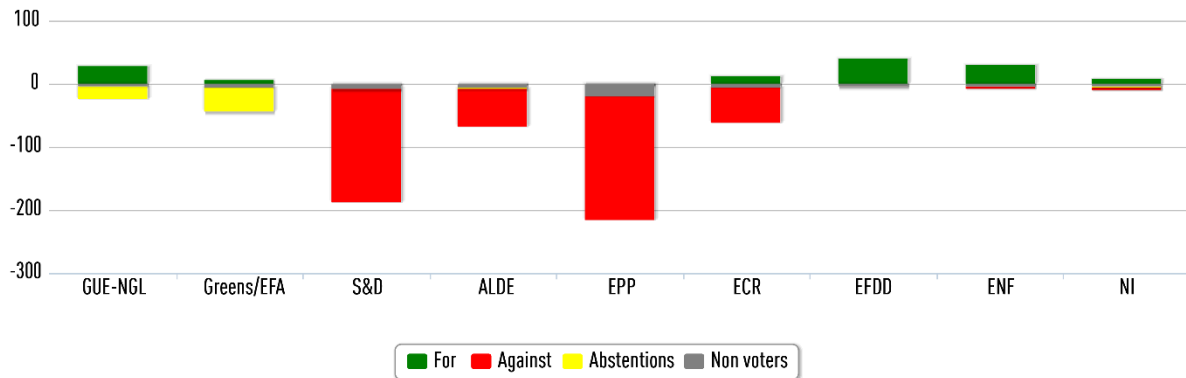


Should the EU limit the Juncker Plan interventions aiming at promoting growth?

The vote of the MEPs

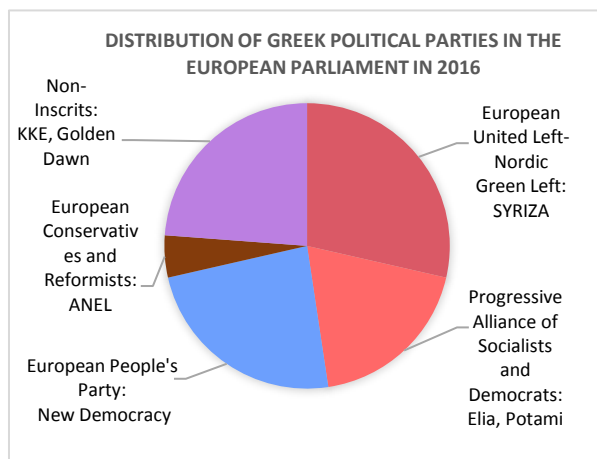


The European Fund for Strategic Investments as part of the Investment Plan for Europe (so-called Juncker Plan), one of the main flagships project of the current Commission. The goal of EFSI is to unlock up to 315bn of additional (mostly private) investment in the EU economy over a three years period. EFSI builds on a EUR 16 billion guarantee from the EU budget, which was partly provisioned with funds coming from other EU programmes, particularly Horizon2020 (the EU programme financing research and innovation) and the Connecting Europe Facility (the EU programme financing trans-european infrastructures).

Despite the innovative nature of the instrument, some MEPs criticized it, raising concerns about the additionally and quality of projects financed by EFSI as well as on the overall pertinence of the instrument to guarantee growth and development. However, most MEPs defended the instrument and a critical amendment tabled by EFDD was rejected by more than 70% of MEPs.

Centrist groups ALDE, S&D, the EPP and ECR strongly defended Juncker Commission's initiative, whereas, EFDD and ENF both voted against the European Fund for Strategic Investments. Interestingly, the majority of MEPs from Greens/EFA and a substantial amount of representatives from GUE-NGL decided to abstain.

The Greek MEPs were again the most divided country on this topic. The ones that were positive towards the European Fund for Strategic Investment and that therefore voted against the resolution were the members of New Democracy (EPP), as well as PASOK (S&D) and the River (S&D).



On the other hand, the MEPs that were the most critical towards the new fund and therefore supported the resolution were the independent member of the ECR, Notis Marias, and the members of the Golden Dawn. Interestingly, all the leftist MEPs voted in the same: all the members of Syriza, Popular Unity and the Communist Party of Greece, as well as the independent Sofia Sakorafa abstained.

Should the EU limit the Juncker Plan interventions aiming at promoting growth?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Against

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Abstain

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOGLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



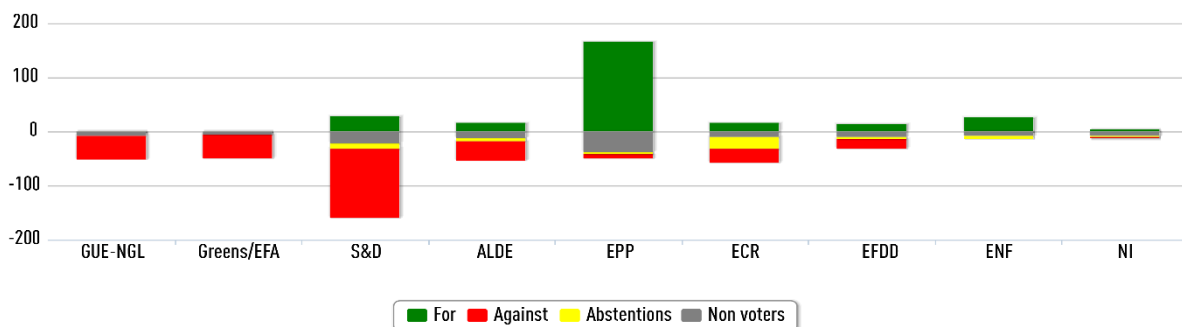
New Democracy

EPP

Absent

Should Employers to ban specific kinds of symbols that are claimed to be of a religious nature?

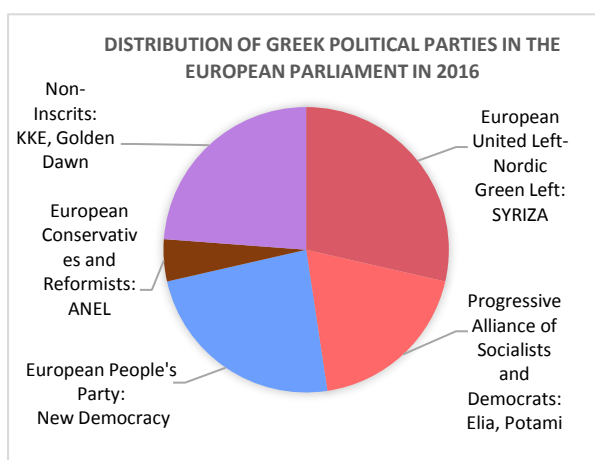
The vote of the MEPs



Two months after the Nice attacks, the MEPs voted on an amendment defending the rights of the employers to ban religious symbols on the workplace whenever these symbols violate the rights of women or can lead to security problems. This vote is quite important given the French context: France had already banned women to wear headscarves in public schools, as well as the burka and the *niqab* (the veils that cover women's faces).

In the case of the European Parliament, the vote on this amendment was pretty tight. The amendment was rejected by a slim margin of 5%. The amendment was supported by EPP and ENF, whereas ALDE, S&D, the Greens and GUE-NGL opposed the ban. Interestingly, ECR and EFDD were split, although a majority of their MEPs voted against the proposal.

The attitude of the Greek MEPs was surprising as half of them decided not to vote on this issue. This means that, despite them being present during the vote, they refrained from adopting a position of any sort. This was not the case of centre-left MEPs, who voted against the ban, with the only exception of Eva Kaili (PASOK), who abstained. Against the ban, there were also SYRIZA's members Dimitrios Papadimoulis and Kostas Chrysogonos, whereas Kostadinka Kuneva and Stelios Kouloglou did not vote.



The only Greek support for the ban came from New Democracy, although 2 members of the centre-right party did not vote: Manolis Kefalogiannis and Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi. Also the Conservative independent Notis Marias did not cast any vote. Finally, none of the non-attached members, coming from the Communist Party as well as the Golden Dawn took part in the vote.

Should Employers to ban specific kinds of symbols that are claimed to be of a religious nature?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Against

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Abstain

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Absent

Didn't vote

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Manolis KEFALOGIANIS



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOGLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association - Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association - Golden Dawn

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association - Golden Dawn

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS

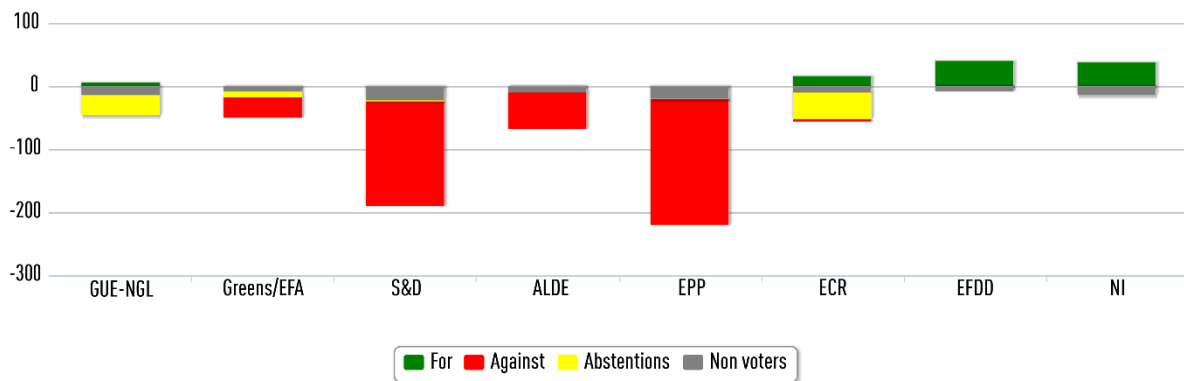


Communist Party of Greece

NI

Should the Parliament censor the European Commission?

