

EPP Party Barometer

April 2024

By **Dr. Olaf Wientzek**
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

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Key developments in the reporting period

Situation of the EPP family in the EU

- › The EPP family is the strongest political family in the polls in 11 countries, the socialist family S&D in 5 (but only if the currently suspended Slovakian parties Smer and Hlas are included). The far-right ID is ahead in 4 countries, the liberal Renew is ahead in 3, the Left and the Eurosceptic national-conservative ECR are each ahead in one country. Fidesz (not yet part of a party family) was ahead in Hungary and, formally, independent parties were ahead in Latvia.
- › Looking at the strongest individual party rather than the largest party family, the picture is even clearer: the EPP leads in 12 countries, the socialists in 6 (if you include Smer), ID in 4, ECR in 2, the Left and the Liberals in one country each. In Hungary, Fidesz (which has announced its intention to join ECR in the EP) is in the lead.
- › However, the lead over other party families or other individual parties is often very narrow (e.g. Portugal, Poland, Belgium, Denmark, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania), with other polls even seeing another party family or individual party in the lead.

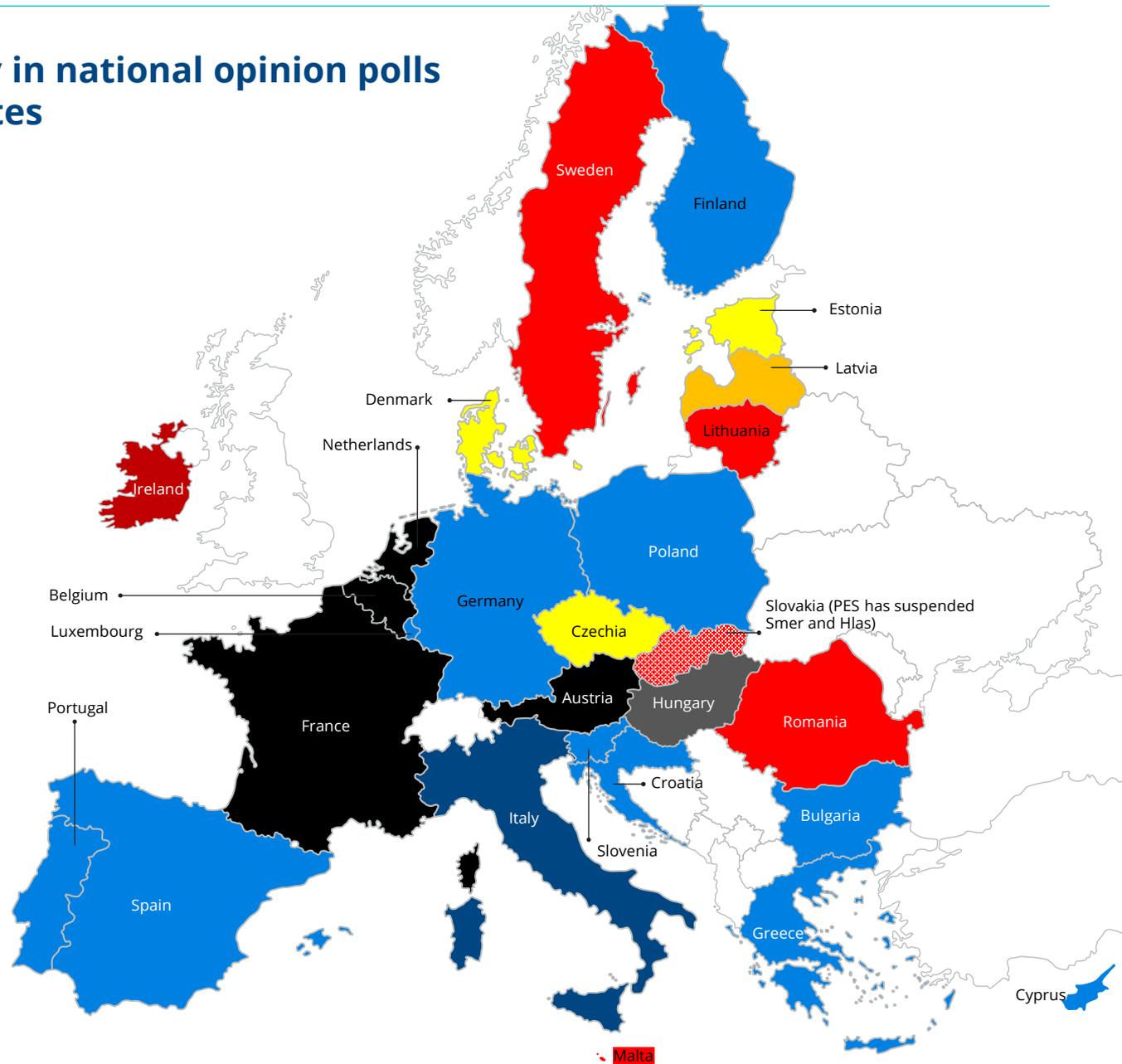
Situation in the European Council

- › 11 of the 27 heads of state and government in the European Council currently belong to the EPP family. If the President of Cyprus (formerly a member of an EPP party, now independent, but invited to EPP summits) is included, the EPP has 12 heads of state and government in the European Council.
- › 5 (4) belong to the Social Democrats/Socialists (S&D) (but only if Smer/Robert Fico are included despite their suspension from the PES).
- › 5 heads of state and government belong to the Liberals/Renew.
- › 2 belong to the Eurosceptic conservatives of ECR.
- › 4 are formally independent, including the Prime Minister of Hungary. If the President of Cyprus is not included (see above), there are only 3 independent members of the European Council.

Strongest party family in national opinion polls in the EU member states

Legend

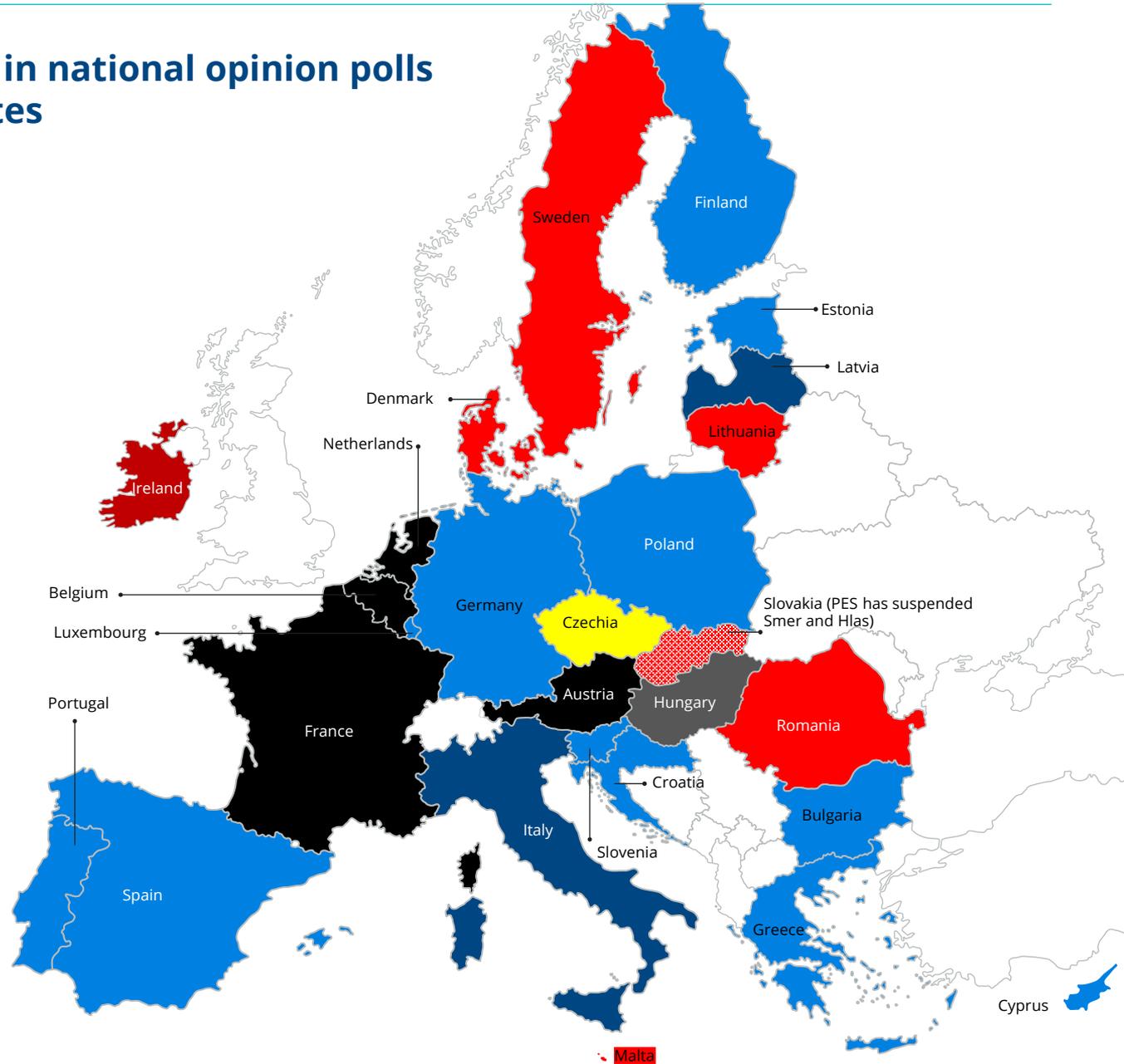
- EPP family
- S&D family
- Renew & ALDE family (Liberals)
- ACRE//ECR family
- Greens/EFA
- The Left (GUE/NGL)
- ID (far-right)
- Independents (far-right)
- Independents



