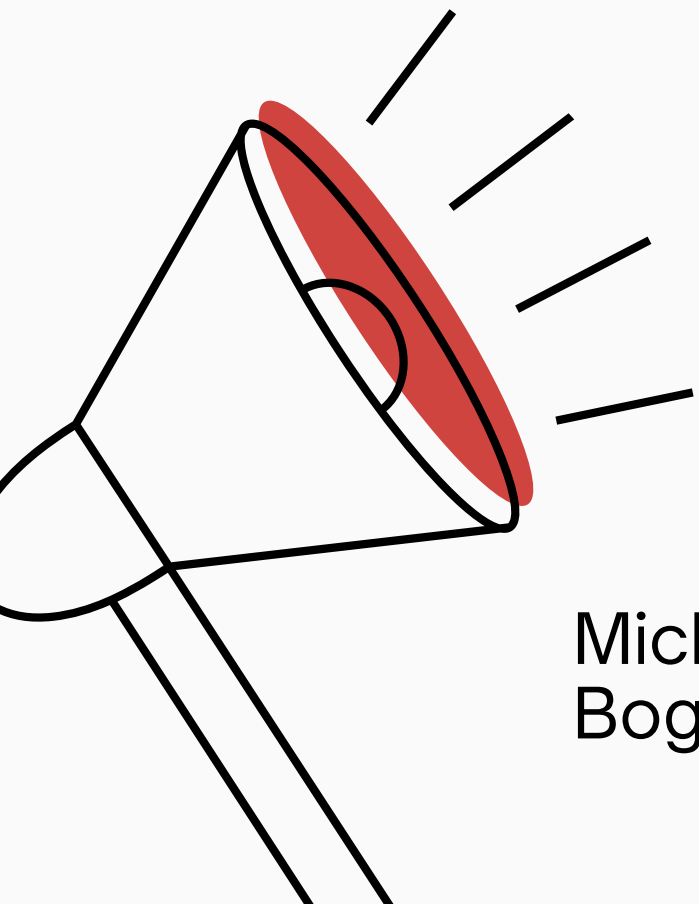


MAKE YOUR *VOICE HEARD*



Michael Lidauer and Tatyana Hilscher-Bogussevich, Election-Watch.EU



YOUTH POWER

- Youth (15-30 year olds) - some 20 per cent of EU population



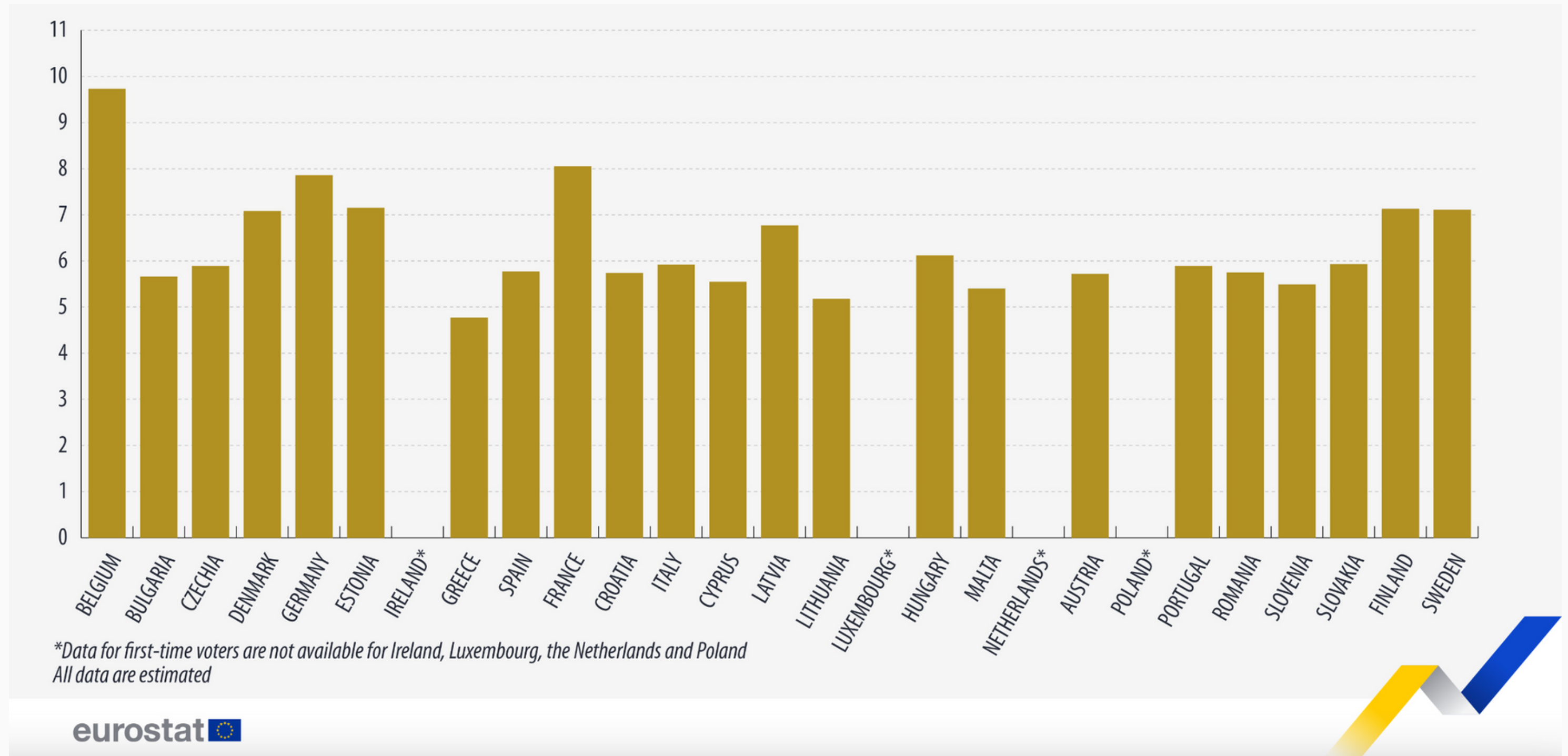
2019 - 50.6 per cent voter turnout due to increased youth participation