The vote of the MEPs



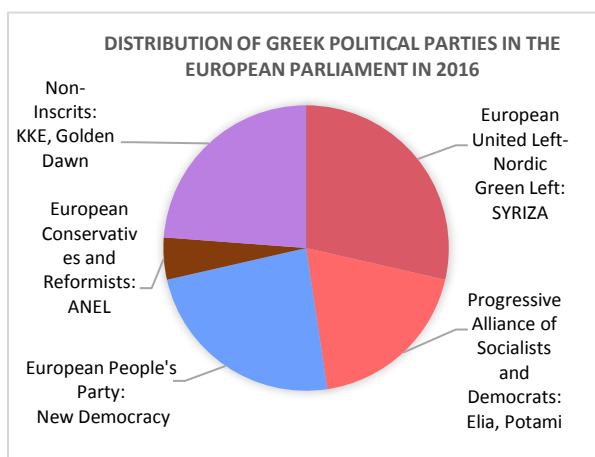
Shortly after receiving the approbation from the Members of the European Parliament, the new President of the Commission was involved in a litigation regarding his responsibilities in defining tax policies in Luxembourg, where he was Prime Minister, for multinational businesses tax-breaks-related issues.

The censure motion to the Commission executive was tabled by Eurosceptic MEPs from EFDD and ENF, was largely rejected by more than 70% of the Members. However, more than 189 Members did not vote against the motion, therefore questioning the Juncker's leadership over the European Commission. EPP, S&D, ALDE and the Greens sided with the Juncker-led Commission, whereas most of the members of ECR and GUE-NGL decided to abstain.

Once again, Greece was the most divided country on the motion. Moreover many MEPs decided not to vote or were absent.

The votes against the resolution, which were part of the winning majority of MEPs supporting Juncker's leadership, came from the present members of New Democracy (EPP), PASOK and the River (both in S&D).

More skepticism towards the current President of the Commission, came from the Greek members of GUE-NGL. Emmanouil Glezos and Kostadinka Kuneva from Syriza as well as the independent Sofia Sakorafa abstained from voting on this issue, whereas Syriza's member Dimitrios Papadimoulis from the same party decided not to vote.



The firm opponents of Juncker's Presidency, were the independent member of the ECR, Notis Marias, and all the members of the Golden Dawn.

Finally, as for the members of the Communist Party of Greece, Konstantinos Papadakis was absent and Sotirios Zarianopoulos decided not to vote.

Should the Parliament censor the European Commission?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Against

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Abstain

Emmanouil GLEZOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Absent

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGRAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Georgios KATROUGKALOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Didn't vote

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS

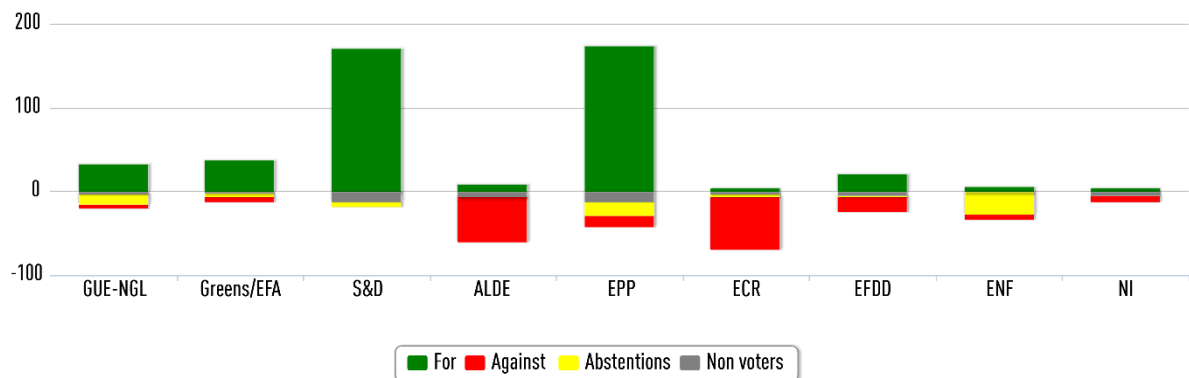


Communist Party of Greece

NI

Should the EU pursue closer relations with Iran?

The vote of the MEPs

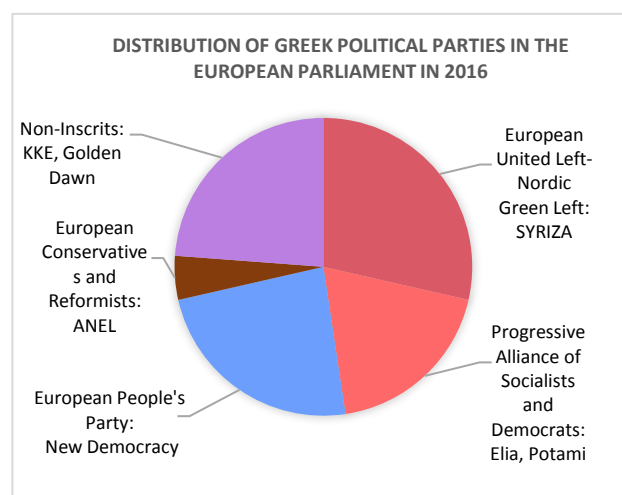


On the 25th October 2016, the EP passed a resolution advocating for closer relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, with a particular focus on the economic relations between the EU and the Middle Eastern country.

Ultimately, the resolution was approved by a heterogeneous majority of MEPs, made up of GUE-NGL, Greens/EFA, S&D, EPP and EFDD. On the other hand, the Liberals from ALDE and ECR voted against, whereas most members of ENF abstained.

Greece was in accordance with the majority of the EU parliament, voting in favor of closer relations towards Iran. The motion saw the approval of such parties as the centrist New Democracy, the left-wing Popular Union, Syriza, PASOK and the River.

However, there were also some opposing votes coming from the far-right Golden Dawn and the Communist members, as well as from the independent member of the ECR, Notis Marias.



Should the EU pursue closer relations with Iran?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOGLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Against

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Absent

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS

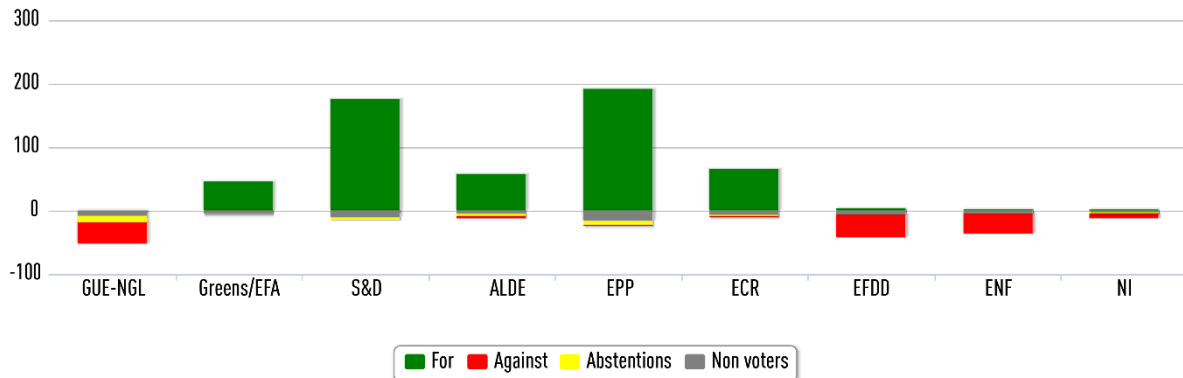


New Democracy

EPP

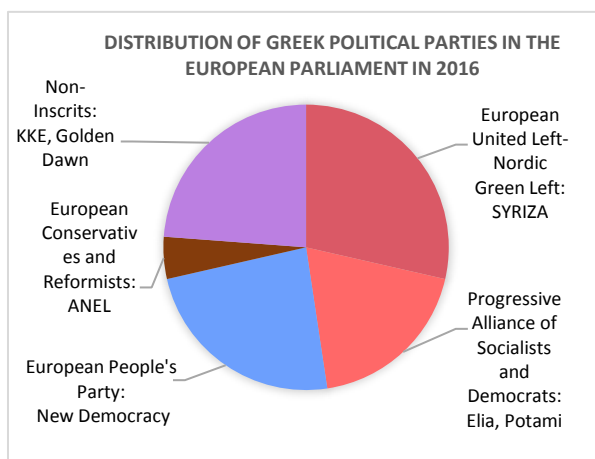
Should the EU allow the redoubling of the capacity of the pipeline Nord Stream II?

The vote of the MEPs



Nord Stream II is a project aiming at doubling the capacity of the existing Nord Stream pipeline that transports gas from Russia to Germany through the Baltic Sea via the exclusive economic zones of Finland, Sweden and Denmark (bypassing the Baltic States and Poland). European Gas demand has been decreasing since 2010. Many Eastern and Central European countries thus oppose Nord Stream II as they see it as a way for Russia to enhance its influence in the EU and use Nordstream to reduce the quantity of Russian gas sent to the EU through Ukraine. On the other hand, the German Economic Ministry as well as Austria are more concerned about the positive economic effects of the project on the German economy, and ensuring continuous supply of Russian gas.

A vast majority of MEPs expressed concerns about Nord Stream II and some MEPs even adopted positions that are in contrast to the stance taken by their parties at home, such as German S&D MEPs who opposed the project supported by their party leader Sigmar Gabriel. In this case, political views are deemed to be more important than national affiliations. EPP, S&D, ALDE, ECR and the Greens/EFA were concerned by the redoubling of Nord Stream, whereas only GUE-NGL, EFDD and ENF were not.



Greece was in contrast with the majority of the European Parliament, as most members defended the project of extending the pipeline. However, the Greek delegation was split, as all the MEPs from New Democracy, PASOK and Potami voted in favour of the critical amendment, therefore opposing Nord Stream II. On the other side, Syriza's and Golden Dawn's members sided with Nord Stream II. Finally, more uncertain the position of the Communist party, as its only member present in the plenary, Sotirios Zarianopoulos, decided to abstain.

