



European Parliament Office in
Croatia

**Countering disinformation
and building resilience
towards European elections in 2024**



DISINFORMATION

- **deliberately deceptive information, intended to mislead;**
- **the main aim is to create confusion and polarise society, thus undermining democracy**
- **European Parliament: The European public as well as government officials are “overwhelmingly” unaware of the severity of the threat posed by foreign autocratic regimes, in particular Russia and China**
- **use of increasingly sophisticated techniques, including algorithms, automation and artificial intelligence to spread disinformation in Europe**
- **MISINFORMATION – false information spread unintentionally**



Countering disinformation – EU response

The EU has stepped up its efforts to protect its democratic processes from manipulation.

- more support, including funding and training, for quality journalism and media literacy,**
- a code of practice on disinformation (signed by online platforms, tech companies, advertising companies etc.)**
- online platforms to be more transparent and take more responsibility**
- tech companies to counter fake content and fake accounts**
- Network of European fact-checking organisations and researchers to fight against disinformation**



Foreign Interference: European Parliament calls for urgent protection of 2024 European elections

Foreign interference in democratic processes = a growing threat to the security of EU member states, in the context of rapid technological development and Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine

The EU should significantly enhance its capabilities

- in tackling interference on online platforms,
- fighting covert funding of European political activities by foreign actors
- resilience to cyberattacks

5 steps to a propaganda video

(based on an actual
video from Sputnik)

<https://euvstdisinfo.eu/5-steps-to-a-propaganda-video/>



We can all contribute!

- **national governments**
- **EU institutions**
- **news media**
- **online platforms**
- **teachers, pupils**
- **fact-checkers**
- **children and parents**