- 42 per cent declare having an interest in politics
- Increasingly politically active - demonstrating, volunteering in associations, expressing political opinions via social networks
- Active participants of and clear demands as part of the European Year of Youth - 2022 and the Conference on the Future of Europe



FIRST TIME VOTERS 2024

- Estimated highest shares of first-time voters are in Belgium (9.7 per cent), France (8 per cent) and Germany (7.0 per cent) of all eligible voters



DISCONNECT?

- Only 4 EU MS -

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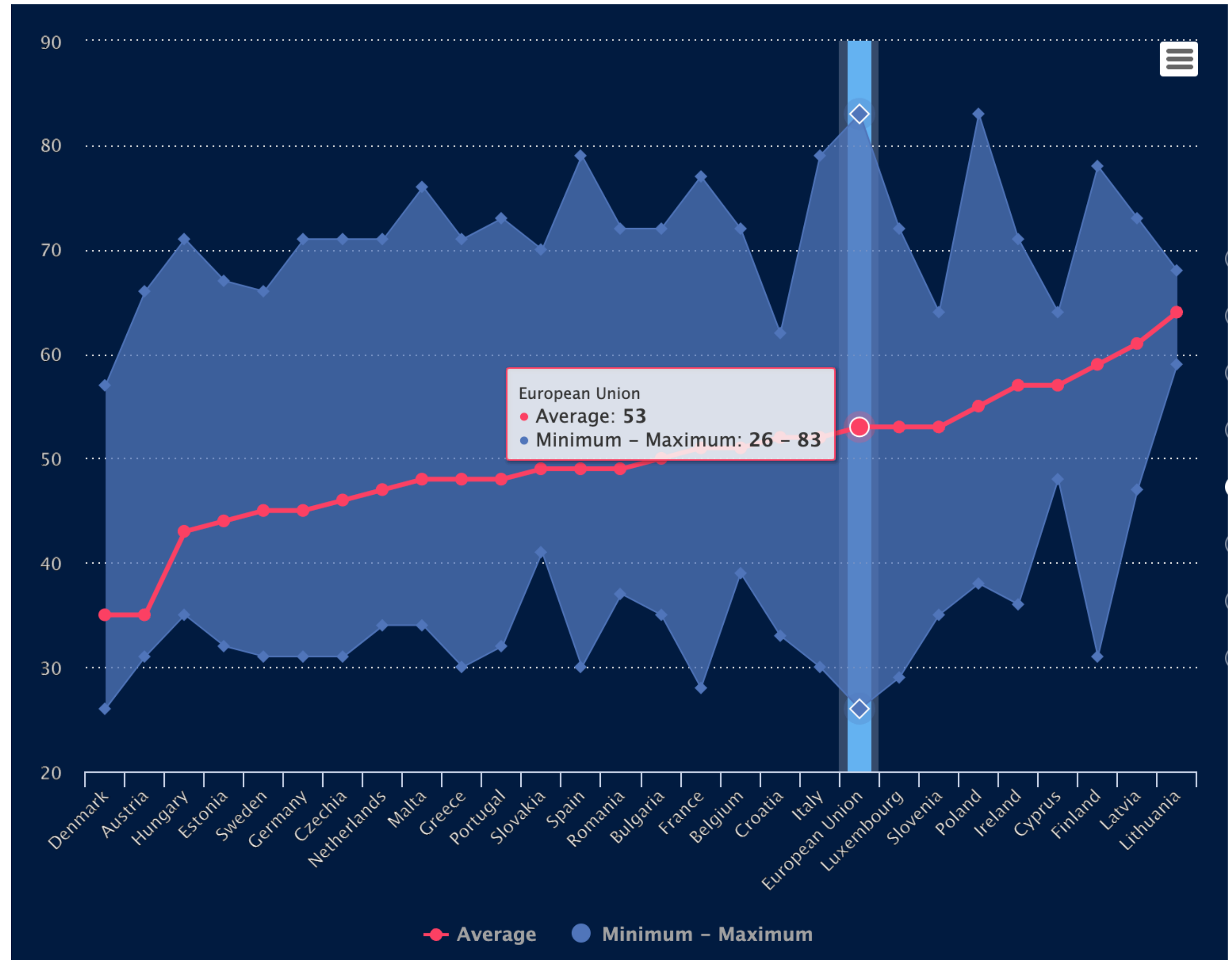
AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
GERMANY
MALTA