Should the EU allow the redoubling of the capacity of the pipeline Nord Stream II?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Against

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Abstain

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



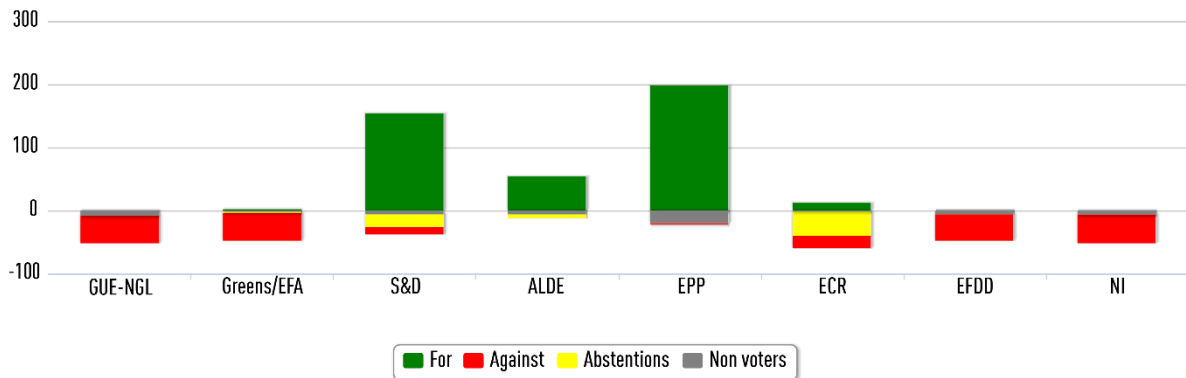
Communist Party of Greece

NI

Absent

Should the EP appoint Juncker's Commission?

The vote of the MEPs

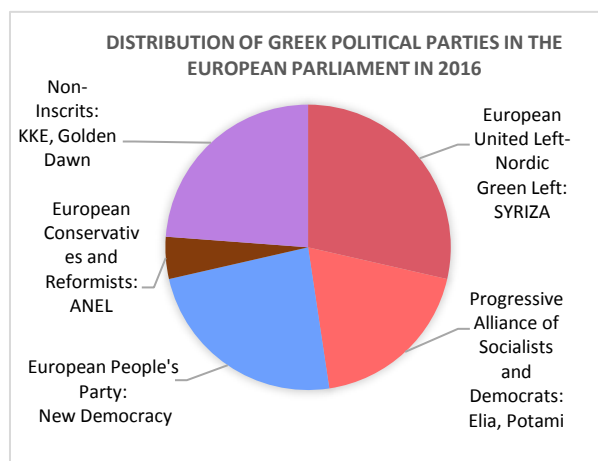


The current College of Commissioners led by Jean-Claude Juncker has been elected by the European Parliament on the 22nd October 2014 (few months after the European elections).

More than 60% of MEPs supported the new Commission, although the positive votes mostly came from the three centrist groups in the European Parliament: the European people's Party, the Liberals and the Social Democrats.

Instead, all the other groups in the European Parliament voted against the appointment of the new College of Commissioners, apart from ECR, which was split among MEPs voting in favour, the ones voting against and the several abstentions.

Most Greek MEPs were in the minority of MEPs voting against the new Commission. The opposing votes came from all the present members of the leftist Syriza. The rest of the GUE-NGL group, namely the members of Popular Unity and the Independent, Sofia Sakorafa, also voted against, similarly to the members of the far-right Golden Dawn and the leftist Communist Party.



On the other hand, the support came from the Greek members of the EPP (New Democracy) and S&D (PASOK, The River) that remained loyal to their political groups.

Should the EP appoint Juncker's Commission?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Against

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Georgios KATROUGKALOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Emmanouil GLEZOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Absent

Kostadinka KUNEVA

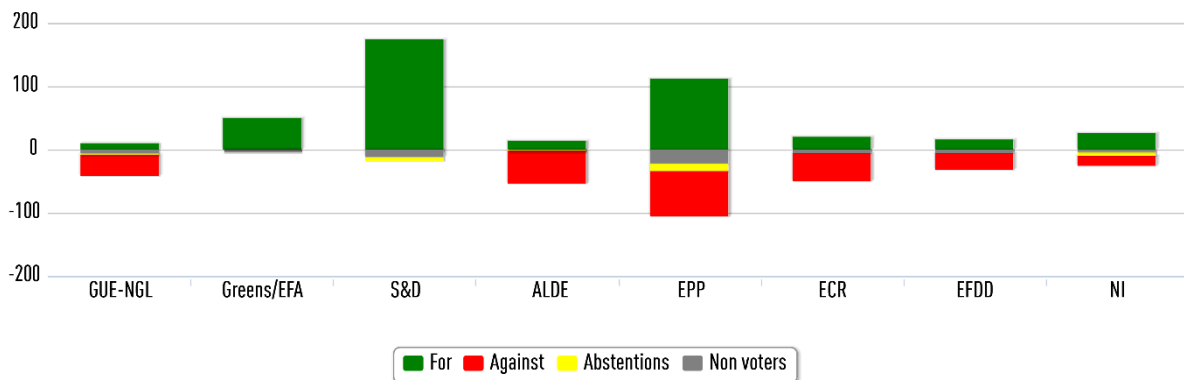


Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Should the EU introduce the payment of ETS allowances for steel coming from outside the EU?

The vote of the MEPs

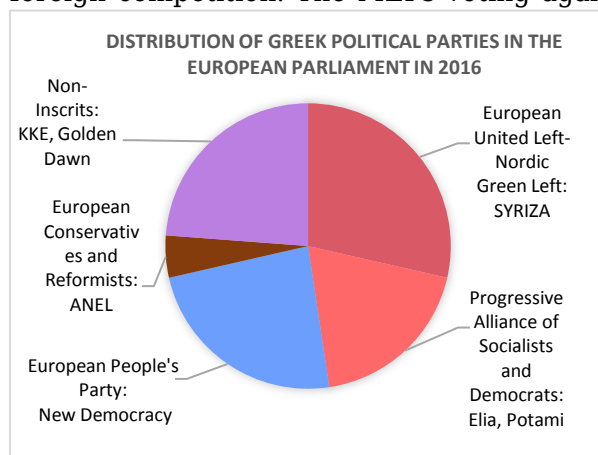


European steel producers face two key challenges: shrinking European steel demand (27% below pre-crisis levels) and fierce competition with foreign steel exports. In addition, MEPs worry about carbon leakage which is the idea, not yet convincingly supported by facts and evidence, that carbon-intensive production might leave the EU to settle in countries where environmental regulation is looser only as a result of tighter European environmental regulation.

For this reason, an amendment proposed by S&D group advocated that the Commission should study a scheme of payment of ETS allowances for imported steel, in order to counter the phenomenon of carbon leakage and weaken foreign competition. As a matter of fact, this idea has been studied for more than ten years now, including by the European Commission.

This amendment was approved by more than 60% of MEPs. Political groups split along national lines during this vote. However, generally speaking, the amendment was supported by most members of EPP, S&D and Greens, the EPP was split on this issue with less than 60% of EPP MEPs supporting the amendment. In the other political groups, most MEPs voted against the proposed system, with the notable exception of the 19 Polish ECR MEPs that supported it.

The Greeks MEPs had an opposite perspective compared to the majority of the European Parliament, as they voted against countering carbon leakage and thus also against limiting foreign competition. The MEPs voting against the amendment came from the GUE-NGL group, as well as the Communist members and the far-right Golden Dawn.



The votes supporting limiting foreign competition came from the conservative side: all the members of New Democracy and Notis Marias (ECR), voted in favour of the initiative. Miltiadis Kyrkos from the River and Nikos Androulakis from PASOK also supported the amendment, while Eva Kaili (PASOK) did not vote.

Should the EU introduce the payment of ETS allowances for steel coming from outside the EU?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Against

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Emmanouil GLEZOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Georgios KATROUGKALOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Absent

Eva KAILI



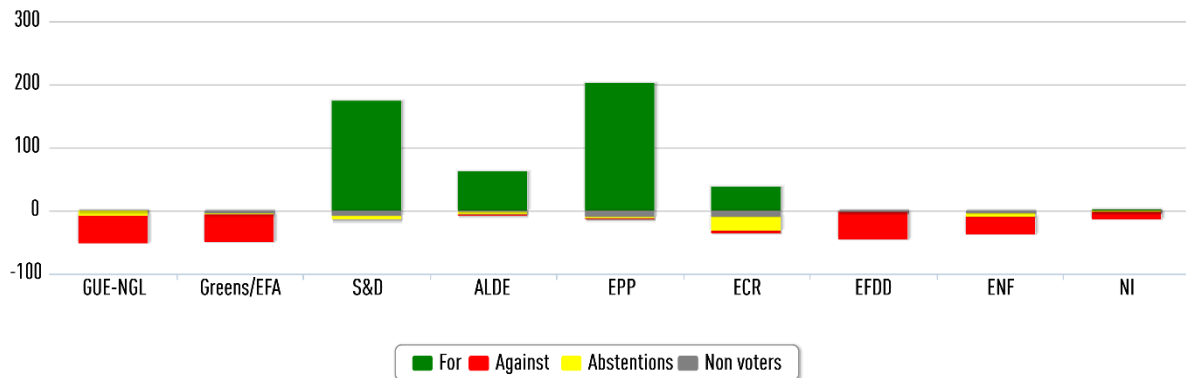
Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Didn't vote

Should a European Border and Coast Guard Agency be established?

The vote of the MEPs

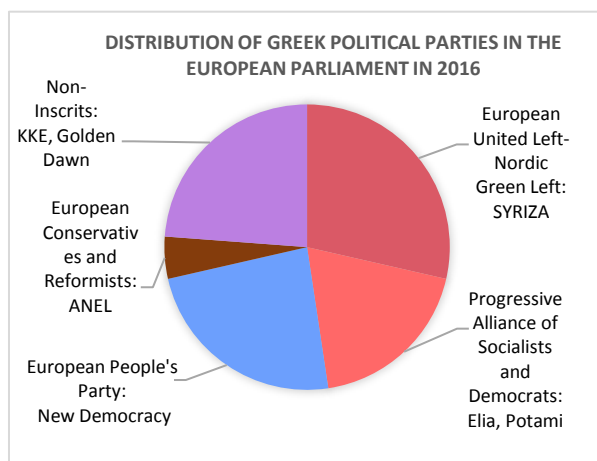


At the beginning of July 2016, MEPs supported the establishing of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency in a move to centralize the management of the borders at the European level. This agency will replace Frontex and have the power to deploy a team of experts to help the national authorities to cope with the vast influx of refugees in the European Union.