**KEEP
CALM
AND
CHECK
THE FACTS**

Check Credentials, authors

Read the “About Us” section

Look for Bias

Check the Dates

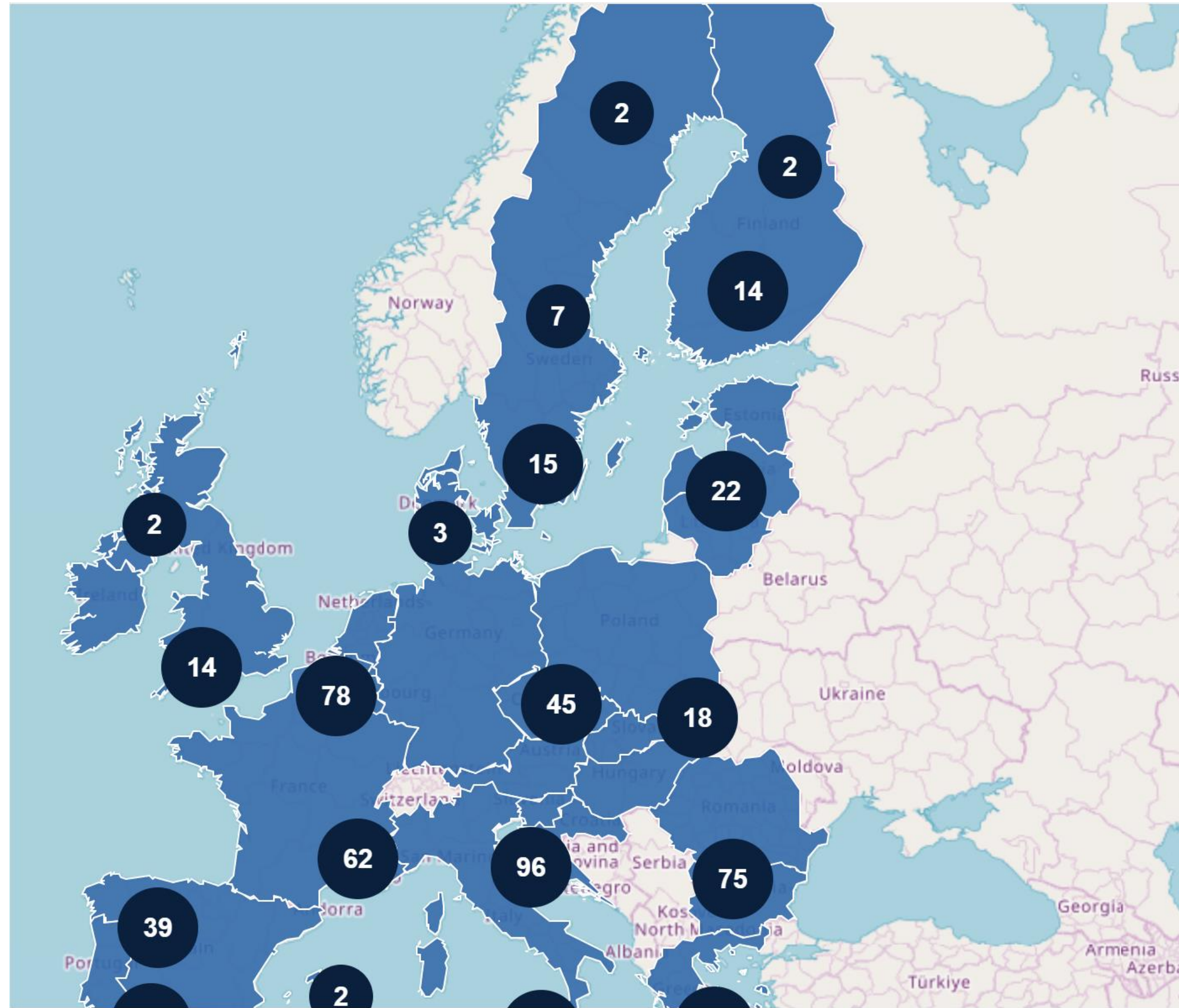
Check out the Source

Examine URLs

Suspect the sensational

Judge Hard

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AMBASSADOR SCHOOL PROGRAMME





TOGETHER.EU

- A pan-European community that encourages active participation in democracy
- A platform for action with events and initiatives



together.eu

zajednoza.eu





IT STARTS WITH YOU

I AM
A YOUNG PERSON 

I WANT TO
SELECT AN OPTION 

SEARCH

ECYP2023

Check out the national winners of 2023 edition. Applications are currently closed.



ECYP2023 NATIONAL WINNERS



YOUTH ACTIVITIES



European Parliament

EYE

(EUROPEAN YOUTH EVENT)



Meeting and inspiration, shaping and exchanging ideas about the future of Europe



16-30 years old, divided into groups



Two-day event in Strasbourg



<https://european-youth-event.europarl.europa.eu/en/>



EYE

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND YOUTH

- Enhancing young people active citizenship
- Encouraging young people to participate actively in EU democratic life
- Developing a dialogue between youth organisations and young people on the one hand and the EP on the other
- Focus on inclusiveness



