several books, including most recently *What's Wrong With the European Union and How to Fix It* (Polity, 2008). In 2008 he won the Fenno Prize from the American Political Science Association (APSA) for his book (with Abdul Noury and Gerard Roland) *Democratic Politics in the European Parliament* (Cambridge, 2007), in 2005 he won APSA's Longley Prize for the best article in 2004 on representation and electoral systems, and in 2004 he won a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar Award. [Website](#)

Michael Marsh

Michael Marsh is Professor of Comparative Political Behaviour and Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Trinity College Dublin. He has written and edited a number of books, the most recent of which, *The Irish Voter* (Manchester University Press, 2008) won the Political Studies Association of Ireland's best book of 2008 prize, and almost one hundred professional articles and book chapters on parties and elections. He served as a principal investigator for the Irish election study 2002-2007, and has been part of a team running pan-EU surveys in European Parliament elections since 1991. [Website](#)

Nick Vivyan

Nick Vivyan is a Doctoral Research Student in the Department of Government at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is a member of the Political Science and Political Economy research group at the LSE. His doctoral research, on voting behaviour in central banks, is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council of the UK. His research interests also include quantitative methods, particularly Bayesian data analysis.

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