

European elections in France

A French perspective



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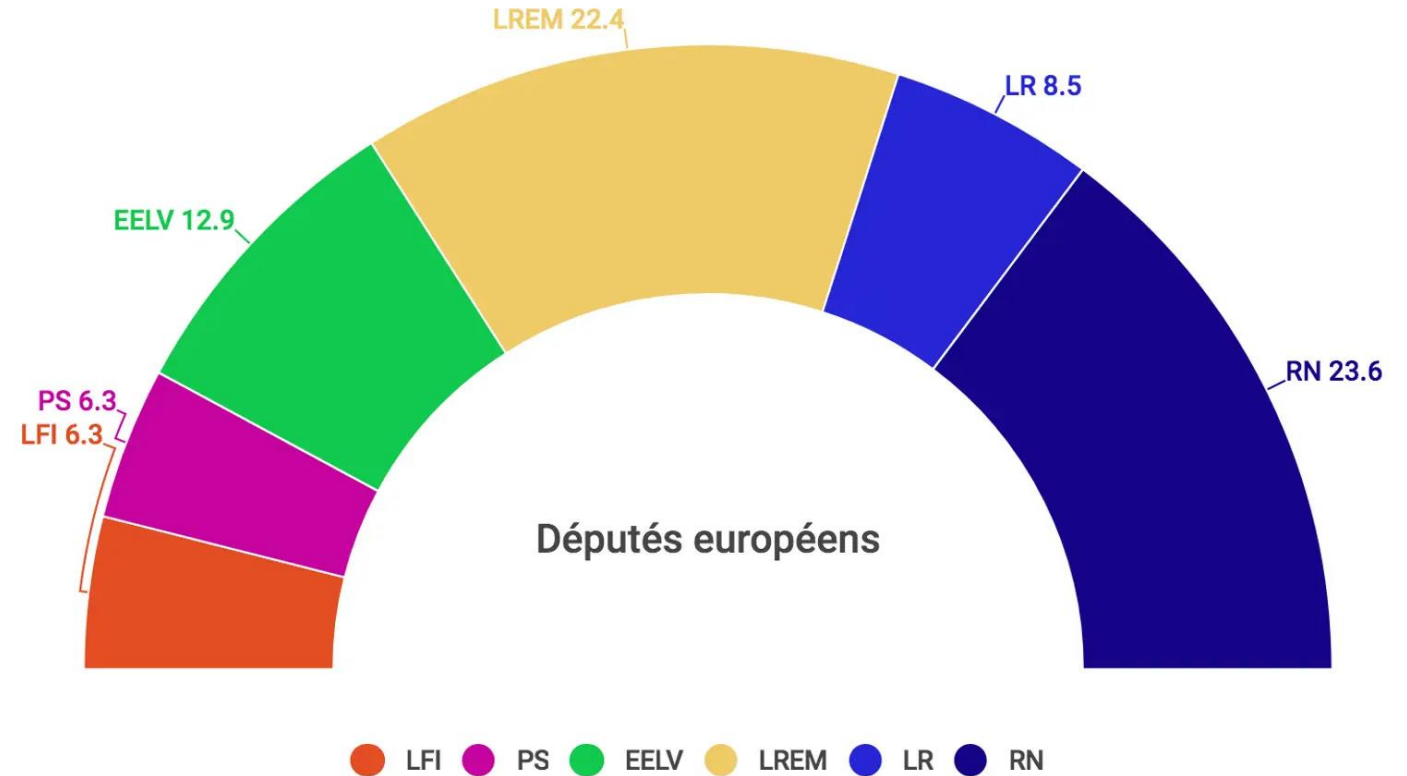
The vote in France

- You have to be at least 18 years
- You have to be register in your town
- Europeans citizens who are able to vote in their native countries
- It's a direct vote : European deputies have been elected by direct universal suffrage since 1979.
- The French citizens are voting for a list of 79 persons and the most plebiscite party won chairs bases on the percentage of the results
- for the next elections it will take place on the 6 and 9th of June 2024



European deputies in France

- It's really specific in France from a decade the french european deputies weren't representative from the political situation in France
- By that statement we mean that far right parties (in dark Blue) weren't that much represented in National Assembly until recently, where the European repartition is now quite the same than in the national assembly



Source <https://www.laprovence.com/actu/en-direct/5519772/europeennes-les-resultats-et-la-projection-de-la-repartition-des-79-deputes-francais-au-parlement.html>

