



Why European Parliament? Basic

Workshop outline by the Y Vote Project - info@yvote.eu

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About the workshop

The European Union with its history and institutions is a complex system that we all heard about somehow, but we need to understand a little in order to really discuss its influence. After all, the EU institutions are the European peoples' institutions.

This workshop will teach the basics of the history of the European Union, as well as different institutions to the participants in an interactive way.

Aims

- Participants know milestones in the history of the EU in a chronological order.
- Participants know the names of at least four different EU institutions and can name key competencies of two of them.

Prerequisites

- Participants: 15-30
- Trainers: One
- Room: Room where participants can freely move around and form a line of some kind (can be in a half-circle), as well as the possibility for four groups to sit together (ideally: chair and a table per group). The room must have a projector and WiFi
- Time: 90 minutes
- Materials required:
 - Crepe adhesive tape or post its with strong glue line
 - One marker
 - Projector
 - Computer or other unit that can connect to the projector incl. cable

Videos: After the workshop, shoot videos of 5-10 people

Social Media: Take pictures and/or shoot a few videos of the WS for social media. Update Y Vote instagram story (feel free to include other people here like organizers, participants or Y Vote team, if you are not comfortable with this task)



- Wifi access
- Preparation time: About 30 minutes

Session

0. Introduction (5 min)

- Welcome the participants
- Go through the aims with the participants
- Ask them why it is important to learn about basic EU history and know the major institutions
 - Leave a short space for discussion

1 Presentation of the institutions (20 minutes)

What is this block about? An introduction to the 4 institutions: European Commission, European Parliament, European Council and the Council of the EU, and their compositions, as well as some of their key competences and leadership. The presentation ends with an overview of the four and gives an emphasis to the 2019 European Parliament elections.

- [Brief presentation of the European Institutions](#) (please be aware of the date)

Explanations taken from [here](#).

2 Milestones of the EU (40 min)

What is this block about? Participants will learn, that the history of the EU is not that long, and that over time, the milestones have become more and more political. They will test their own ability to recall EU development and policies in a fun and interactive way.

40 minutes (5 minutes explanation, 10 minutes to order themselves, 15 minutes explanation of the milestones, 10 minutes debriefing)

*Take first the “easy ones” and the ones people can relate to, such as Erasmus, Euro, Brexit, Structured Dialogue, Treaty of Rome, Treaty of Lisbon from [this list](#)

- Tell about the beginning of the EU:
 - Why? No more war. Tool: trade.
- Each participant gets a piece of tape or post it with the title (not year) of one historic EU Moment stuck on his head
 - Don't let the person read it
- Task: “You have 10 minutes to wander around and order yourselves in a chronological order of the events on your forehead. You can ask ‘yes or no’ questions to someone else to figure out your position. If somebody answers ‘no’ then go find a new partner.”
- After the 10 minutes tell them to get in line where they are at the moment. Describe what end of the room is past, and what end is present day. (You may remind them of the time after 8 minutes, so they hurry up)
- Starting with the one most back in time, ask them to look at their piece of tape one after the other.
 - The person reads what is written and can say what he/she knows about the event/ when it took place. You can ask how they guessed it, and if anyone knows more about it.

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- The trainer then fills up / corrects this information
- **Recap** to the why and how: How far it has gone in roughly 70 years?

3 Quiz time (20 min)

What is this block about? *This online quiz will test the knowledge of the participants after more than 1 hour of WS on the EU institutions. I will focus on leadership and compositions, and its goal is to test the participants ability to separate the institutions. The 21 question quiz also includes question about the EP elections, Europe day and Brexit.*

20 minutes (can be extended if one goes through the answers and explain. Find a [cheat sheet here](#))

- Display the quiz in the screen with the projector: BASIC YEP
<https://play.kahoot.it/#/?quizId=b90b214e-f74b-45b0-94d0-fac8ed93cf29>
AEGEEYEP as username, as password **European Parliament**

- Participants must go to www.kahoot.it and insert the code that appears on the screen
- And let's play!

4 Debriefing (5 min)

Gather everyone in a circle and ask them the following questions. It's supposed to be a repetition so they remember what they learned and reflect on it. Also it's an indication for the trainer to see what they liked/ didn't like, how the aims were achieved.

1. What was your key learning that you take with you from the workshop?
2. What more do you want to learn about this? Was something missing that you are interested in?
3. Do you know where to get more information (EP information office, Commission representation, EU direct)

If there is enough time, everyone should talk in this part!

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