THE EUROPEAN CHARLEMAGNE YOUTH PRIZE



**Promotion and rewards of active participation
in the development of Europe**



young people aged 16 – 30



Award ceremony in Aachen



**[europarl.europa.eu/
charlemagneyouthprize/en/](http://europarl.europa.eu/charlemagneyouthprize/en/)**

YOUTH PRIZE





Voter turnout EE2019

29.85%

 **+ 18%**

25.24%

Voter turnout EE2014

Voter turnout of young people EE2019

18%

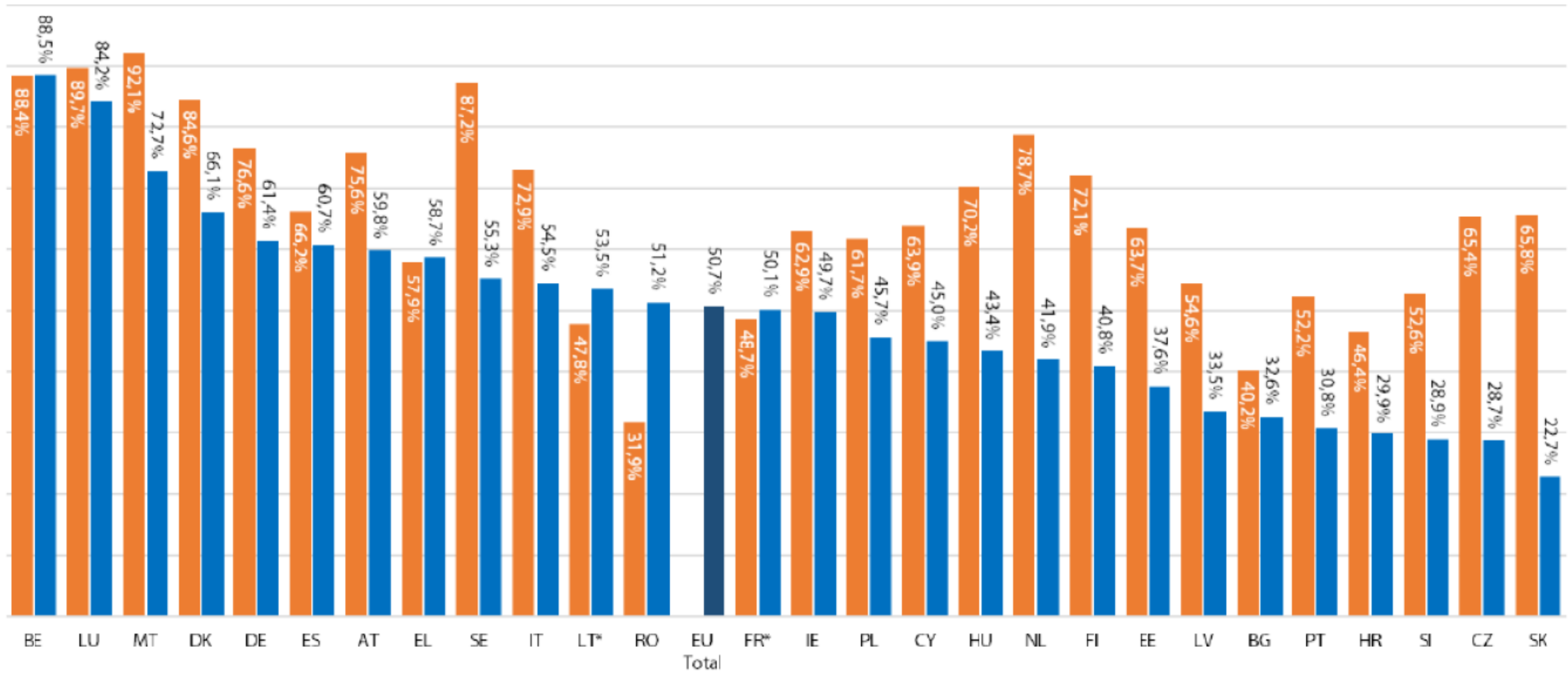
 **+ 39%**

13%

Voter turnout of young people EE2014

TURNOUT IN LAST EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL ELECTIONS