This team can even be deployed without the consent of the concerned Member State, with the approval of the European Council. The new agency received the support of EPP, S&D, ALDE and most of ECR. All the remaining groups voted compactly against its establishment.

The vote on the establishment of the new agency created significant division amongst the Greek MEPs. The centre-left MEPs from S&D, namely Potami and PASOK, decided to vote in favour of the new agency, similarly to their colleagues in New Democracy (EPP).

On the other hand, the leftist MEPs from SYRIZA decided to go against their party's line and abstained, while 2 MEPs from the same group: Sofia Sakorafa (Independent) and Nikolas Chountis (Popular Unity) voted against the new agency.



Another negative vote came from the Independent member of the ECR, Notis Marias, as well as the non-attached members of Golden Dawn and the Communist Party of Greece.

Should a European Border and Coast Guard Agency be established?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Against

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFA



Independent

GUE/NGL

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Abstain

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOGLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Maria SPYRAKI



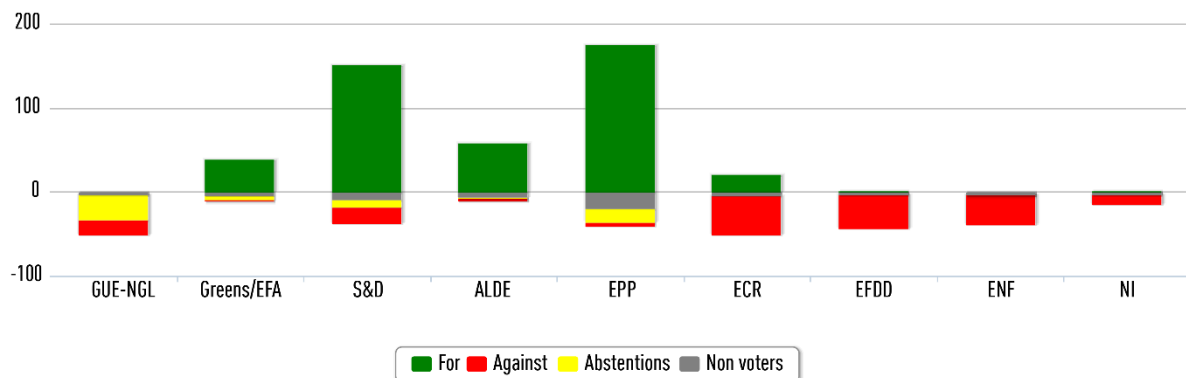
New Democracy

EPP

Absent

Should the EU Budget be increased?

The vote of the MEPs



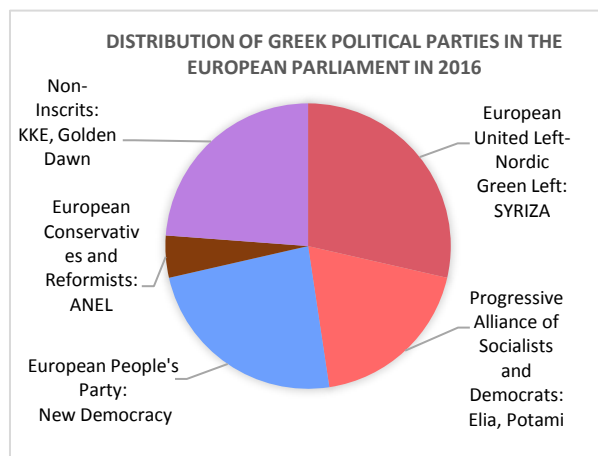
The European Union budget for next year was voted last month. A large majority of Members of the European Parliament (65%) asked for more money to be allocated to youth initiatives and migration. However, after handing the provisional deal to the Council, concerns were raised since national governments disagreed on increasing the spending from the institutions and tried to block Parliament's attempt to not make any cuts. By now, an agreement between the Council and the European Parliament was reached and secures 500million more for the Youth Employment Initiative and a package of 750million redirected to migration related funds.

Several groups in the EP supported the increase: the EPP, S&D, ALDE, the Greens and even a part of ECR. Instead, the Eurosceptic groups EFDD, ENF and most of ECR opposed the initiative, whereas the far left was split between voting against and abstaining.

The vote on the EU budget for 2017 proved to be quite controversial, as Greece was the most divided country on this issue. However, the majority of Greek MEPs remained loyal to their political groups.

The support for the new budget came from the members of PASOK and the River as well as the MEPs from New Democracy.

Instead, the Greek members of GUE-NGL, including one independent and all the members of Syriza and Popular Unity were skeptical towards the new budget, as they all decided to abstain. However, it has to be noticed that a big part of their political group voted against the budget, therefore the Greek members adopted a more moderate position in this case.



The firm opponents of the resolution were, not surprisingly, the members of the far-right Golden Dawn as well as the far-left Communist Party.

Should the EU Budget be increased ?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Against

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Abstain

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Absent

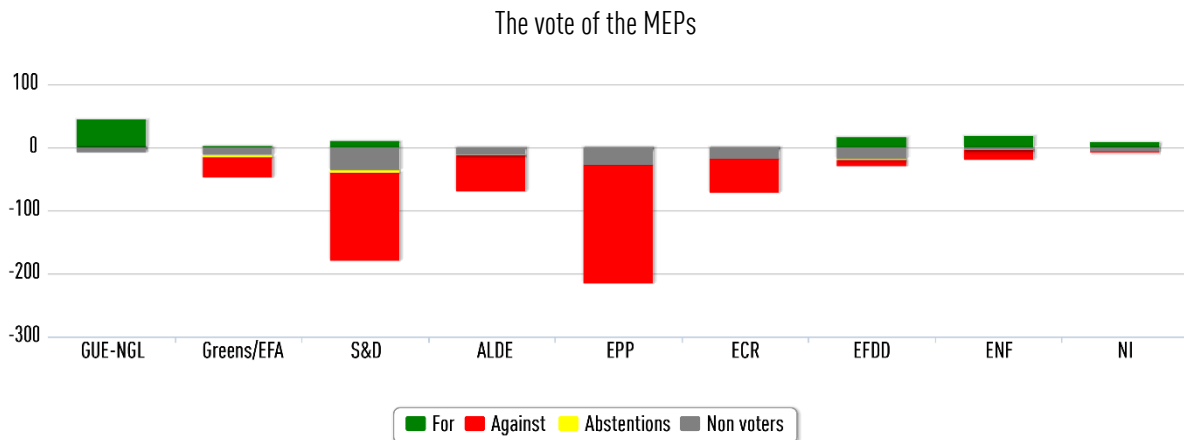
Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Should the EU prevent public railway systems from being privatized?

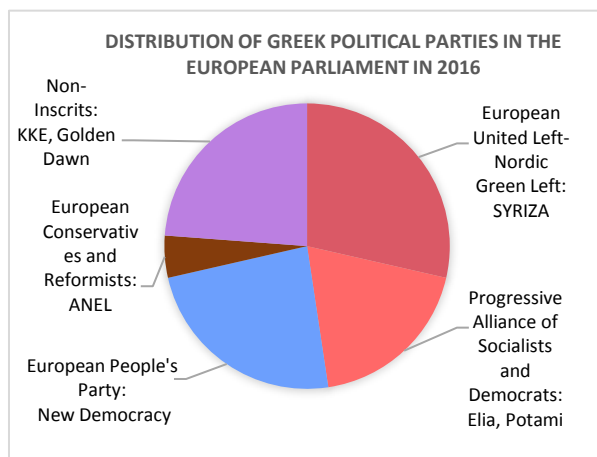


Although the European Union does not have competences with regards to whether rail suppliers should be privatized or kept public, the vote on this amendment highlights some interesting positions of national parties. In this case, a large majority of MEPs (72%) rejected the proposal of the far-left group GUE-NGL, which called on Member states to maintain their public ownerships of railways and, consequently, to avoid any privatization.

The anti-privatization initiative was supported by GUE-NGL, the Greens/EFA and EFDD, whereas opposition came from EPP, ALDE, S&D and ECR. The far right ENF was split between supporting and opposing MEPs (the National Front rejected privatization, whereas the other parties in the group supported them).

While most MEPs support privatization of railways, the Greek MEPs adopted a completely opposite stance, as they defended the principle of public ownership of railways. If, on the one hand, the opposition from Golden Dawn and the Communist party for privatizations is well known, on the other hand, the party in government, SYRIZA, was divided on this issue.

In fact, only one member of the far-left party, Stelios Kouloglou, voted against privatization, whereas Kostadinka Kuneva and Kostas Chrysogonos defected from their own political group and abstained. Finally, the remaining SYRIZA's member, Dimitrios Papadimoulis, did not vote. More neat the positions of the other Greek members of GUE-NGL: both Nikolaos Chountis (Popular Unity) and Sofia Sakorafa (Independent) opposed the privatizations.



Centrist parties were more cohesive, as all the members of New Democracy, PASOK and Potami rejected the ban on railway privatizations.

Should the EU prevent public railway systems from being privatized?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOLIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Sotirios ZARIANPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Against

Manolis KEFALOGIANIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Absent

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Didn't vote

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Documented absence

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI

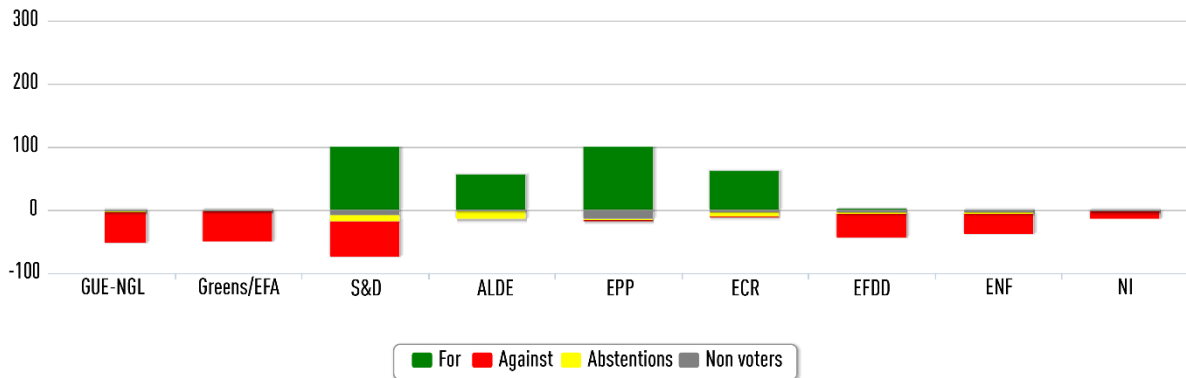


New Democracy

EPP

Should TTIP negotiations continue?