Strongest single party in national opinion polls in the EU member states

Legend

- EPP family
- S&D family
- Renew & ALDE family (Liberals)
- ACRE//ECR family
- Greens/EFA
- The Left (GUE/NGL)
- ID (far-right)
- Independents (far-right)
- Independents



**Strength of the EPP family and the strongest
individual EPP parties in the EU member states
(opinion polls for national parliamentary
elections)**

Election results of the largest EPP partner party in the last national parliamentary elections

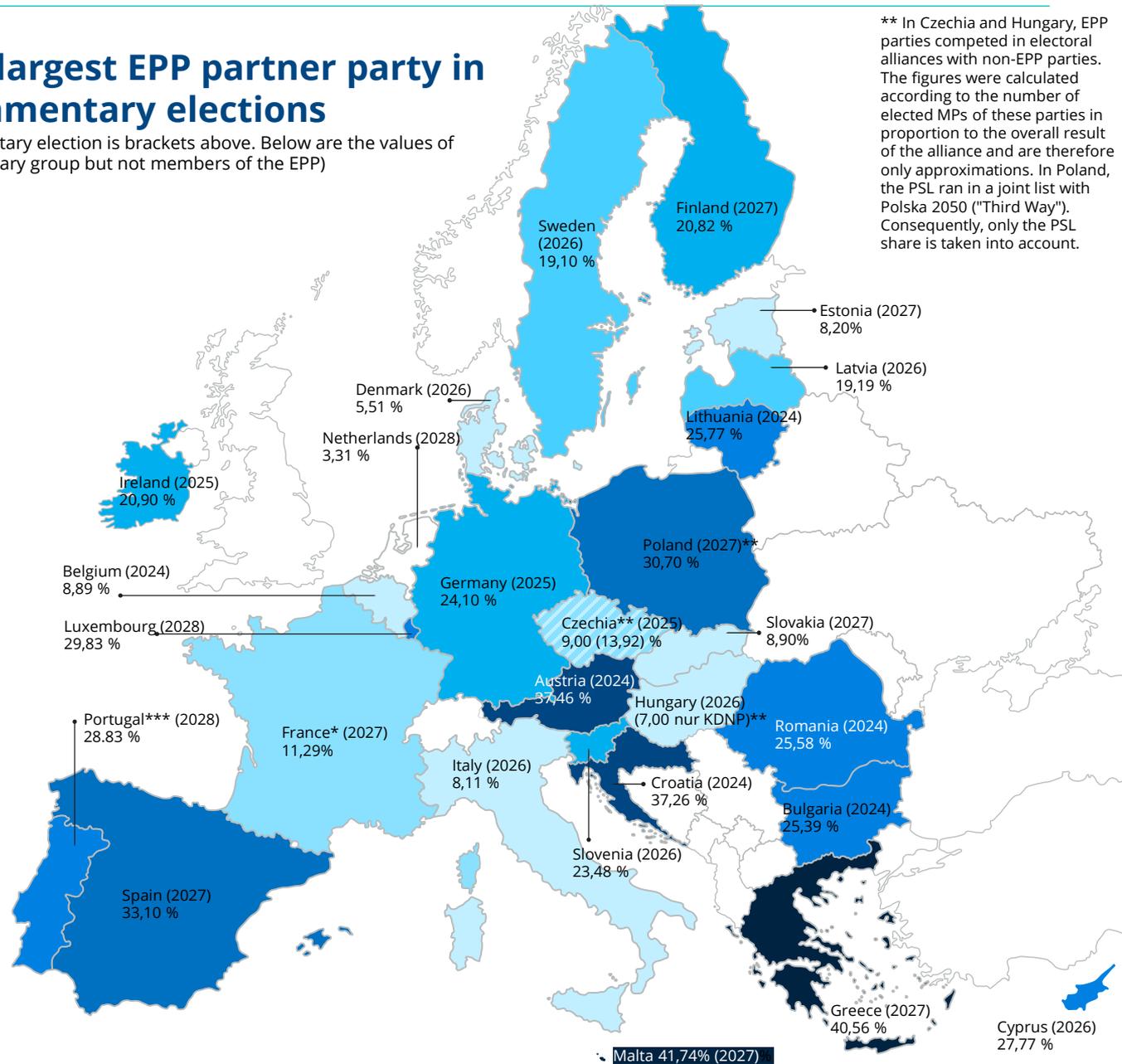
(Anticipated date of the next national parliamentary election is brackets above. Below are the values of parties that are members of the EPP parliamentary group but not members of the EPP)