■ 2019 European Elections ■ Previous National Election



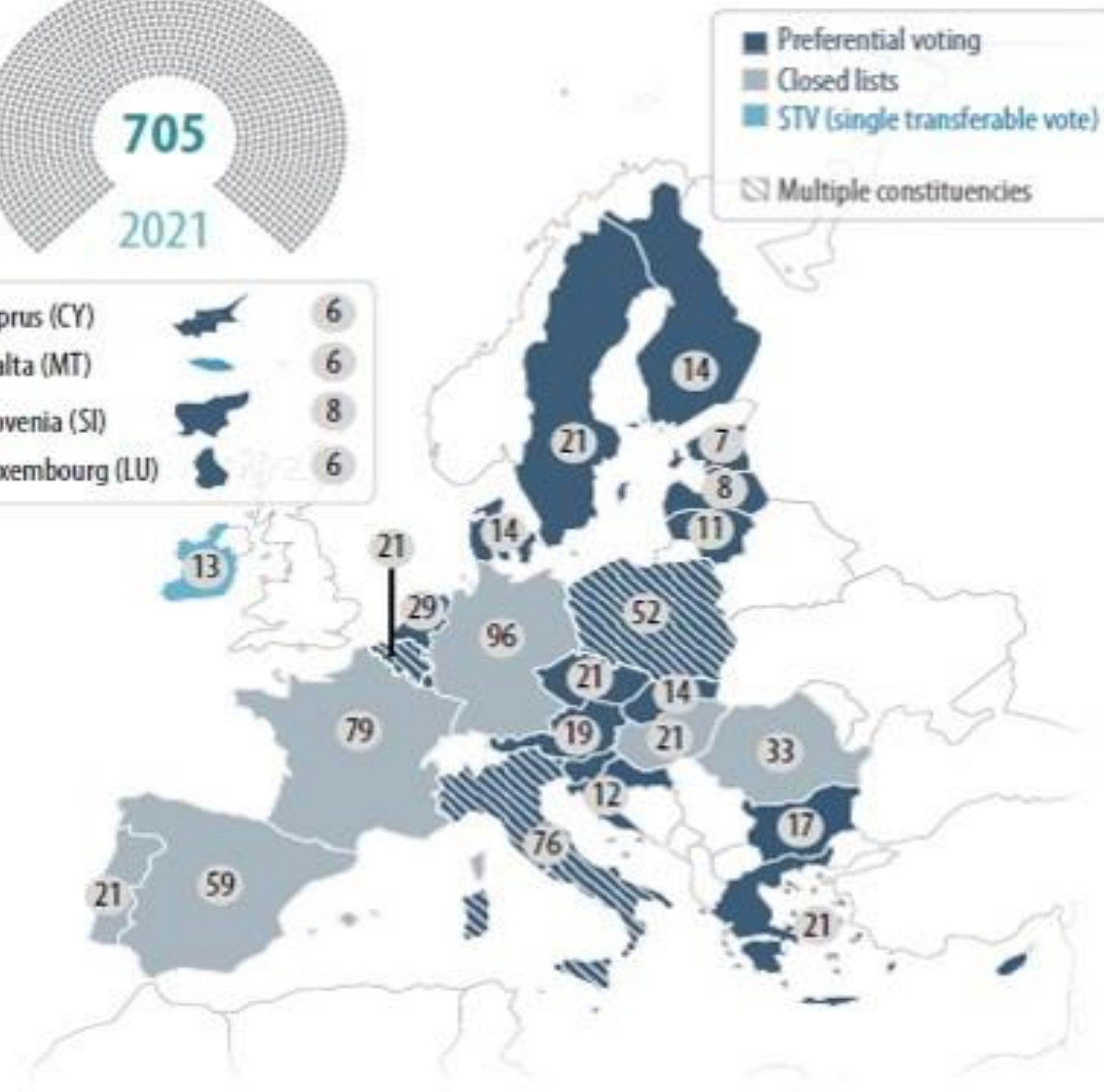
Voting methods for citizens resident abroad

Belgium			
Bulgaria	*		
Czech Republic	NOT POSSIBLE		
Denmark			
Germany			
Estonia			
Ireland	NOT POSSIBLE		
Greece	*		
Spain			
France			
Croatia			
Italy	*		
Cyprus			
Latvia			
Lithuania			
Luxembourg			
Hungary			
Malta	NOT POSSIBLE		
Netherlands			
Austria			
Poland			
Portugal			
Romania			
Slovenia			
Slovakia	NOT POSSIBLE		
Finland			
Sweden			
UK			

- By post
- Proxy
- Embassy
- E-voting
- * Voting from abroad only possible within another EU country.



Cyprus (CY)		6
Malta (MT)		6
Slovenia (SI)		8
Luxembourg (LU)		6



EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

- **COMMON RULES:** Proportional representation, non-compliance of certain duties with the mandate of an MEP...
- **NATIONAL RULES:** Electoral systems and thresholds, the division into electoral units, voting rights (minimum age, compulsory voting, etc.)
- **REFORM PROPOSALS:** Common date (May 9), double voting rights, transnational rights, votes at 16