The vote of the MEPs



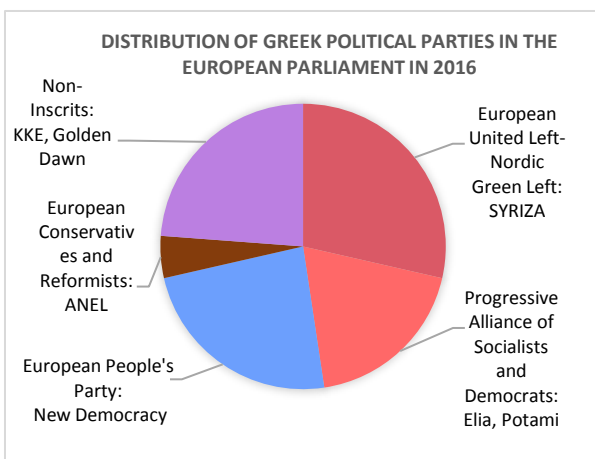
In 2013, Member States gave to the European Commission the mandate to negotiate on their behalf a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) with the United States. On the 8 July 2015 the European Parliament voted with a comfortable majority of 61 % MEPs to continue negotiations but with specific red lines.

After 3 years, little progress has been made in some key chapters and the election of Donald Trump will probably lead to suspend negotiations. France is the only Member State having officially expressed in 2016 a negative opinion on the pursuit of negotiations.

The majority of the Greek representatives in the European Parliament voted against the TTIP negotiations, being at the same time in the minority opposing the agreement, alongside the MEPs from Austria, France and the UK.

The MEPs against the TTIP came from the leftist Syriza and Popular Unity (GUE-NGL) as well as the Communist Party of Greece and the far-right Golden-Dawn.

Instead, New Democracy was favourable to the trade agreement, as well as Miltiadis Kyrkos (the River).



There was more division inside the PASOK: Eva Kaili voted in favour of the TTIP while her colleague Nikos Androulakis decided to abstain.

Should TTIP negotiations continue?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Against

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Emmanouil GLEZOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Abstain

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Absent

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS

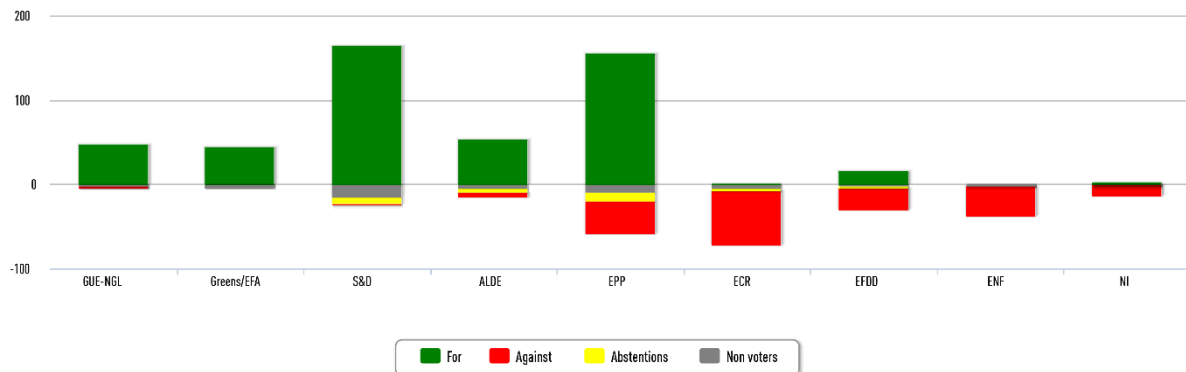


The River

S&D

Should the EU fight for increasing social inclusion of refugees as well as their integration in the labour market?

The vote of the MEPs

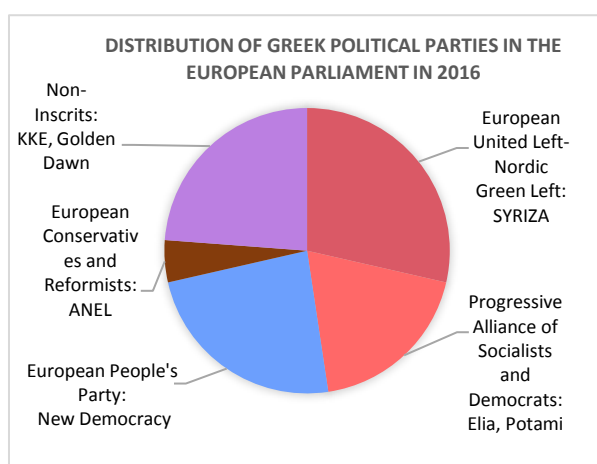


Last July, the European Parliament voted on an own-initiative report drafted by the Italian Member Brando Benifei, which suggested potential solutions to improve social inclusion of refugees as well as their integration in the labour market.

The report passed with 69% of the votes. The report stressed the need to differentiate between emergency measures and medium term ones. Additionally, it pushed for accelerating the recognition of diploma and qualifications and the establishment of a language training system.

The report was supported by GUE-NGL, Greens/EFA, S&D, ALDE and the EPP, whereas opposition came from ECR, EFDD, ENF and even a few members of the EPP.

In the case of the Greek MEPs voting on this motion for resolution, the majority was in favor of it remaining loyal to their European political groups. The support came from the members of the left-wing parties such as PASOK (S&D) and the River (S&D) and Syriza (GUE-NGL). Similarly, also the centrist members of New Democracy (EPP) supported more integration of refugees.



Not surprisingly, the far-right members of the Golden Dawn and the independent member of the ECR, Notis Marias, rejected the resolution. In addition to them, the members of the Communist Party of Greece also voted against the proposal.

Should the EU fight for increasing social inclusion of refugees as well as their integration in the labour market?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOGLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Against

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association - Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association - Golden Dawn

NI

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association - Golden Dawn

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Absent

Maria SPYRAKI

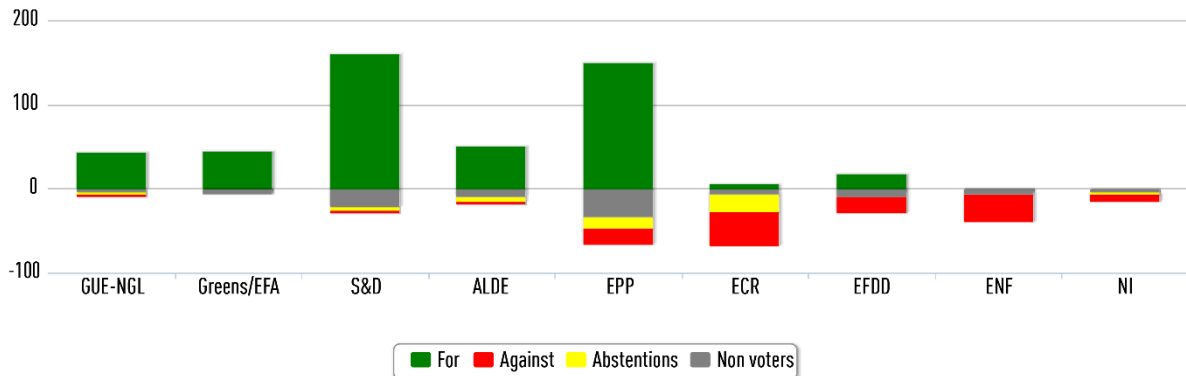


New Democracy

EPP

Should refugees be allocated across Europe?

The vote of the MEPs



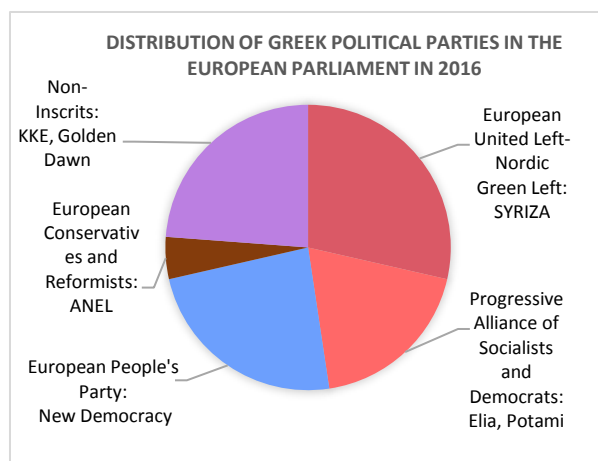
Since the very beginning, the decision to redistribute the refugees from Italy and Greece to other Member States, has been a source of controversy, polemic and even led to a referendum in Hungary.

The vote on the initiative in the European Parliament represents a good opportunity to measure the level of support for the quota system from the Members representing the 28 national contexts.

Although, the text was largely approved, a considerable number of MEPs adopted a critical stance. The system was supported by the EPP, S&D, ALDE, Greens/EFA and GUE-NGL, whereas only ECR, ENF and a part of EFDD voted against redistributing refugees.

Not surprisingly, the majority of the Greek MEPs voted in favor of the redistribution of refugees from Italy and Greece.

The members of the two largest parties, as well as the Social Democrats, voted in favour. However there were some negative votes that came from the members of the far-right Golden Dawn, namely Georgios Epitideios, Lampros Fountoulis and Eleftherios Synadinos.



















In addition, the position of the Communist Party was also skeptical as Sotirios Zarianopoulos abstained from voting while his colleague, Konstantinos Papadakis, was absent.