Legend



*the numbers refer to the first round of the 2022 parliamentary election

***In Portugal, PSD and CDS-PP ran on a joint list

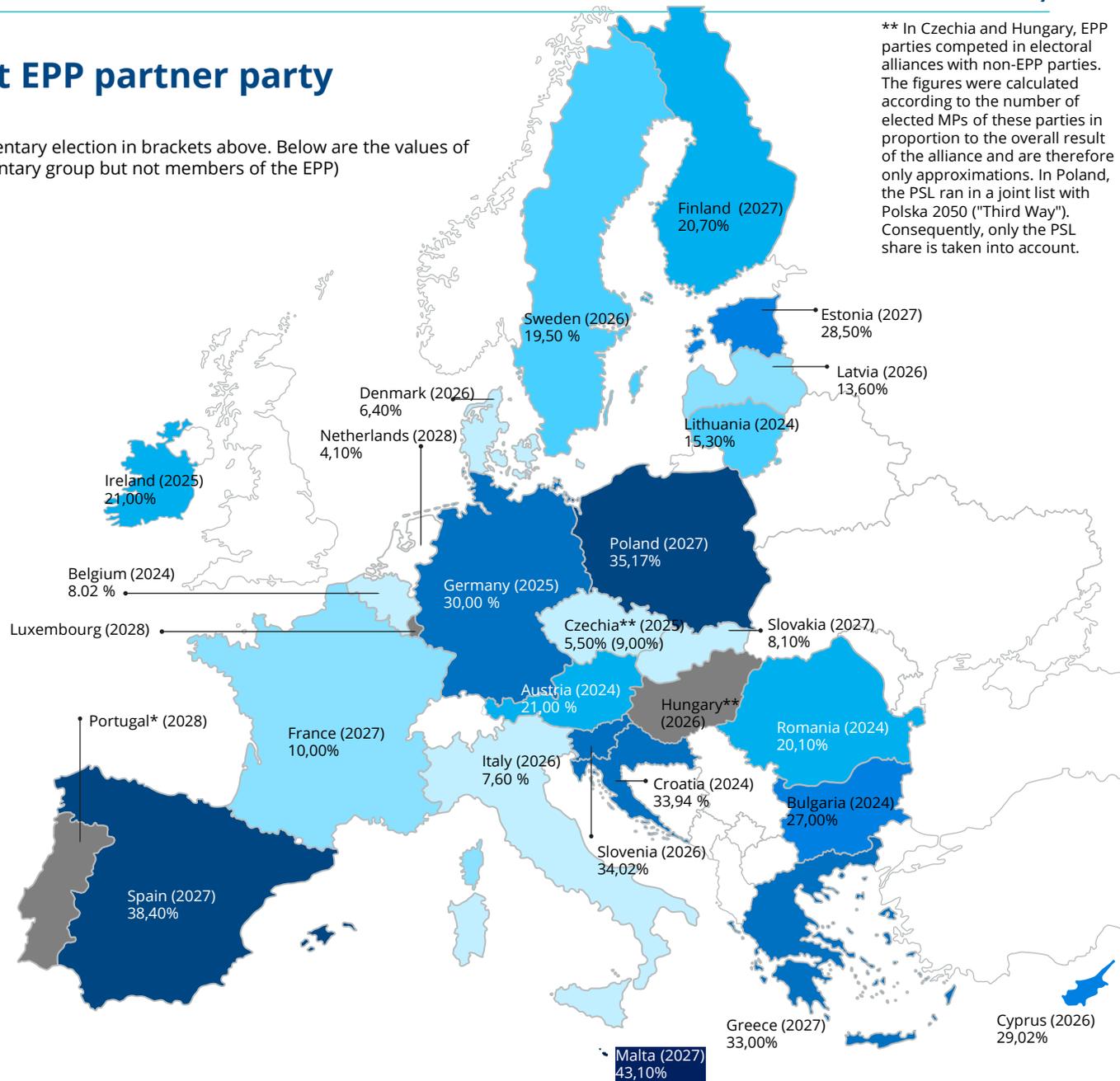
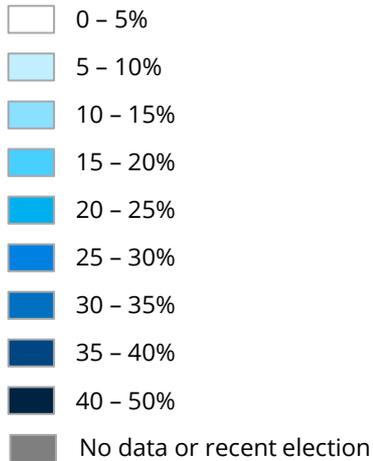


** In Czechia and Hungary, EPP parties competed in electoral alliances with non-EPP parties. The figures were calculated according to the number of elected MPs of these parties in proportion to the overall result of the alliance and are therefore only approximations. In Poland, the PSL ran in a joint list with Polska 2050 ("Third Way"). Consequently, only the PSL share is taken into account.

Strength of the largest EPP partner party in opinion polls

(Anticipated date of the next national parliamentary election in brackets above. Below are the values of parties that are members of the EPP parliamentary group but not members of the EPP)

Legend

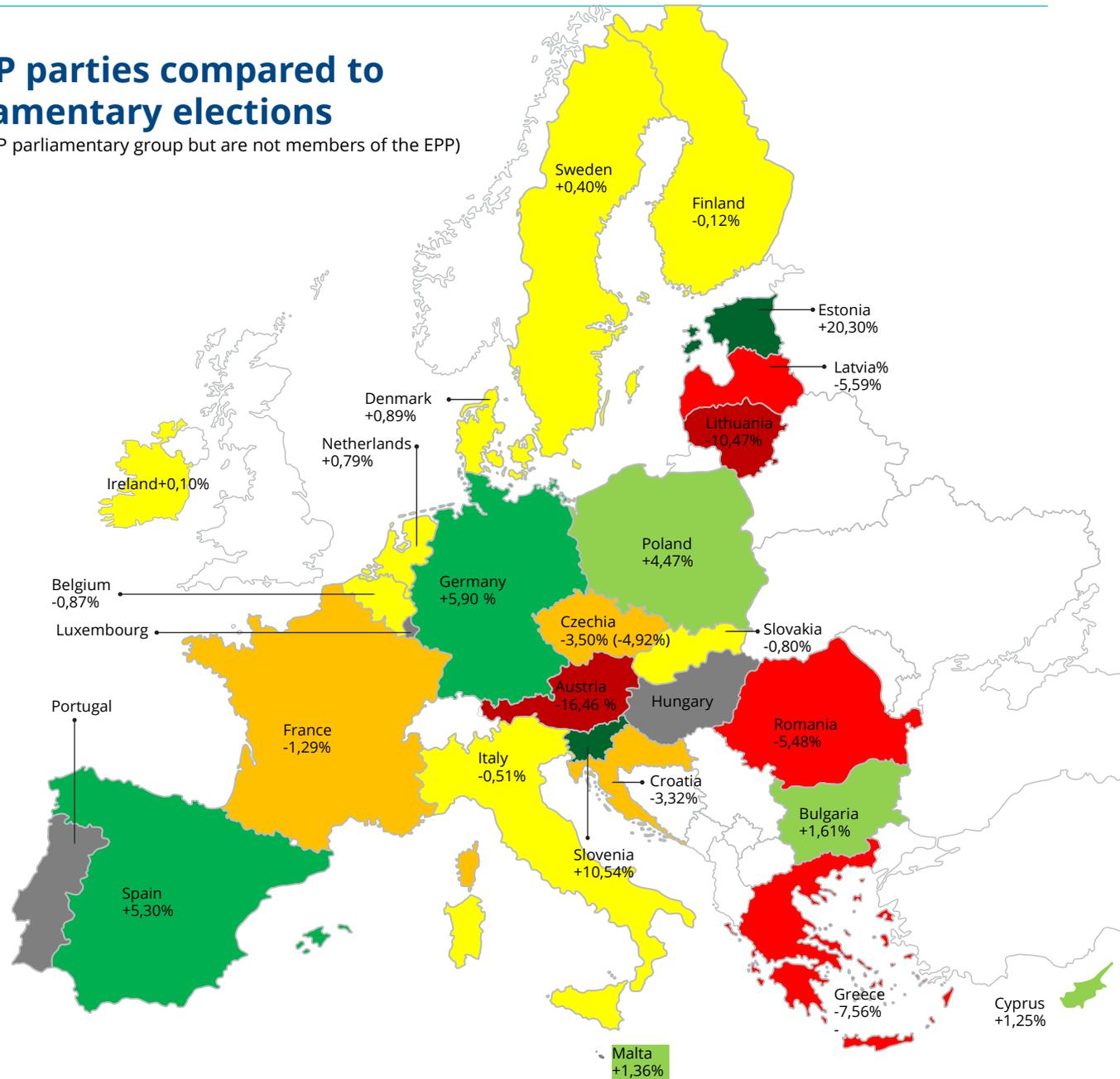
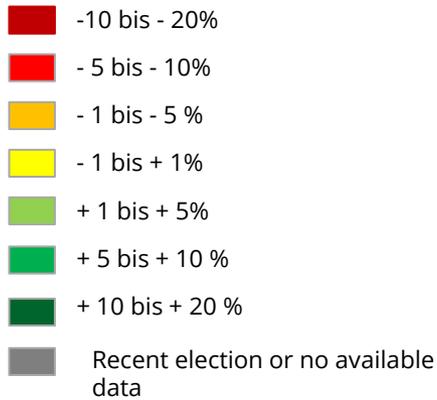


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Gains / losses of all EPP parties compared to the last national parliamentary elections

