

# SAFER SPACE PRINCIPPLE - shared rules

Be aware of your own preconceptions and its affect on your actions. Everyone has the right to be encountered and to be treated equally.

Respect everyones personal space. Do not touch without persmission and give everyone the opportunity to share what they are comfortable with.

Create a space, where it is easy for everyone to speak and express themselves.



# JEF-Finland

Better Europe for the Young

- founded in 1997
- activity is open for all the youth between 15-28
- the meaning of the organization is to function independently from religion or political parties
- we increase information about European union and its impacts
- we function as a discussion platform and as an influencer canal for the youth interested in Europerelated context







### **EUROPEAN UNION**







#### EUROPEAN UNION

EU IS A UNION OF STATES



There are 27 member states, from which United Kingdom voted in favor for withdrawal in 2016



The population of EU is 446 million and it is around 6% of the population in the whole world.

GDP (gross national product): 15 300 mjrd. EUR (2017), one of the biggest with China and the USA



In the EU there are 24 official languages spoken and all official documents are translated to all these languages



Finland joined the European Union in 1995



European union is a peace project.

The goal is to improve peace, the values of the union and the well-being of its citizens.

#### The fundamental EU values:

- Human dignity
   Equality
- Freedom
- Rule of law
- Democracy
   Human rights





A EU history related video published by the European Commission, 4min <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8r-NWCzMX9w">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8r-NWCzMX9w</a>

Find answers to these questions from the video:

Why was EU founded?
What are the 4 basic freedoms of the EU?
What different fields of cooperation are mentioned in the video?

# HOW DOES THE EU APPEAR IN YOUR LIFE?

## **SCHENGEN-ALUE** Nykyiset jäsenvaltiot: ■ EU-maa Ei EU-maa EU-maa Schengenin ulkopuolella Schengen-ehdokasmaa (EU) Lähteet: Euroopan parlamentti, Euroopan komissio



#### **EU INSTITUTIONS**



**European Commission** 



European Council
Council of the European
Union



**European parliament** 



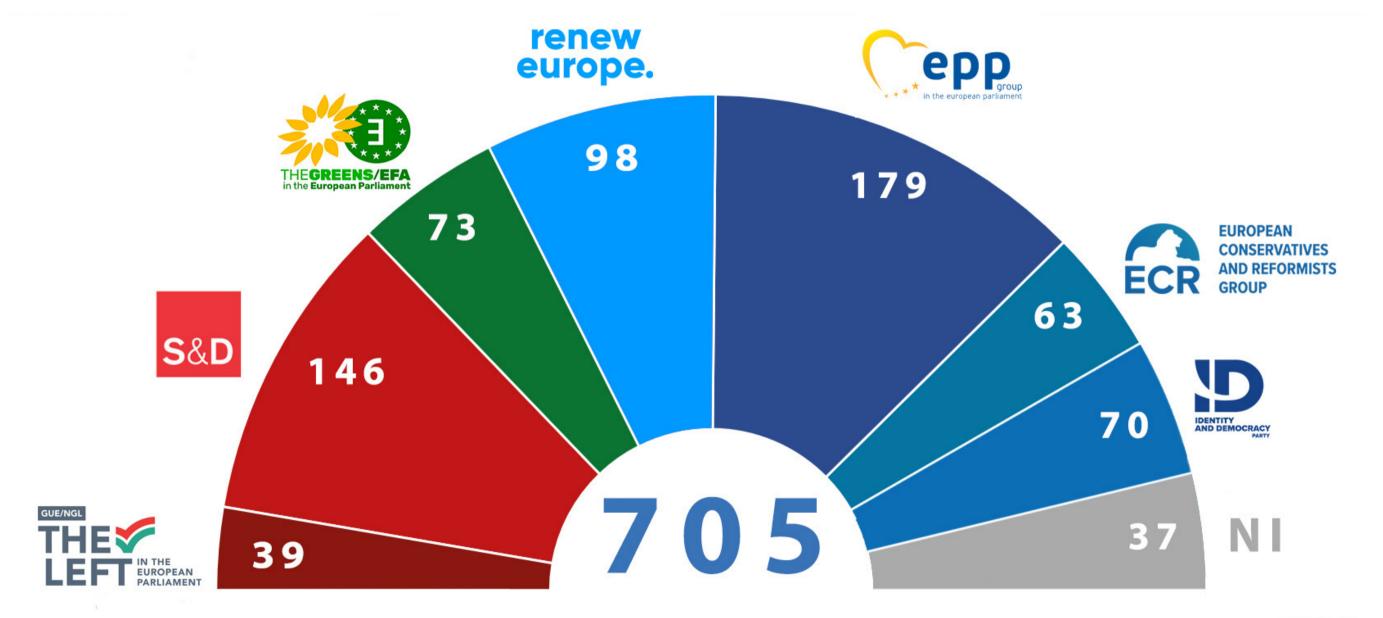
#### **PARLIAMENT**

- 705 members of the parliament
- they represent the EU-citizens
- over 18-years-old are able to vote
- next election in may 2024
- plenary session = meeting of the parliament
- makes decisions related to EU legislation in cooperation with the Council
- approves the EU budget
- Finland 14 MEPs
- Italy 76 MEPs



https://www.europarl.europa.eu/finland/media/static/images/Rakennukset/suomalaismepit-050220.png









#### https://www.maaseuduntulevaisuus.fi/politiikka/artikkeli-1.1145173

#### THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

- = summit meeting
- The heads of state of the EU member states gather to decide on the Union's central policies
- political guidance and leadership at the highest level
- NO legislative power

#### THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

- = Council of Ministers
- the responsible ministers negotiate the positions of the member states on the legislation
- legislate the laws together with Parliament
- rotating presidency (Finland was 2019)



# THE EUROPEAN COMISSION

- 27 commissioner
- the parliament elects the commission
- initiates the legislative process and proposes new programs based on the general interest of the EU
- the executive body of the EU
- manages the EU's politicians and budget, and ensures that Member States apply EU legislation correctly



## Separation of Powers



**European Parliament** 



**European Commission** 



Court of Justice of the European Union

legislative power

executive power

jurisdiction

# More than the sum of its parts

- The EU has faced big challenges in recent years, but was able to meet them through cooperation
- the cooperation deepened during the pandemic was put to the test in the spring of 2022 after Russia attacked Ukraine
- The EU and other western countries have cooperated in imposing sanctions on Russia and supporting Ukraine
- The EU aims to secure peace in Europe, as it has done for decades