Should refugees be allocated across Europe?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Notis MARIAS  Independent ECR	Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS  New Democracy EPP	Georgios KYRTSOS  New Democracy EPP	Maria SPYRAKI  New Democracy EPP	Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI  New Democracy EPP	Theodoros ZAGORAKIS  New Democracy EPP
Nikolaos CHOUNTIS  Popular Unity GUE/NGL	Kostas CHRYSOGONOS  Coalition of the Radical Left GUE/NGL	Stelios KOULOGLOU  Coalition of the Radical Left GUE/NGL	Kostadinka KUNEVA  Coalition of the Radical Left GUE/NGL	Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS  Coalition of the Radical Left GUE/NGL	Sofia SAKORAFI  Independent GUE/NGL
Nikos ANDROULAKIS  Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree S&D	Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS  The River S&D	Eva KAILI  Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree S&D	Miltiadis KYRKOS  The River S&D		

Against

Georgios EPITIDEIOS  Popular Association – Golden Dawn NI	Lampros FOUNTOULIS  Popular Association – Golden Dawn NI	Eleftherios SYNADINOS  Popular Association – Golden Dawn NI
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Abstain

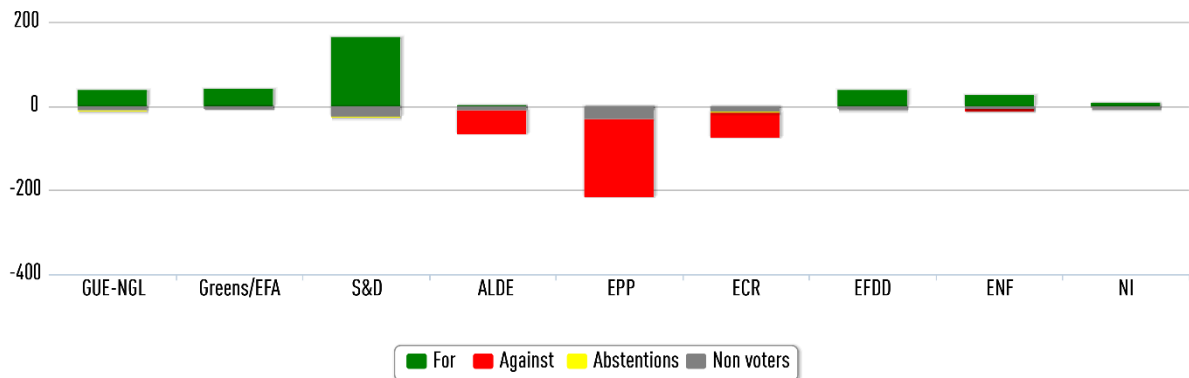
Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS  Communist Party of Greece NI
--

Absent

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS  Communist Party of Greece NI
--

Should the EU focus more on public investment rather than focusing on budgetary discipline?

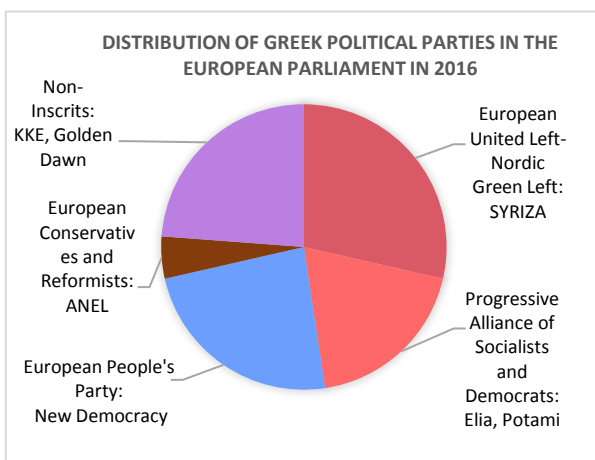
The vote of the MEPs



Although, over the last year, the economic crisis in the EU has been foreshadowed by other urgent matters (terrorism, refugee crisis, political instability), the debate between the promoters of more public spending and the defenders of austerity policies is still ongoing.

The EP is clearly divided on the matter: when the Eurosceptic group tabled an amendment to the report on the European Semester in 2015, asking for less austerity measures and more public spending, 325 MEPs voted in favour of the amendment, whereas 315 of them voted against.

Interestingly, MEPs mostly voted according to their political groups' lines. Center to the right groups in the EP voted against more public spending (ALDE, EPP and ECR), whereas a strange bed-fellows made up of S&D, Greens, GUE-NGL, EFDD and ENF supported the call for a shift from austerity policies.

















The majority of the Greek MEPs voted in favor of shifting away from austerity measures. The votes in favour came from the loyal members of S&D: PASOK and The River as well as the independent member of the ECR and the members of the Communist Party of Greece and Golden Dawn. Similarly, the majority of the member of Syriza. The only exception was Stelios Kouloglou (SYRIZA) who did not vote.

The only Greek votes in favor of austerity measures came from New Democracy's members.

Should the EU focus more on public investment rather than focusing on budgetary discipline?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Notis MARIAS	Nikolaos CHOUNTIS	Kostas CHRYSOGONOS	Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS	Sofia SAKORAFI	Georgios EPITIDEIOS
					
Independent	Popular Unity	Coalition of the Radical Left	Coalition of the Radical Left	Independent	Popular Association – Golden Dawn
ECR	GUE/NGL	GUE/NGL	GUE/NGL	GUE/NGL	NI
Lampros FOUNTOULIS	Konstantinos PAPADAKIS	Eleftherios SYNADINOS	Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS	Nikos ANDROULAKIS	Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS
					
Popular Association – Golden Dawn	Communist Party of Greece	Popular Association – Golden Dawn	Communist Party of Greece	Panhellenic Socialist Movement – Olive Tree	The River
NI	NI	NI	NI	S&D	S&D
Eva KAILI	Miltiadis KYRKOS				
					
Panhellenic Socialist Movement – Olive Tree	The River				
S&D	S&D				

Against

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS	Georgios KYRTSOS	Maria SPYRAKI	Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI
			
New Democracy	New Democracy	New Democracy	New Democracy
EPP	EPP	EPP	EPP

Absent

Kostadinka KUNEVA

Coalition of the Radical Left
GUE/NGL

Didn't vote

Stelios KOULOGLOU


Coalition of the Radical Left
GUE/NGL

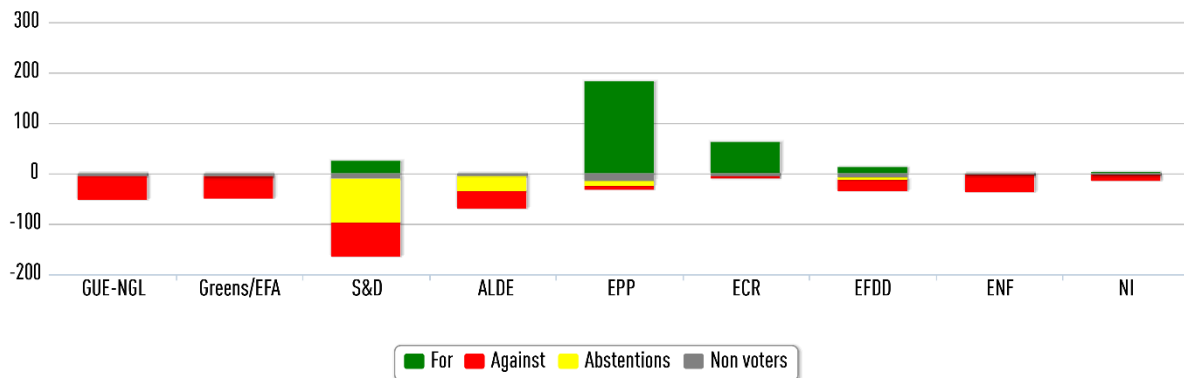
Documented absence

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS


New Democracy
EPP

Should the EU renew the authorization for glyphosate for 7 years?

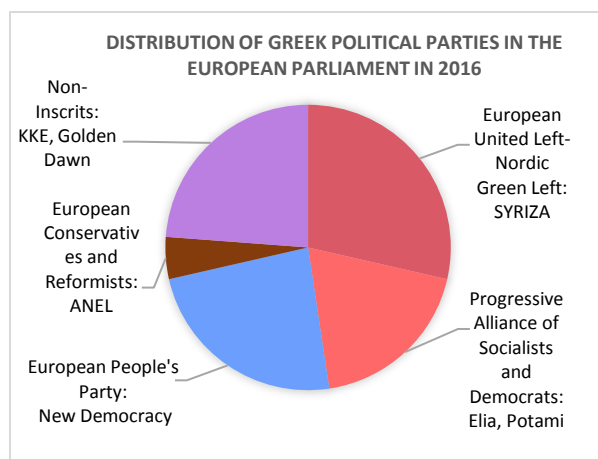
The vote of the MEPs



Sometimes technical topics manage to hit the headlines of the newspapers. This is the case of the renewal of the approval of the use of glyphosate in pesticides despite accusation of having damaging effects on the health of consumers of products treated with this substance. However, the debate highlighted strong divisions between the Member States, which put the Commission into an awkward situation given some irreconcilable positions. For instance, the French government was vehemently against the renewal. In the end, the Commission decided to temporally renew the authorization for the glyphosate.

In the European Parliament, an amendment advocating for a 7-years renewal of the substance passed by a very slim margin (only 16 votes of difference). Although the final resolution advocated for its renewal, other parts of the report called for the limitation of its use. The amendment was supported by the EPP and ECR, whereas a majority of the Greens/EFA, GUE-NGL, ENF and EFDD voted against it. ALDE group was split between the abstention and the opposition, although the most divided group was S&D.

More than half of the Greek representatives in the European Parliament voted against the renewal of the authorization of the active substance glyphosate. In fact, only 5 Greek out of 20 voting MEPs backed the compromise. All the MEPs from Syriza, the Greek Communist Party, as well as Golden Dawn voted against the 7 years renewal of the product.



Among the Greek MEPs, only the members of the New Democracy Party voted in favour of the amendment. Among the Social Democratic side, the members of Potami abstained, while PASOK's MEPs were split: Nikos Androulakis abstained, whereas Eva Kaili voted against the renewal.