(In brackets: including parties that are in the EPP parliamentary group but are not members of the EPP)



Election results of the EPP party family in the last national parliamentary election

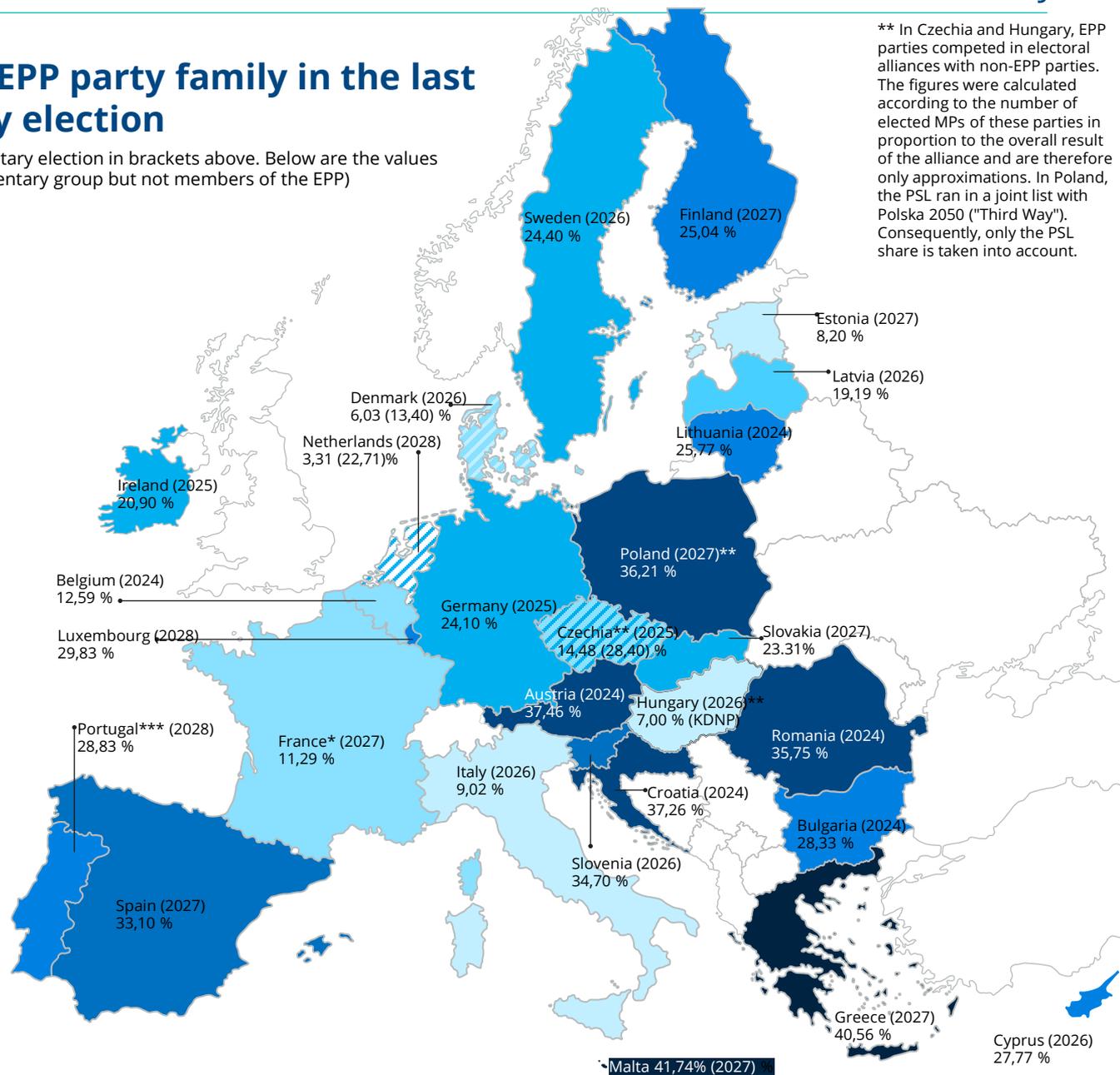
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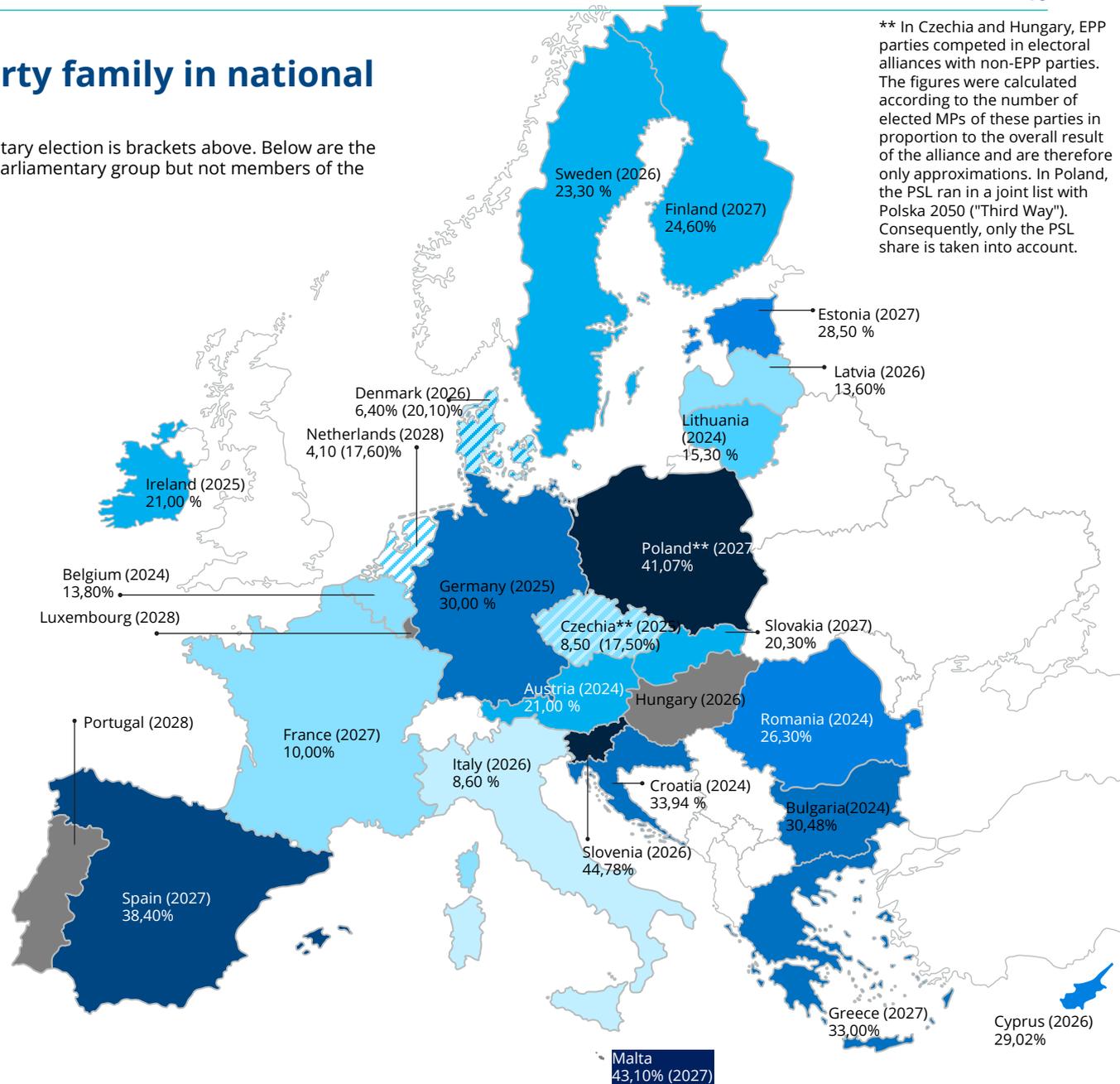
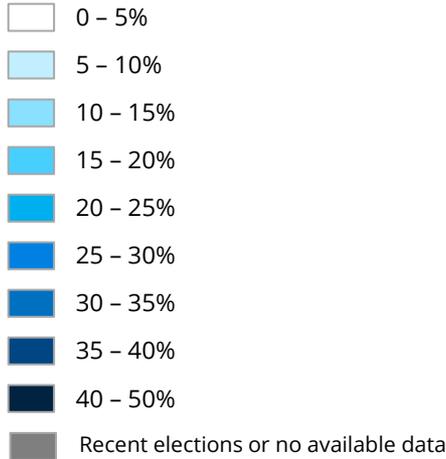


