



The EU is delivering on:

Democracy

EU Values and democratic rules

Democracy is a key European value.

The EU is committed to **upholding democratic principles and the fundamental values** that unite us. The European Union has worked hard in the current legislative period to **preserve and advance democracy** within the EU and on the global stage.

Key legislative highlights this term:

Media Freedom and Pluralism

- [Media Freedom Act](#)

The EU has adopted new rules to oblige member states to ensure media pluralism and **protect media independence from governmental, political, economic or private interference.**

Defence of Democracy

- [Rule of Law Conditionality](#)

A new regulation was adopted allows the **EU to stop payments from its budget to countries that violate fundamental democratic principles.**

Fundamental and Equal Rights

- [Women on boards](#)

By the end of June 2026, companies with more than 249 employees are required to ensure a **minimum of 40% non-executive directors are women.**

- [Equal Pay](#)

To address the gender pay gap, new rules make companies **share salary info and let workers see what others in their job category earn.** They can also seek **compensation** if they face pay discrimination.

-> also see "Economic and Social Recovery"

Electoral and Institutional Reform

- [EP Reform](#)

Parliament changed its rules to fight corruption. Now, MEPs have to say **who they meet from interest groups and other countries.**

Ask your friends and family: Is the EU is doing enough to address their worries about democracy? What would they like to see implemented?

They should **vote in June 2024** to express their choice and make sure their concerns are represented in the European Parliament.