

Project

## **EUROPEAN ELECTIONS AND THE FUTURE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**

### **Period of realization:**

1 March - 1 June 2019

### **Expected results:**

- A two-day conference expected to be held on May 15
- A compilation of researchers' papers
- A summary of the research to be submitted to state institutions and other interested stake holders
- Researchers' media appearances

### **Explanation:**

From 23 to 26 May this year the elections for a new European Parliament will be held. These are the first elections that will be held without the United Kingdom. The five-year period, that is, from the previous elections, marked a series of radical challenges and crises such as the immigration crisis, the rise of the radical right-wing, the rise of Euroscepticism, the radical shift in the countries of the Visegrad Group, worsened relations with Russia and mutual sanctions after 2014, etc.

Within few countries (France, Germany, Italy) there have been radical changes in party systems, where some traditional parties have lost power and popularity, and some new ones have come in their place.

There was also an increased resistance to the idea of enlargement.

It is expected that all these tendencies will be reflected during the campaign period and mapped into the new convocation of the European Parliament. In addition, it is expected that the distribution of seats will be different: it will be interesting to see where the current parts of the group of European Conservatives and Reformists will be aligned after the departure of Tories, whether Fidesz will remain in the EPP and what will the radical-right wing block look like. Finally, will the EPP succeed in retaining its decades-long domination and form the next Commission.

## Objectives:

- Analysis of the election cycle
- Monitoring of dominant topics in elections
- Monitoring the treatment of the EU enlargement topic
- Anticipating the future framework of the EU's foreign policy

## Researchers and topics:

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