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Strength of the EPP party family in national opinion polling

(Anticipated date of the next national parliamentary election is brackets above. Below are the values of parties that are members of the EPP parliamentary group but not members of the EPP)

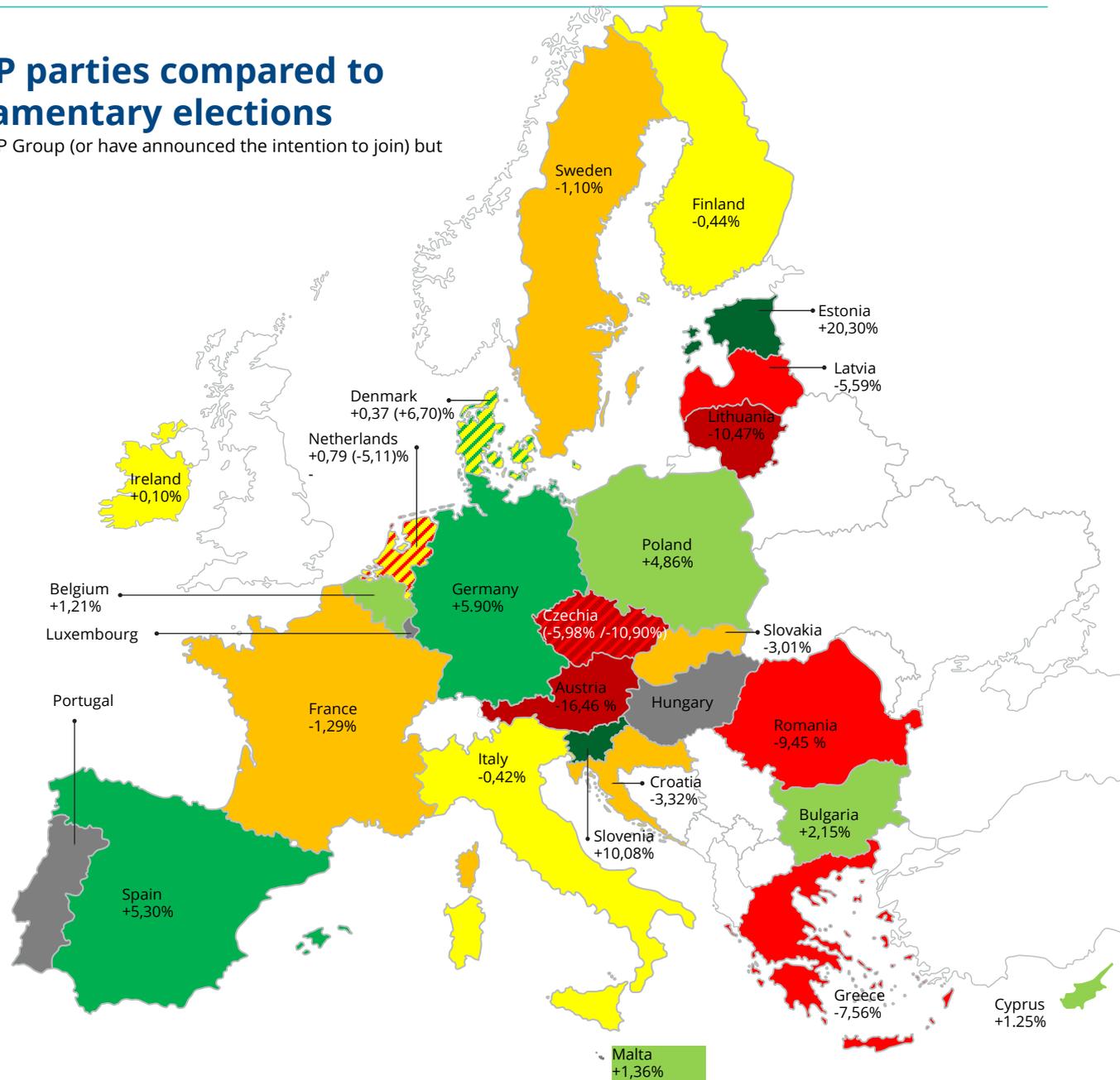
Legend



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Gains / losses of all EPP parties compared to the last national parliamentary elections

(In brackets: including parties that are in the EPP Group (or have announced the intention to join) but that are not in the EPP)



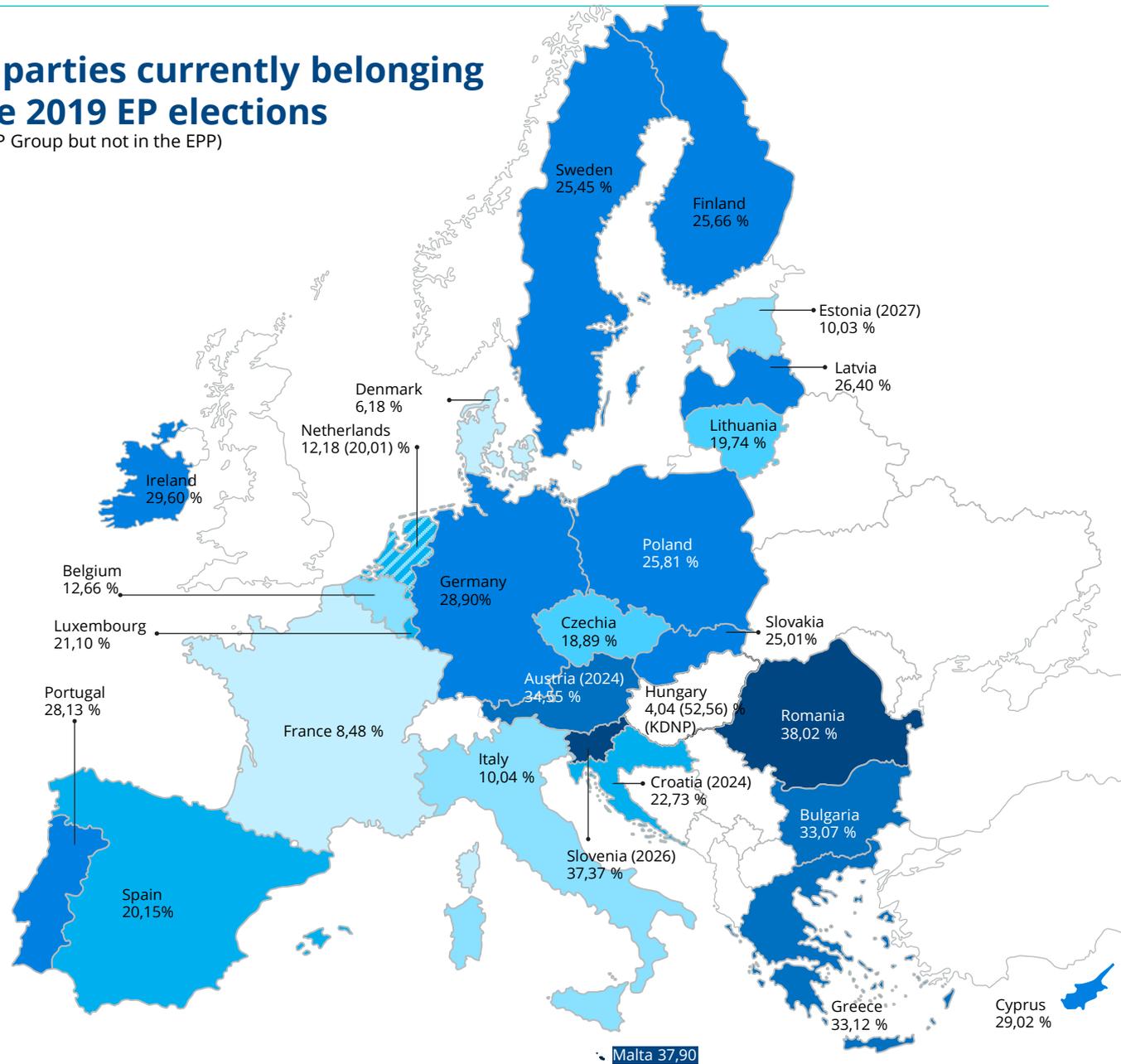
Opinion polls for the EP elections and composition of the EP



