

# HOW DOES THE EU WORK?

**MYEEU - MULTICULTURAL YOUTH EDUCATES  
EUROPEAN UNION PROJECT  
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Multicultural Youth Educate the European Union



Europe  
for Citizens



# WHICH OF THESE STATEMENTS IS TRUE?

1. The European Commission decides on all new EU laws and actions
2. The European Commission proposes new legislative acts, while the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament have the final decision on all EU laws
3. The European Council, composed of the presidents and prime ministers of EU countries, adopts EU laws



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THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: 2

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The European Commission prepares new European legislative proposals. These are then discussed, modified and eventually adopted - or rejected - by the EU Council (which represents the governments of EU countries) and by the European Parliament (directly elected by EU citizens).

This is the most frequent decision-making procedure in the EU. It is the so-called ordinary legislative procedure, also known as "codecision".

## WHICH OF THESE STATEMENTS IS TRUE?

1. The commissioners represent the position of their respective countries.
2. To be a commissioner, first of all, you must be a public employee in your country.
3. Commissioners are proposed by the respective national governments and must be approved by the European Parliament.

# THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: 3



The commissioners do not represent the position of their country of origin but the common interests of the Union. They have often already held senior political positions in their own country and are proposed by their respective governments. The presidential candidate chooses potential commissioners based on these proposals.

Each candidate must appear before the European Parliament to illustrate his political vision and answer the questions.

Parliament then proceeds to approve or not, by vote, the entire team of candidates.

Finally, the commissioners are appointed by the European Council.





# WHICH OF THESE STATEMENTS IS TRUE?

1. Members of the European Parliament are appointed by national parliaments.
2. EU citizens directly elect members of the European Parliament every four years.
3. Countries with many inhabitants have more MEPs than less populated ones

# THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: 3

Every five years EU citizens can vote to decide who they want to be represented in the European Parliament.

Parliamentary seats are divided among the individual Member States according to their population, which means that large countries elect more MEPs than small ones. The last European Parliament elections had been held in may 2019.

The right to vote is acquired at 18 in all EU countries, with the exception of Austria and Malta, where they become voters at 16, and Greece, where they can vote at 17.

# WHICH OF THESE STATEMENTS IS TRUE?

1. Each Minister of the Council votes on behalf of his own government.
2. Each EU country chairs the work of the Council in turn for a year.
3. All decisions of the Council must be taken unanimously.





# **The correct answer is :**

# **1**

Ministers are authorized to commit their respective governments to pursue agreed actions during meetings.

If all Member States were to agree unanimously on all decisions, very little would move in the EU. In many areas the ministers decide by majority. It was decided to keep the vote unanimously in some sensitive areas, for example in the area of taxation or security.

## WHICH OF THESE STATEMENTS IS TRUE?

1. The European Council is chaired by a president appointed for two years
2. The European Council meets in Strasbourg once a month
3. The European Council defines the main priorities and general political guidelines of the Union



# THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: 1

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The European Council represents the highest level of political cooperation between EU countries.

EU leaders meet at least twice every 6 months. Their meetings, or "summits", are held in Brussels.

The president of the European Council chairs the meetings.

The president, appointed for a term of two and a half years, may also convene extraordinary meetings of the European Council when necessary.





## WHICH OF THESE STATEMENTS IS TRUE?

1. The Court of Justice is based in Frankfurt
2. If a national judge has doubts about the interpretation of an EU legislative act, it may request clarification from the Court of Justice
3. To simplify their work, the only languages used for all cases handled by the Court of Justice are English, French and German



# THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: 2

The Court of Justice is the highest legal authority in the EU and is based in Luxembourg.

If a national judge is in doubt about the interpretation or validity of a regulation, he can ask the Court for clarification.

The same mechanism can be considered as an operating system. Just as each Member State has its own language and a specific legal system, the Court of Justice is a multilingual institution. His language regime has no equivalent in any other court in the world, as cases can be handled in any official languages of the European Union.



## WHICH OF THESE STATEMENTS IS TRUE?

1. To launch a European citizens' initiative, we need to collect one million signatures in at least seven EU countries
2. Any EU citizen can ask the Commission to propose the creation of a law
3. There are no minimum age requirements to support an initiative

# THE CORRECT ANSWER IS : 1

To initiate such an initiative, one million signatures (or just 0.2% of the EU population) must be reached in at least seven EU countries.

Right2Water, the first European citizens' initiative, collected 1.6 million signatures and led to a proposal for new drinking water regulations.

Currently, to support an initiative, it is necessary to have acquired the right to vote in the European elections in one's own country (minimum age between 16 and 18 years), but the Commission is working to reduce the age to 16 years across the EU .



## HOW OFTEN DOES THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT MEET DURING THE YEAR AND WHERE DO THE MEETINGS ("SESSIONS") TAKE PLACE?

1. 12 SESSIONS IN BRUSSELS, 5 IN STRASBOURG
2. 12 SESSIONS IN STRASBOURG, 5 IN BRUSSELS
3. 12 SESSIONS IN STRASBOURG, 6 IN BRUSSELS




## The correct answer is: 2

The main meetings of the European Parliament, also known as "plenary sessions", are held in Strasbourg, in France, twelve times a year, and in Brussels, Belgium, five times a year.

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The image shows a close-up, low-angle view of several European Union flags flying from tall, silver flagpoles. The flags are blue with a circle of twelve yellow stars. The background is a bright yellow, and the bottom right corner of the slide is white, where the text is located.

## WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS IS TRUE?

1. Commission staff is selected through competitions and is made up of citizens of each of the EU countries.
  2. There is no need to be an EU citizen to work at the European Commission
  3. Before being hired as Commission officials it is mandatory to have a traineeship at the EU
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# THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: 1



Commission officials are selected by competition.

If you think of a professional career in the EU, you could start with a post-graduate internship by submitting a specific application to the relevant institution. However, this is not a necessary requirement to be employed as Commission officials.