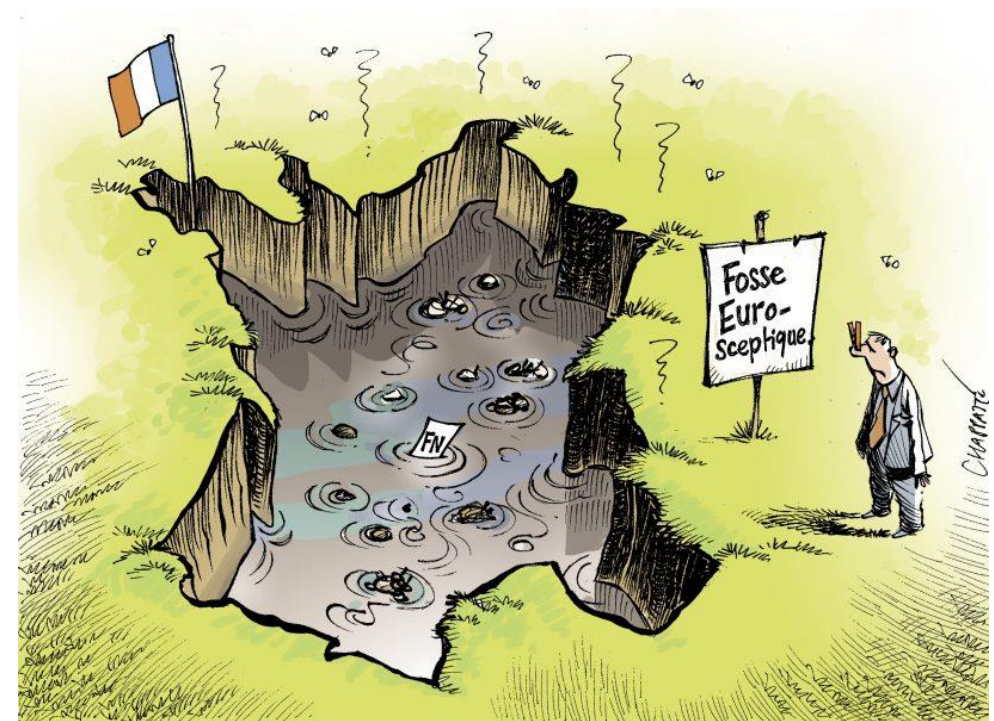
Europe in Nouvelle-Aquitaine

- In 2019 for the previous elections the participation was 54,39% in France and 52,54% in Charente (department where TERA is located)
- This increased by 7 points between 2014 and 2019
- In Nouvelle-Aquitaine 5 europeans deputies are representing us
- 2 far rights, 2 from the presidential majority, and one from green party
- The first far right party in France « rassemblement National » came first in 8 of the 11 departments in the region
- The region has received 1,3 billions of europeans funds for the period from 2021-2027
- The funds will help to increase innovation, companies competitiveness, education, energy and digital transition, agriculture and wood, fishing and aquaculture and territory development



Euroscepticism in France

- The French citizens are eurosceptics but : support for the EU is all the higher as it is expressed at the most diffuse level (while 56% of French people are attached to Europe, 51% of French people believe that the European Union is "distant" and 56% think that it is not "effective" compared to 47% for all citizens of the Member States)"
- several explanatory elements of a cultural nature can thus be put forward to understand the specific relationships that the French have with the EU: A unitary political culture out of step with the European culture of compromise, A socio-economic culture marked by a certain distrust or even hostility to liberalism: negative representations of liberalism, free trade and competition negatively impact the relationship that many French people have with the market which constitutes the heart of the European Union
- For more than half a century, France has been able to combine two radically different visions of the reason for its European commitment: on the one hand, the project of the "founding fathers" (convergence of the interests of the Member States) and , on the other, the Gaullist project of a Europe as an instrument allowing France to promote its national interests. The enlargements to the countries of Central and Eastern Europe are forcing France to clarify its European project to the extent that the French are discovering that "Europe is not France writ large"! This is undoubtedly the main reason for the nostalgic speeches, in France in particular, about "small Europe" and the difficulty in accepting the change in scale of the enlarged Union.
- Source <https://institutdelors.eu/publications/un-euroscepticisme-a-la-francaise/>



Source : le Front National grignote du terrain – Chappatte (Suisse / Switzerland), Le Temps
"Euro-septic tank"

Source <https://www.cartooningforpeace.org/edits/france-le-front-national-grignote-du-terrain/>

Scandals and euroscepticism

- Marine Le Pen : scandals of fictives employees, she is the leader of the first far right french party
- In France 11 members of her party who has been elected between 2009 and 2016 have been sue to embezzlement of european public funds
- The European parliament estimates the damage at 6,8 millions of euros
- The trial has been open in september 23 and 27 persons affiliated to the party are actually sue, They risk 10 years of prison, 1 million penalty and 5 years of ineligibility
- Due to economicals difficulties the party forced the new french eurodeputies from this party during 2009–2016 to give a part of their monthly budget,
- The party also borrow some money to Russia at least 6 millions they just refunded it on september, It's also a way to make people forget the proximity the party has with Russia before the elections



Source: <https://www.courrierinternational.com/article/vu-d-allemande-l-election-de-marine-le-pen-serait-une-catastrophe-similaire-a-celle-du-brexit> image ALBERT GEA/ REUTERS

Perspectives for the next elections

- The far rights parties have already determined who's gonna be their representatives, the left parties are still trying to make arrangements to make a common list but there are a lot of disagreements that could lead to a multiplication of left list
- Polls put far right parties in first place for the next elections
- 2024 is a important year for house of Europe, one of the main point is to promote Young vote,
- Only 27% of the 18-24 and 36% of the 25-34 has voted for the previous european elections and when they voted they gave their vote for green party
- A lot of actions will be settle to promote european vote as meeting a european deputy, simulations..