Election results of the parties currently belonging to the EPP Group in the 2019 EP elections

(In brackets: including parties that are in the EPP Group but not in the EPP)

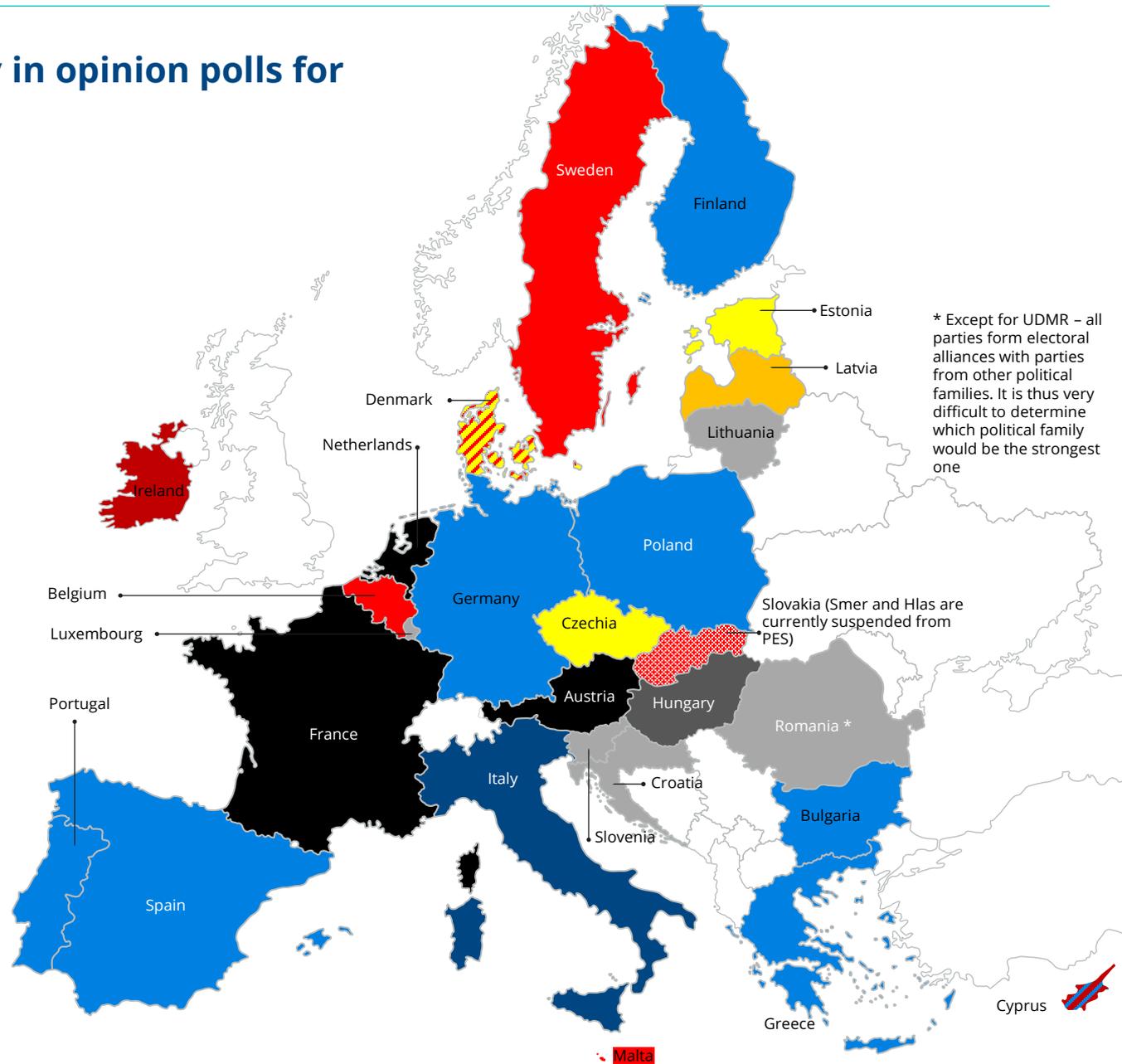
Legend



Strongest party family in opinion polls for the EP elections

Legend

- EPP family
- S&D family
- Renew & ALDE family (Liberals)
- ACRE//ECR family
- Greens/EFA
- The Left (GUE/NGL)
- ID (far-right)
- Independents (far-right)
- Independents
- No data



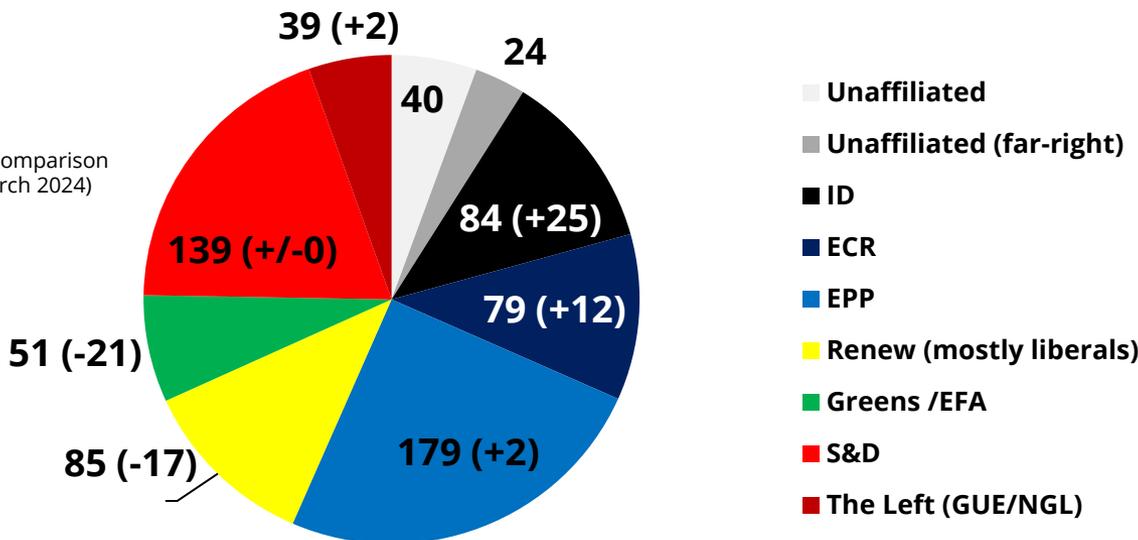
* Except for UDMR – all parties form electoral alliances with parties from other political families. It is thus very difficult to determine which political family would be the strongest one

Composition of the EP

Composition of the European Parliament with unchanged political groups (cf. current situation in brackets)

