

Committees of the European Parliament

Information regarding the different Committees of the European Parliament (the European legislative body) can be found on its [official website](#). Here is a summary of the information.

Such information is useful when you are identifying the relevant decision-makers on your concerns. Keep in mind that the Committees have an **EU-internal and/or EU-external competence**. Their internal competence is applicable to EU territory and their external competence is applicable outside of EU territory.

- Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) [internal]: AFET Committee decides how European funds are to be used to promote the interests and the values of the EU beyond its borders and it determines, through its enlargement process monitoring, the EU's future shape. It issues its opinion on all international agreements that define the EU's role in the world, especially for association and framework agreements concluded with numerous global partners. In addition, the Committee monitors the work of the other European institutions, in particular the work of the European Commission and the European External Action Service.
- Committee on Budgets (BUDG) [internal]: The European Parliament is often called "the budgetary authority" because it votes the EU budgets. BUDG Committee negotiates the future budgets and works on all the elements related to the budgets.
- Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON) [mainly internal]: ECON has the authority to deal with issues related to the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU), to the regulation of financial services, to the free movement of capital and payments, to fiscal and competition policy and to the international financial system.
- Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) [internal]: EMPL Committee is responsible for employment policy and for any matter related to social policy, working conditions, vocational training and free movement of workers and retired persons.
- Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) [mainly internal]: ITRE ensures that the EU legal and economic framework allows European industry to become more innovative. It fosters European small and medium-sized enterprises' development and growth, works toward the establishment of a European digital single market and seeks solutions to ensure European energy security.
- Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) [internal]: IMCO is responsible for matters related to the legislative examination and oversight of EU law regarding the free movement of goods, free movement of services and skilled workers, customs policy, normalization and consumers' economic interests.
- Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN) [internal]: TRAN develops legal provisions in areas of transport, tourism and European postal services.
- Committee on Regional Development (REGI) [internal]: REGI is responsible for regional development and the cohesion policy defined by the treaties. REGI works together with the Council, the European Commission, the Committee of the Regions, the inter-regional cooperation organizations and the local and regional authorities in order to develop the legislative framework of the regional development and the cohesion policy, including the urban dimension.
- Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) [internal]: AGRI is responsible for the following sectors: common agricultural policy (CAP), animal health and welfare, plant health, agricultural product quality, silviculture and agroforestry.

- Committee on Fisheries (PECH) [internal]: PECH is responsible for fishery policy and must reconcile conflicting interests in order to ensure the sustainability of the marine environment, fish stocks, fishers, fishing-related industries and coastal communities.
- Committee on Culture and Education (CULT) [internal]: CULT is responsible for all the matters related to EU cultural matters, dissemination of culture, cultural heritage, linguistic and cultural diversity, including education, audiovisual policy or the cultural and educational aspects of the information society, youth and sports.
- Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) [internal]: LIBE is responsible for legislation and democratic control of justice and home affairs policies. It ensures, within the EU, the respect of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and of the European Convention on Human Rights, as well as the consolidation of European citizenship. LIBE deals with the fight against international crime and terrorism, the protection of fundamental rights, data protection and privacy in the digital age, the fight against discrimination based on race or ethnic background, religion or convictions, disability, age or sexual orientation.
- Commission on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO) [internal]: AFCO assesses the implementation of the innovation of the Lisbon Treaty and uses these assessments to suggest reforms.
- Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI) [external]: As a subcommittee of AFET Committee, DROI is mainly responsible for issues related to human rights, to the protection of minorities and to the promotion of democratic values in countries outside the EU. Each year, the Subcommittee DROI awards the Sakharov Prize to a leading figure or organization defending human rights.
- Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE) [external]: As a subcommittee of AFET Committee, SEDE is responsible for applying the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). CSDP aims to strengthen the EU's involvement in international military and civilian crisis management.
- Committee on Development (DEVE) [external]: DEVE supports and exercises parliamentary control over the use of development assistance. It helps determine the budget that the EU dedicates to this aid and it participates in the preparation of laws in this area. DEVE monitors the actions of the European Commission, the European External Action Service and of those who use the EU aid funds. DEVE regularly calls on officials, stakeholders and experts from around the world in order to discuss solutions and gain information on field issues.
- Committee on International Trade (INTA) [external]: INTA helps define the EU's trade policy and is charged with ensuring that this policy does not violate the EU's democratic values. The work of INTA Committee has, potentially, a huge impact on the field because commercial law and international trade agreements cannot be applied without the European Parliament's agreement.
- Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT) [external and internal]: CONT controls the use of the EU budget's funds (around EUR 130 billion per year). The budget is managed, fundamentally, by the European Commission, which spends 80% of the budget in the Member States and 13% in the rest of the world. The remaining 7% are used for administrative costs. CONT makes sure that the resources are being used properly and that the political goals are achieved. Helped by the European Court of Auditors, CONT oversees the European Anti-Fraud Office and the European Investment Bank.
- Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) [external and internal]: ENVI is responsible for broad political sectors, such as air and water pollution, waste management and biodiversity protection. The fight against climate change is central to the work of ENVI Committee. This issue will be among the priorities of the new term, given the upcoming summits on climate change.

- Committee on Legal Affairs (JURI) [internal and external]: JURI is responsible for intellectual property. During this term, the Committee will look into the reform of the rules governing brands in the EU, business secrets and the future of copyrights, as an extension of its previous works on digital rights management and copyrights in the information society.
- Commission on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM) [internal and external]: FEMM is competent for women's rights and gender equality. FEMM's work focuses mainly on the pay gap, women's economic independence, female poverty, women's under-representation in decision-making, sexual and reproductive health rights, human trafficking and violence against women and girls.
- Committee on Petitions (PETI) [internal and external]: PETI is responsible for the petitions received by the European Parliament. Under the treaties, all European citizens have the right to contact the European Parliament regarding all kinds of issues encountered in their everyday lives, provided the issue falls within the EU's authority.