- Still the greatest abstainers - still the lowest among all age groups
- 18-year-olds can run as candidates in only 15 EU MS
- In the remaining 12 EU MS they have to be:
 - 21 in 9 MS (Bulgaria, Czechia, Ireland, Estonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland and Slovakia)
 - 23 in 1 MS (Romania)
 - 25 in 2 MS (Italy and Greece)



AGE OF MEPs

- Only two MEPs under the age of 30 in the outgoing legislature (6 elected in 2019)
- Average MEP age across the EU - 53 years
- Only in 2 MS, Denmark and Austria, current average age is 35



Source: [European Parliament](#)

DISMANTLE BARRIERS

Formal

- lowering age for voting and candidate / aligning these two ages
- quotas
- facilitating alternative voting modalities
- campaign financing - incentives or waivers

Informal / indirect

- integrating civic education into school curricula
- addressing information gaps
- tackling perception of inexperience



MOBILE YOUTH EU CITIZENS

Country	Last day reg.	January	February	March	April	May	June
Spain	30/01/2024	█					
Italy	11/03/2024	████████████████████					
Finland	24/03/2024	████████████████████					
Austria	26/03/2024	████████████████████					
Belgium	31/03/2024	████████████████████					
Cyprus	02/04/2024	████████████████████					
Lithuania	10/04/2024	████████████████████					
Portugal	10/04/2024	████████████████████					
Romania	10/04/2024	████████████████████					
Malta	15/04/2024	████████████████████					
Netherlands	23/04/2024	████████████████████					
Luxembourg	25/04/2024	████████████████████					
Czech Republic	27/04/2024	████████████████████					
Slovakia	28/04/2024	████████████████████					
Greece	29/04/2024	████████████████████					
Bulgaria	01/05/2024	████████████████████					
France	03/05/2024	████████████████████					
Denmark	06/05/2024	████████████████████					
Croatia	10/05/2024	████████████████████					
Estonia	10/05/2024	████████████████████					
Latvia	10/05/2024	████████████████████					
Sweden	10/05/2024	████████████████████					
Germany	19/05/2024	████████████████████					
Ireland (tbc)	23/05/2024	████████████████████					
Hungary	24/05/2024	████████████████████					
Poland	06/06/2024	████████████████████					

VOTER INFO

- aims to increase voters' understanding of the functioning of the European Union and the process of European elections
- includes a section on election observation, which is recognised internationally as a means of supporting and strengthening democratic processes
- aims to support a broad, interested public, but especially a new generation of young and first-time voters
- can be used as a basis for discussion in civic education classes



24 Q&A about the 2024 European elections and election observation

European Partnership for Democracy

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Q A

EUROPEAN ELECTIONS AND ELECTION OBSERVATION

24

CALLING ON ALL YOUTH VOTERS