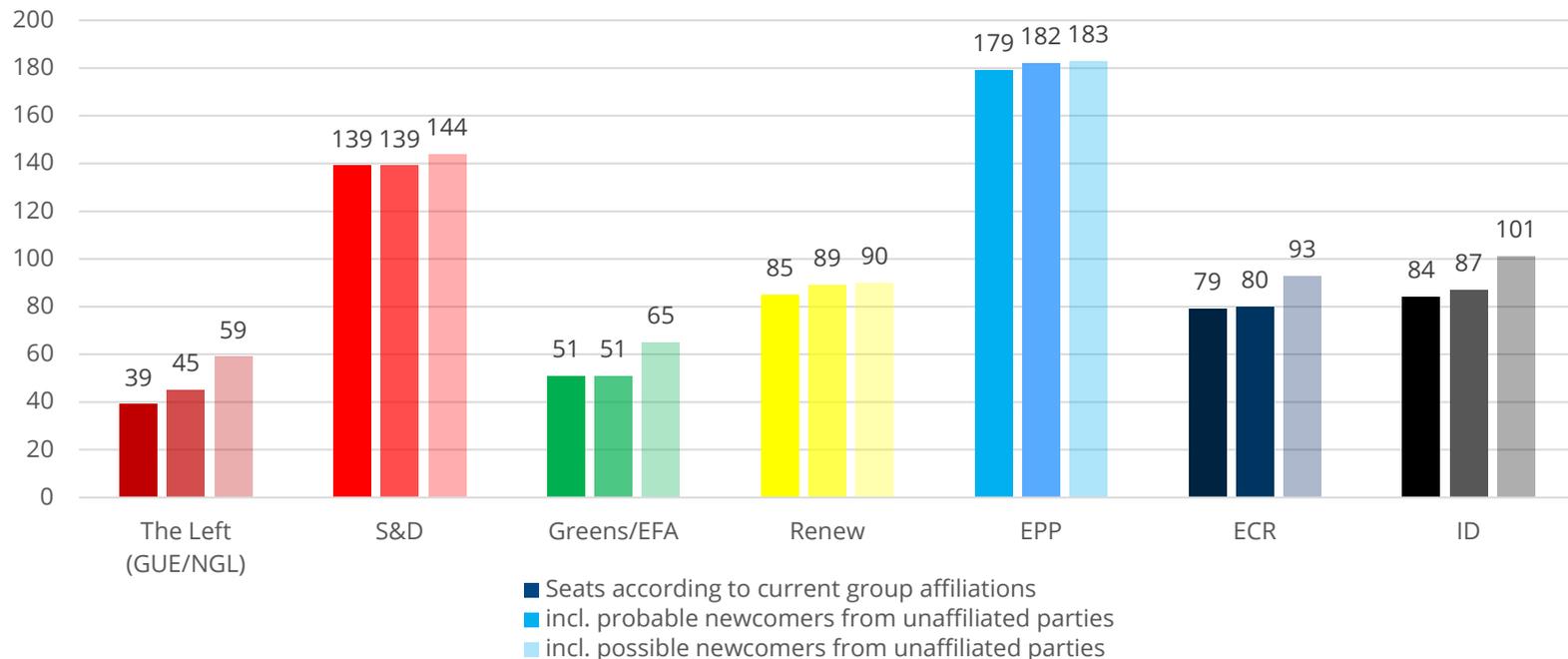
- › The projection uses - if available - EP election forecasts, but otherwise has to rely on national polls and then weight these taking into account factors relevant for EP elections. The difference to the current size of the parliamentary group is shown in brackets (the enlargement of the EP by 15 seats in the next EP must be taken into account).
- › If we take the current composition of the respective groups as a basis and add the parties that have not only announced their intention to join a party family but have also initiated it, the following picture would emerge:
 - › The EPP would improve its number of seats minimally, remaining the largest force in the EP. Compared to the end of February, the EPP would increase slightly. It is highly likely that the number of seats would be between 164 and 187.
 - › The Socialists (without the suspended Smer (Slovakia)) remained constant, gaining one seat compared to the end of February.
 - › Renew, ECR and ID are in a neck-and-neck race for third place. The two political groups to the right of the EPP, ECR and ID, would continue to gain seats very significantly, but would drop noticeably compared to the last Barometer (reasons: weakness of AfD, slight decline of several ECR parties)
 - › The Greens and Renew would lose a significant number of seats. The Greens recovered slightly compared to the end of February. Renew might compensate some (but not all of the) losses with additions from unaffiliated parties.

(In brackets: comparison with EP of March 2024)



Potential among unaffiliated parties

- › Some forces that are still unaffiliated are likely to join various parliamentary groups, and some have already declared their intention to do so.
- › Fidesz is listed as a possible candidate for both ECR and ID and could decide which group becomes the third largest. Following Fidesz's declaration of intent to join ECR, joining this group seems more likely. This does not take into account possible ECR departures as a result of Fidesz joining.
- › The 5-Star Movement is seen as a potential gain for both the Left and the Greens, although the compatibility with the latter appears to be clearly greater.
- › Possible changes between the parliamentary groups are not taken into account here.
- › There are several parties that would be compatible with the left-national orientation of the BSW. It is – for the time being - likely that such a group would not have the necessary prerequisites to form a parliamentary group.



Government participation of the EPP family



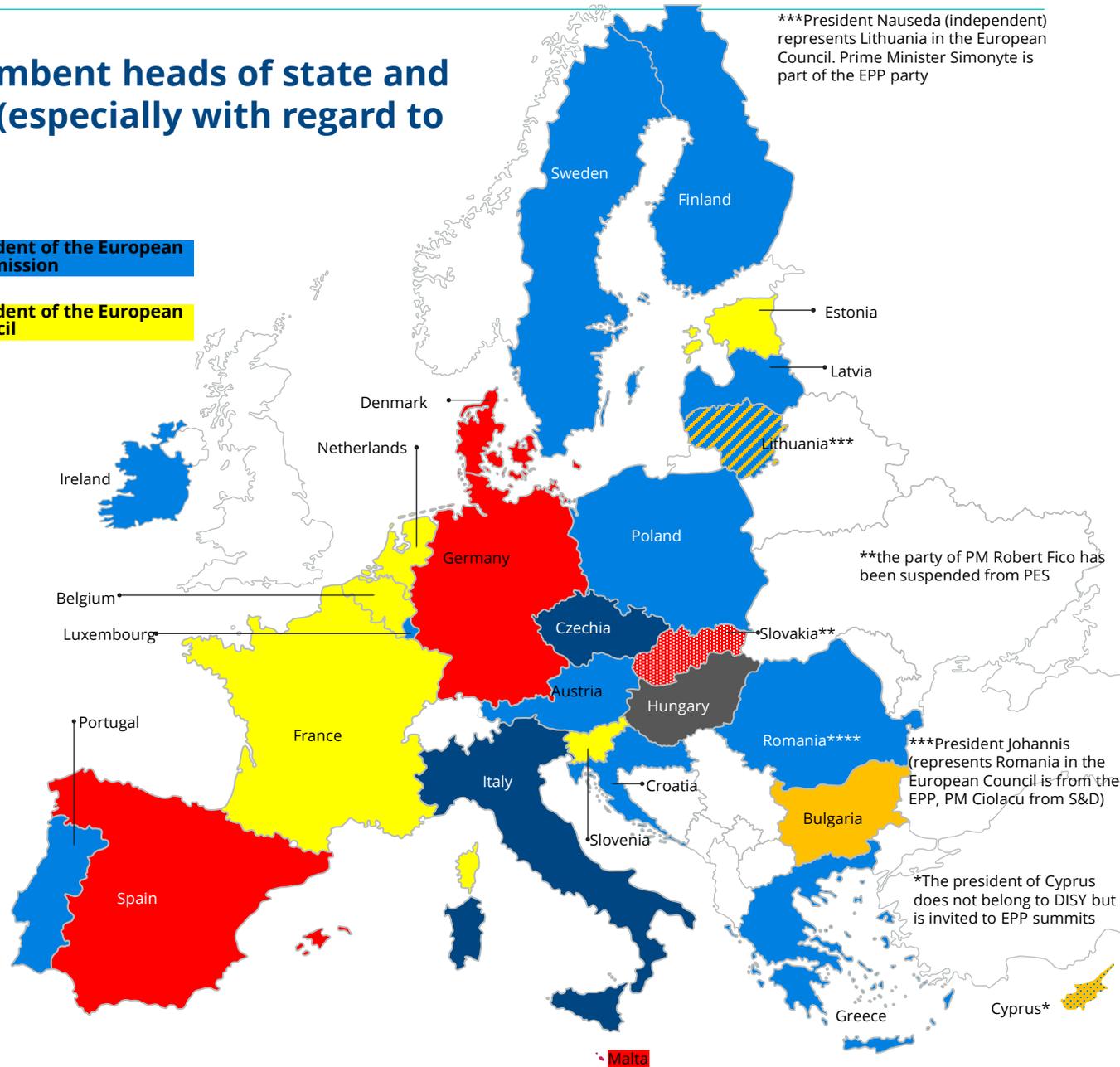
Political family of incumbent heads of state and government in the EU (especially with regard to the European Council)

