

HOW TO NAVIGATE EU INSTITUTIONS

Giacomo Fassina

Press officer/advisor

Cabinet of the President of the European Parliament

Schengen under stress

Terrorism

Financial instability

Grexit, Brexit

Danish referendum

Dutch referendum

Euroskeptic parties on the rise

Neighbourhood in turmoil

- Which competences does the EU have to act?
- On public health: shared competences. Title XIV (Art. 168 TFEU)
- Health a horizontal cross-cutting issue: environmental dimension, consumer protection, internal market.
- Next plenary - two debates: EC obligation to establish criteria for endocrine disruptors; Transparency and control of clinical trials.
- Delegated Regulation on specific compositional and information requirements for infant formula and follow-on formula and as regards requirements on information relating to infant and young child feeding







EP President: Martin Schulz

EC President: Jean-Claude Juncker

**European Council
President: Donald
Tusk**

ORDINARY LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE

TRIALOGUES



Regulations

A "regulation" is a binding legislative act. It must be applied in its entirety across the EU.

Directives

A "directive" is a legislative act that sets out a goal that all EU countries must achieve. However, it is up to the individual countries to devise their own laws on how to reach these goals.

Decisions

A "decision" is binding on those to whom it is addressed (e.g. an EU country or an individual company) and is directly applicable.

Recommendations

A "recommendation" is not binding. A recommendation allows the institutions to make their views known and to suggest a line of action without imposing any legal obligation on those to whom it is addressed.

Opinions

An "opinion" is an instrument that allows the institutions to make a statement in a non-binding fashion, in other words without imposing any legal obligation on those to whom it is addressed.

HOW TO NAVIGATE EU INSTITUTIONS: POLITICIANS

Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis
Health & Food Safety

Responsibilities

- Ensuring the Commission is ready in supporting the EU's capacity to deal with crisis situations in food safety or pandemics.
- Building up knowledge on the performance of national health systems to shape national and EU policies.
- Helping address the challenge of increased calls on national health services at a time of intense pressure on public finances.



From his forecast for 2016:

The upcoming year brings more challenges and hot potatoes to work on. To mention a few, we will conclude the impact assessment on the endocrine disruptors – an issue particularly sensitive for all of us. I will continue fighting anti-microbial resistance on the EU and global level. And I will also work on the Health Technology Assessment which will help us to reduce the burden on healthcare systems in all Member States.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

20

	MEPs		MEPs
AFET Foreign Affairs 2 sub-committees: Human Rights + Security and Defence	71	TRAN Transport and Tourism	49
DEVE Development	28	REGI Regional Development	43
INTA International Trade	41	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	45
BUDG Budgets	41	PECH Fisheries	25
CONT Budgetary Control	30	CULT Culture and Education	31
ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs	61	JURI Legal Affairs	25
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	55	LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	60
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	69	AFCO Constitutional Affairs	25
ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	67	FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality	35
IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection	40	PETI Petitions	35

European Parliament Committees: ENVI
Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

Chair: Giovanni La Via (IT, EPP)