Should the EU renew the authorization for glyphosate for 7 years?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Against

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Abstain

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Absent

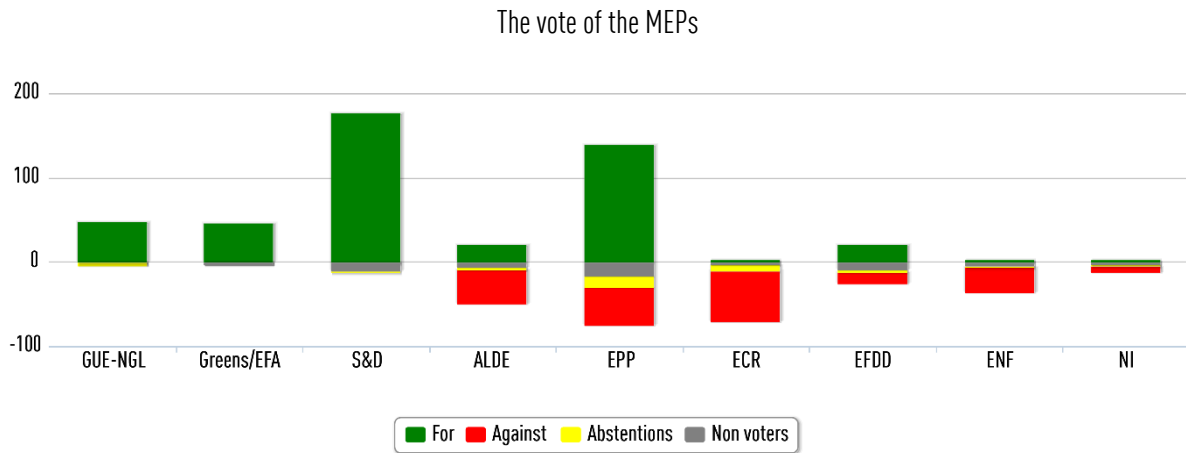
Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

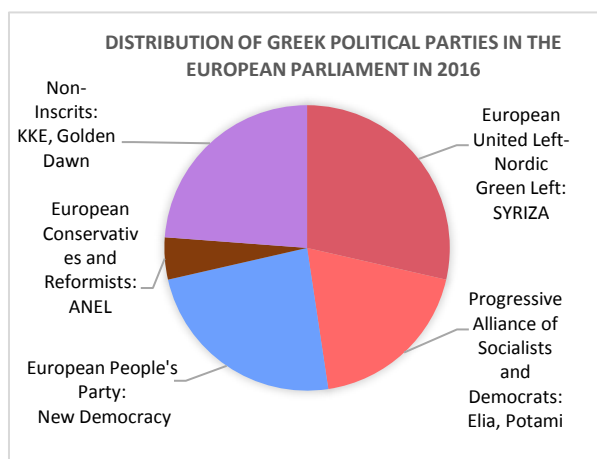
Should the EU harmonise the social benefits charges and wages of posted workers according to local standards?



Companies often send their employees to work in another EU country. Yet, the labour standards (e.g. minimum wage of the country) of the hosting country are often higher than the country of origin's ones. The use of "posted workers" often allow companies to undercut the competition by paying the workers less than the minimum standards in the hosting country. At the moment, some EU governments are lashing out against this practice given its harmful effects on local companies and workers alike. To prevent the so-called social dumping, the European institutions are calling for more even wage standards for the same job, even if in a different place.

In this regards, a report drafted by the Employment and Social Affairs Committee gathered a comfortable support of 66% of MEPs for more intervention on social dumping. The majority was formed by GUE-NGL, Greens/EFA, S&D, the EPP and most EFDD's members. On the other hand, ALDE, ECR and ENF opposed the initiative.

The Greeks MEPs showed to be strongly supportive of more intervention to reduce social dumping. Notably, all the Greek members of the political groups voted in favour, while none of the non-attached MEPs supported the resolution.



In fact, all the members of the Golden Dawn voted against more intervention to reduce social dumping. The communist members were also quite skeptical about it, as Sotirios Zarianopoulos (KKE) decided to abstain.

Should the EU harmonise the social benefits charges and wages of posted workers according to local standards ?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOGLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

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The River

S&D

Against

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Abstain

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Absent

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS

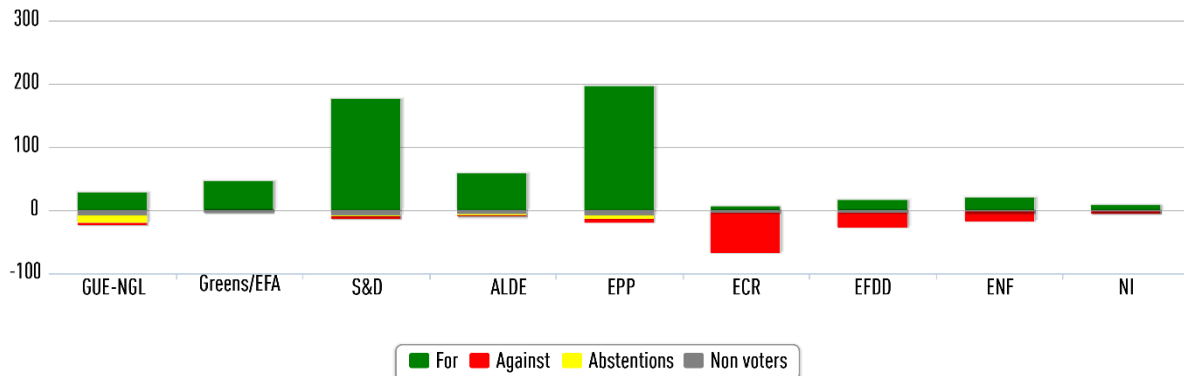


Communist Party of Greece

NI

Should EU Members States increase tax coordination and convergence within the internal market?

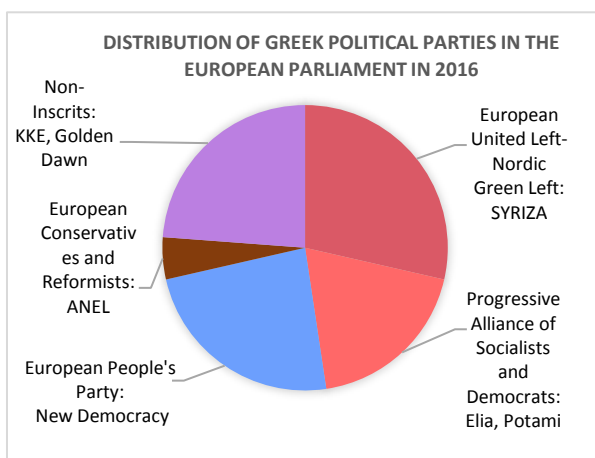
The vote of the MEPs



Disparities among the taxation policies of different Member States are often source of controversies, as several tax decisions adopted by some Member States are deemed to harm the tax bases of other Member States.

In the report on Competition policy approved by the European Parliament last December, MEPs called on the EU to do more than simply fighting tax havens and closing loopholes: all forms of harmful tax competition within the internal market should be countered by increasing coordination and convergence of tax policies in the EU.

At the time, a high majority of MEPs backed this move (about 79%) and considerable opposition came only from Irish and UK's MEPs. The majority was formed by MEPs from Greens/EFA, GUE-NGL, S&D, as well as ALDE, EPP and ENF.



Notably, all the Greek MEPs supported the resolution (even the members of Golden Dawn) with two exceptions coming from the Communist Party of Greece: Sotirios Zarianopoulos, who was the only Greek MEP to abstain and Konstantinos Papadakis, who did not vote.

Should EU Members States increase tax coordination and convergence within the internal market?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOGLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Abstain

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Didn't vote

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS

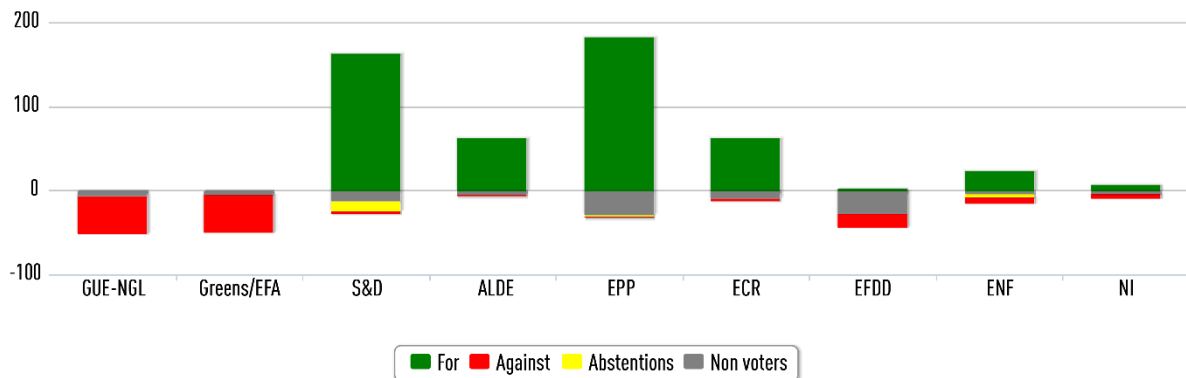


Communist Party of Greece

NI

Should trade secrets be protected?

The vote of the MEPs

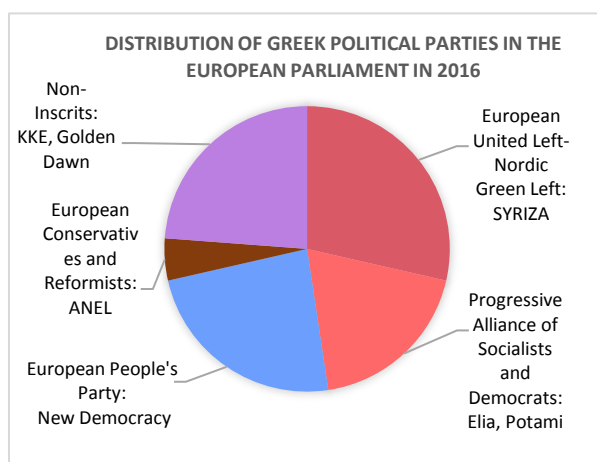


Constance Le Grip, a Republican MEP from France drafted a legislative report on the harmonisation of the definition and protection of know-how and business information across all Member States.

The EP approved her report by a large majority (77%) made up of the S&D, ALDE, EPP, ECR and ENF. On the other hand, the other political groups, namely the Greens/EFA, GUE-NGL and the EFDD, opposed the report.

The directive was first drafted in 2013, when the European Commission provided a common definition of business secrets, as well as a framework for the victims of business secrets' thefts to claim compensation. However, the text was also criticised for its alleged negative consequences on freedom of information.