Legend

- EPP family
- S&D family
- Renew family (Liberals)
- ECR family
- Greens/EFA
- The Left (GUE/NGL)
- ID / (far-right)
- Independent (Fidesz)
- Other Independents

President of the European Commission

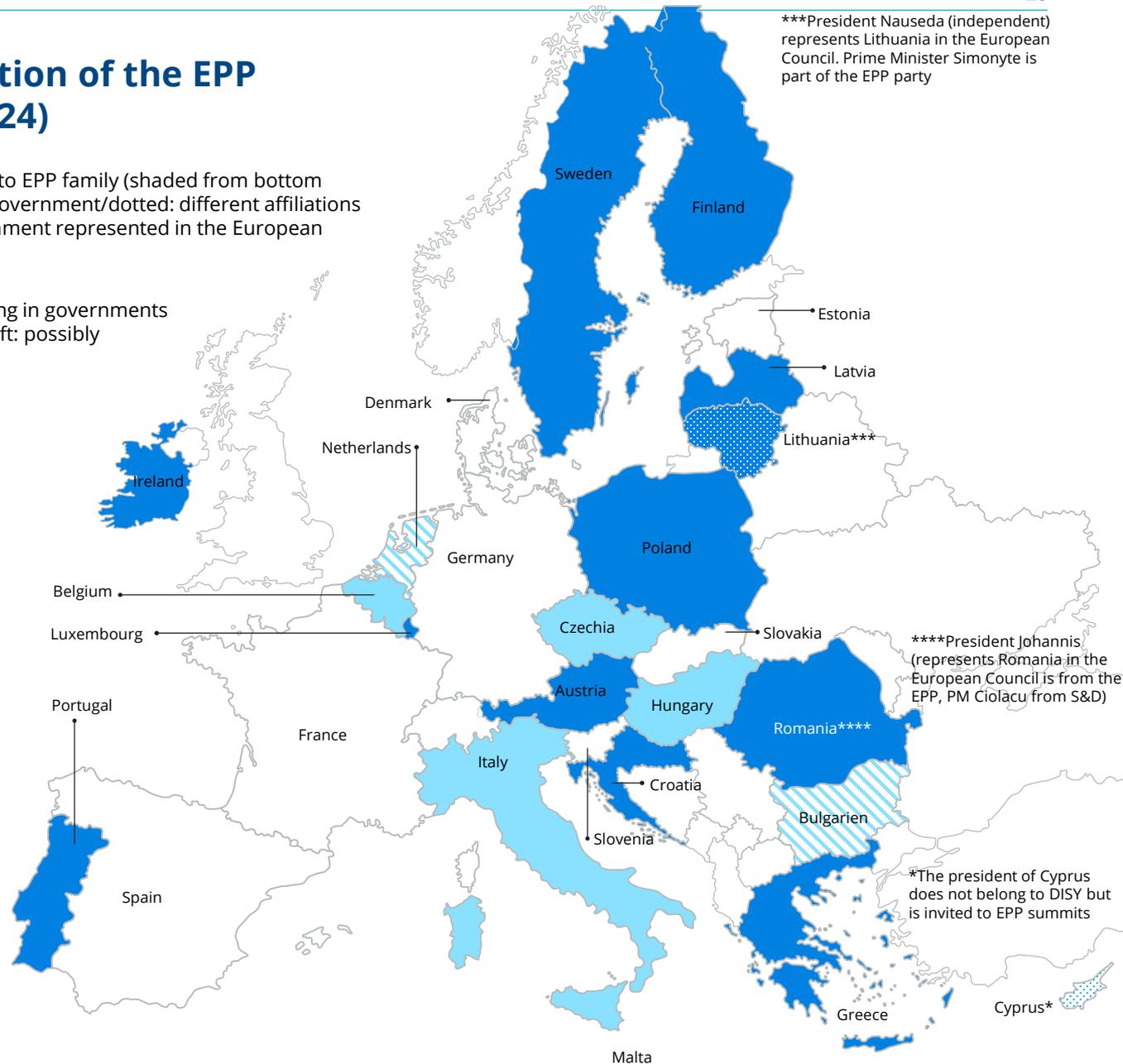
President of the European Council



Government participation of the EPP family (as of 9 April 2024)

 Head of state/government belongs to EPP family (shaded from bottom right to top left: possibly outgoing government/dotted: different affiliations of head of state and head of government represented in the European Council or unclear affiliation)

 Parties of the EPP family participating in governments (shaded from bottom right to top left: possibly outgoing government)



Notes

- › In Belgium, polling is conducted on a regional basis. To approximate national-level results, data from these polls are adjusted based on the proportion of eligible voters (as voting is compulsory) and actual voter turnout. This method might introduce minor discrepancies. Parties like CD&V, CSP, and CDH compete only in specific regions and their poll outcomes are adjusted accordingly. The CSP participates exclusively in European elections and merges with CDH during national elections, reflecting the House of Representatives' composition by regions (Flanders, Wallonia, Brussels) rather than language communities.
- › Polls in several countries factor in the percentages of undecided voters and those who abstain from voting to calculate total support (100%). For example, if Party A polls at 13%, but 30% of respondents won't vote and 20% are undecided, Party A's adjusted support would be reported as 26%.
- › In Germany, the CDU and CSU are presented as a single entity in polls due to their joint parliamentary group, so their poll numbers are always combined.
- › In Poland, the Civic Coalition (KO) is predominantly represented by the Civic Platform (PO), despite including smaller non-EPP parties. Thus, the entire KO result is categorized as an "EPP result". 'The Third Way' is a coalition between PSL and Polska 2050, but only the PSL's results are considered for the aggregate outcome.
- › In various countries, some parties are grouped under the EPP parliamentary group even though they are not EPP members. This is the case for the CU in the Netherlands and STAN in Czechia, among others, and their results are specified in brackets.
- › Within the ECR party family, some are identified as right-wing populist or exhibit strong right-wing populist tendencies. Given that this is a recognized party family, these parties are classified under ECR instead of being labeled as "right-wing populist."
- › In Czechia, EPP-affiliated parties such as the KDU-ČSL and TOP 09 formed electoral coalitions with non-EPP groups like the ODS (ECR) and STAN (EPP group), along with the Pirates. The allocation of their votes is estimated based on the proportion of elected MPs from these parties within the overall alliance result, hence these figures are only approximate. This approach also applies to two EPP member parties in Bulgaria.
- › For Hungary, polls do not show separate results for KDNP (EPP) and Fidesz (which has not been part of the EPP since 2021).

Sources

Ipsos (Belgium). Market Links (Bulgaria). Voxmeter (Denmark). Forsa (Germany). Norstat (Estonia). Kantar TNS (Finland). Ifop (France). Pulse/RC (Greece). Ireland Thinks (Ireland). Ipsos (Italy). Ipsos (Croatia). SDKS (Latvia). Spinter tyrimai (Lithuania). Ilres (Luxembourg). Malta Today (Malta). Ipsos (Netherlands). Market (Austria). Ibris (Poland). CESOP-UCP (Portugal). INSCOP (Romania). Novus (Sweden). AKO (Slovakia). Mediana (Slovenia). NC Report (Spain). Median (Czechia). Republikon (Hungary). Sigma (Cyprus)

Imprint

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Dr. Olaf Wientzek

Director

Multinational Development Policy Dialogue

olaf.wientzek@kas.de

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