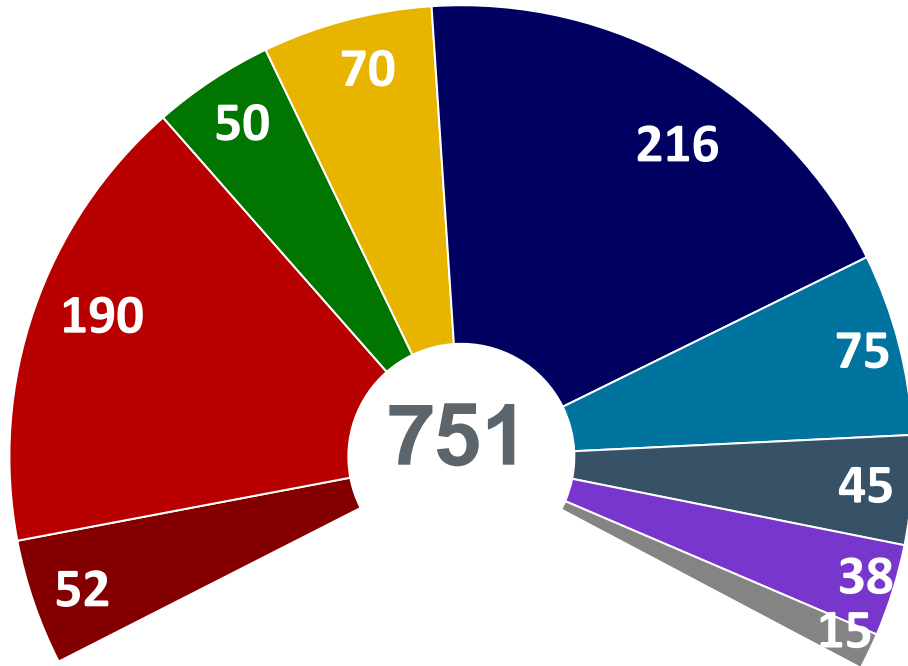
Political Group Coordinators

Rapporteurs

Employment, Social Policy, Health and
Consumer Affairs Council

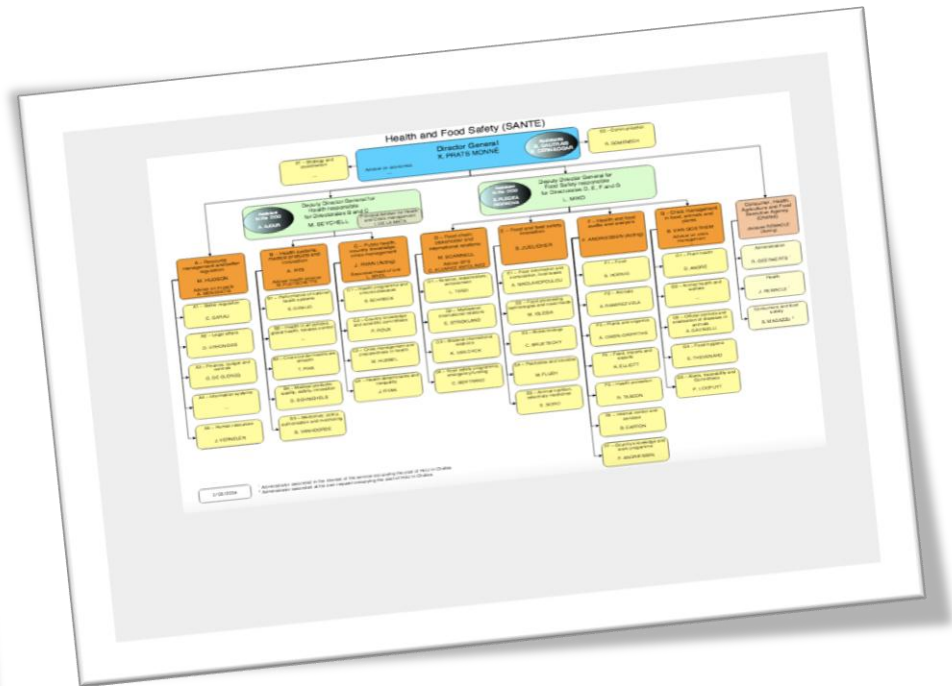
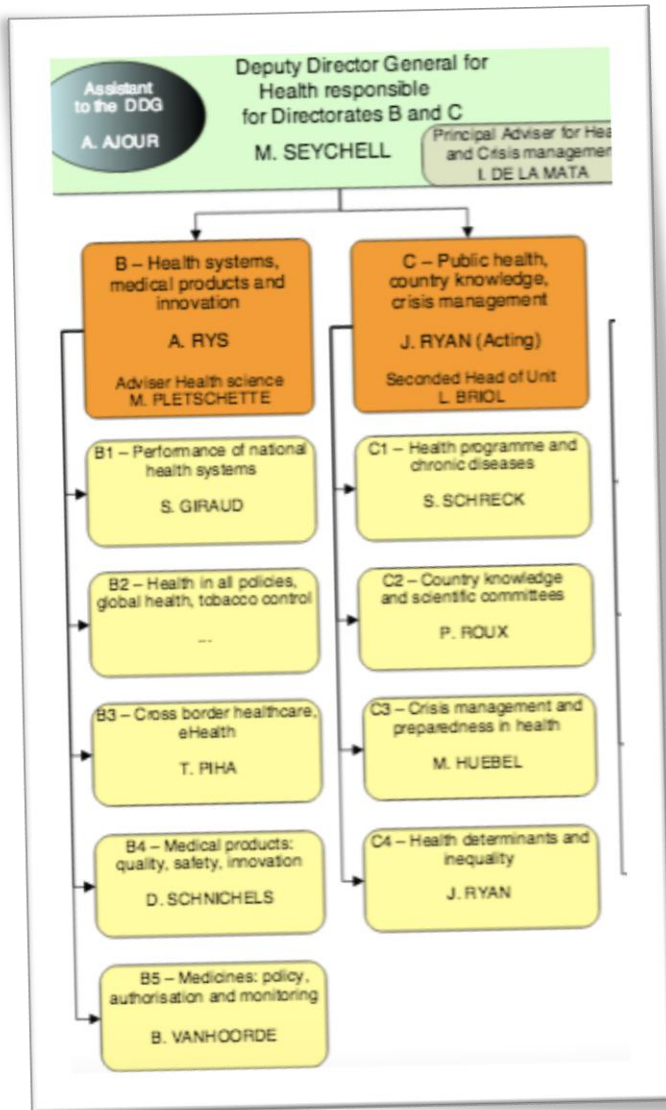


POLITICAL GROUPS: EP BUILDING BLOCS



- 
EPP European People's Party
- 
S&D Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats
- 
ECR European Conservatives and Reformists
- 
ALDE Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
- 
GUE/NGL European United Left/Nordic Green Left
- 
Greens/EFA Greens/ European Free Alliance
- 
EFDD Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy
- 
ENF Europe of Nations and Freedom
- Non-attached**

HOW TO NAVIGATE EU INSTITUTIONS: ORGANIGRAMS



Some reference points in and out the Brussels bubble

Agencies

[European Agency for Safety and Health at Work \(EU-OSHA\)](#)

[European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control \(ECDC\)](#)

[European Chemicals Agency \(ECHA\)](#)

[European Food Safety Authority \(EFSA\)](#)

[European Medicines Agency \(EMA\)](#)

Specialised Media

Politico Specialised Morning Newsletter on [Healthcare and technology](#)

EurActiv also has a specialised section on [Health and Consumers](#)

[EuObserver](#)

Think Tanks

[The European Parliament Research Service](#)

European Commission – [European Political Strategy Centre](#)

[The Wonk.eu](#) – a collector of reports and analysis both private and institutions

[Centre for European Policy Studies](#)

[The Lisbon Council](#)

[Bruegel](#) – a high quality think tank which mainly focuses on economics

[Centre for European Reform](#)

[European Policy Centre](#)

- The European Union is a complex machine with a great number of actors vying for interest and attention.
- To succeed there is not one recipe for success, but I would suggest the following strategy
 1. Being very parsimonious with objectives and priorities
 2. Be present: nurture formal and informal relations.
 3. Be outspoken: great expertise, authoritative. Use it.