The majority of the Greek MEPs were against the resolution that passed in the EU Parliament. The majority of MEPs opposing the protection of trade secrets were the leftist members of GUE-NGL, the Communist Party of Greece as well as the far-right Golden Dawn.



Instead, the Greek members in the EPP and S&D followed their group's lines and supported the motion.

Should trade secrets be protected?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Georgios KYRTSOS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement -
Olive Tree

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Against

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Nikolaos CHOUNTIS



Popular Unity

GUE/NGL

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Stelios KOULOLOU



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Absent

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS

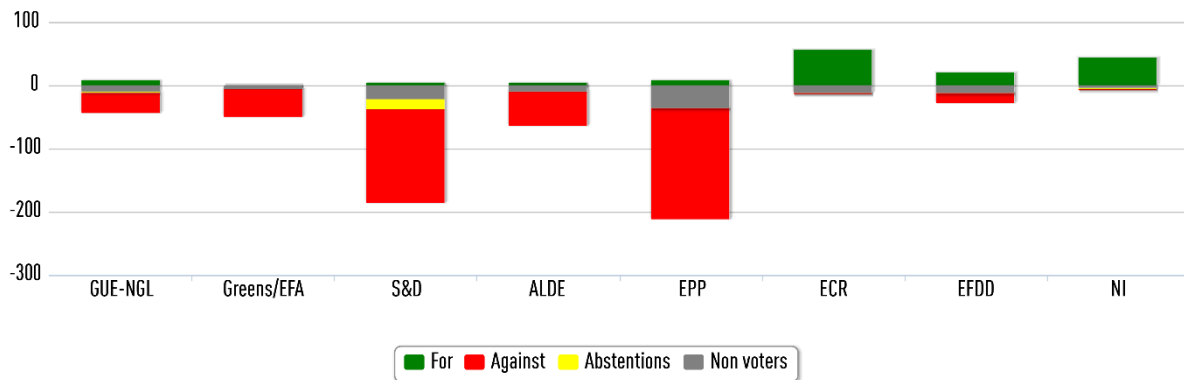


Communist Party of Greece

NI

Should the EU oppose the introduction of minimum standards for the implementation of the youth guarantees?

The vote of the MEPs

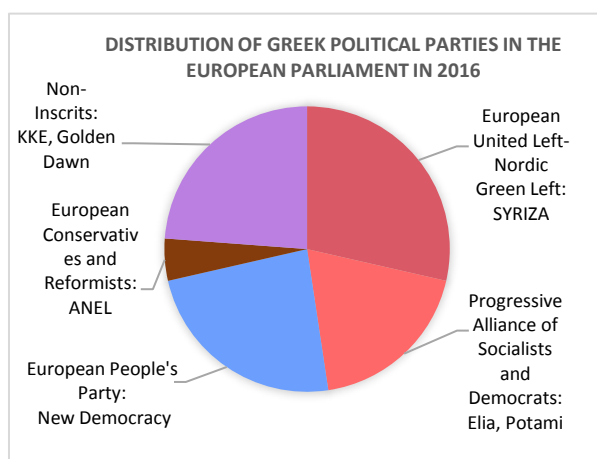


Social policy mostly remains a competence of the Member States of the European Union. However, in some occasions, the European Commission managed to set common frameworks for labor and social standards in the EU.

A resolution approved by the European Parliament called on the European Commission to propose a European legal framework introducing minimum standards for the implementation of the youth guarantees, including the quality of apprenticeships, decent wages for young people and access to employment services.

However, the Conservative and Eurocritic group ECR rejected this proposal and tried to delete this provision from the text. Ultimately, most MEPs supported the call for a common European framework on this matter and only ECR, ENF and part of EFDD supported the amendment against the minimum standards.

The Greeks were also on the same page as the majority of the EU Parliament, with a majority supporting the European legal framework for youth employment. The support came from the loyal members of the EPP (New Democracy), with one exception of Georgios Kyrtos, who decided to abstain (he did not vote in the plenary, but he eventually notified his intention to abstain).



Similarly the leftist members of S&D and GUE-NGL supported the provision as well as the members of the Communist Party of Greece. Interestingly, Eva Kaili from PASOK voted against it. Apart from Kaili, among the Greeks, only the members of the far-right Golden Dawn voted in favour of the critical amendment.

Should the EU oppose the introduction of minimum standards for the implementation of the youth guarantees?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

Georgios EPITIDEIOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Lampros FOUNTOULIS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

Eleftherios SYNADINOS



Popular Association – Golden Dawn

NI

For

Eva KAILI



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Against

Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS



New Democracy

EPP

Maria SPYRAKI



New Democracy

EPP

Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI



New Democracy

EPP

Theodoros ZAGORAKIS



New Democracy

EPP

Kostas CHRYSOGONOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Emmanouil GLEZOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Georgios KATROUGKALOS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Kostadinka KUNEVA



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS



Coalition of the Radical Left

GUE/NGL

Sofia SAKORAFI



Independent

GUE/NGL

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS



Communist Party of Greece

NI

Nikos ANDROULAKIS



Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree

S&D

Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS



The River

S&D

Miltiadis KYRKOS



The River

S&D

Abstain

Notis MARIAS



Independent

ECR

Didn't vote

Georgios KYRTSOS

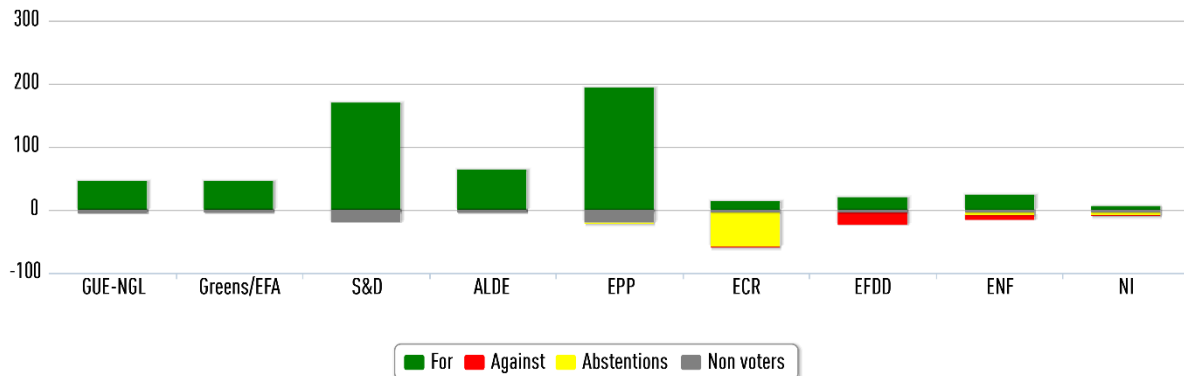


New Democracy

EPP

Should access to money laundering information for tax authorities be facilitated?

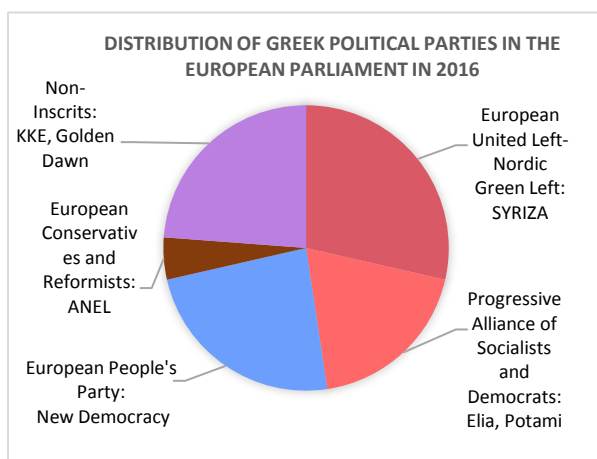
The vote of the MEPs



Within the broader EU agenda on the measures to fight tax avoidance and tax evasion, the EP approved a proposal on facilitating the access to money laundering information for tax authorities. In fact, the fight against money laundering and the one against tax evasion are often intertwined.

This initiative, also because of its specific and technical scope, was well received by the MEPs who widely approved the proposal. Even though there were some disagreements coming from some national delegations such as the British and the Polish ones, a large majority of MEPs supported the text (86%). In fact, apart from EFDD and ECR, the majority of MEPs from all other political groups voted in favor.

Greek MEPs were on the same line with the majority of the EU Parliament in regard to access to anti-money laundering by tax authorities, as they all voted in favour with some exceptions.




















In fact, the members of the Communist Party of Greece, Konstantinos Papadokis and Satirias Zarioanopoulos as well as Kostantinka Kuneva (Syriza) decided to abstain (the latter did not vote in the plenary, but she notified her intention to abstain eventually). Additionally, Eva Kaili (PASOK) did not vote.

Should access to money laundering information for tax authorities be facilitated?

The vote of MEPs elected in Greece*

For

Notis MARIAS  Independent ECR	Manolis KEFALOGIANNIS  New Democracy EPP	Georgios KYRTSOS  New Democracy EPP	Maria SPYRAKI  New Democracy EPP	Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONIDI  New Democracy EPP	Theodoros ZAGORAKIS  New Democracy EPP
Nikolaos CHOUNTIS  Popular Unity GUE/NGL	Kostas CHRYSOGONOS  Coalition of the Radical Left GUE/NGL	Stelios KOULOGLOU  Coalition of the Radical Left GUE/NGL	Dimitrios PAPADIMOULIS  Coalition of the Radical Left GUE/NGL	Sofia SAKORAFI  Independent GUE/NGL	Georgios EPITIDEIOS  Popular Association – Golden Dawn NI
Lampros FOUNTOULIS  Popular Association – Golden Dawn NI	Eleftherios SYNADINOS  Popular Association – Golden Dawn NI	Nikos ANDROULAKIS  Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree S&D	Giorgos GRAMMATIKAKIS  The River S&D	Miltiadis KYRKOS  The River S&D	

Abstain

Konstantinos PAPADAKIS  Communist Party of Greece NI	Sotirios ZARIANOPOULOS  Communist Party of Greece NI
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Didn't vote

Kostadinka KUNEVA  Coalition of the Radical Left GUE/NGL	Eva KAILI  Panhellenic Socialist Movement - Olive Tree S&D
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