



Political participation of mobile EU citizens

Facts, insights and promising practices from case studies

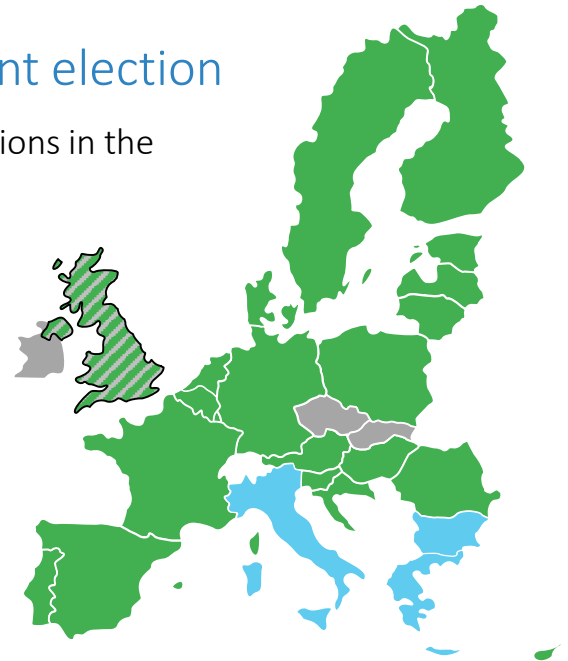
Voting in European Parliament election

EU citizens have the right to vote in European Parliament elections in the **Member State where they reside**

Only EU citizen of one of these Member States can vote for European Parliament elections for their home country from **anywhere abroad** or from **another EU Member State**:

Citizens from Member States in grey are not guaranteed voting rights for EP elections from abroad | UK participation in forthcoming EP elections is uncertain

Citizens of one of these Member States may lose their right to vote at European elections from abroad after living abroad for a period of time

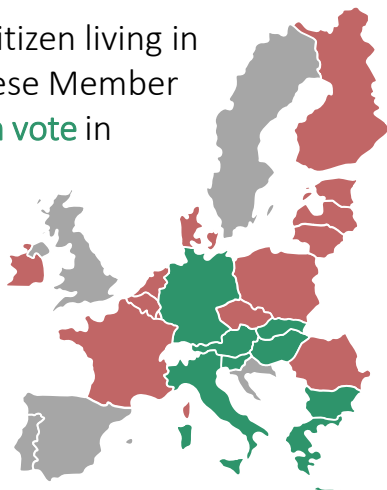


Voting rights of mobile EU citizens in municipal elections

EU citizens have the right to vote in municipal elections in the **Member State where they reside**

Only EU citizen living in one of these Member States **can vote** in **mayoral elections**

(Member States in grey do not hold direct mayoral elections)



In some Member States, there are **further conditions and restrictions** in order to participate at local mayoral elections:



Minimum length of previous residence



Knowledge of local language







Some municipalities excluded




Challenges facing mobile EU citizens' political participation

Mobile EU citizens may face a number of **challenges** in effectively exercising their right to vote, such as:

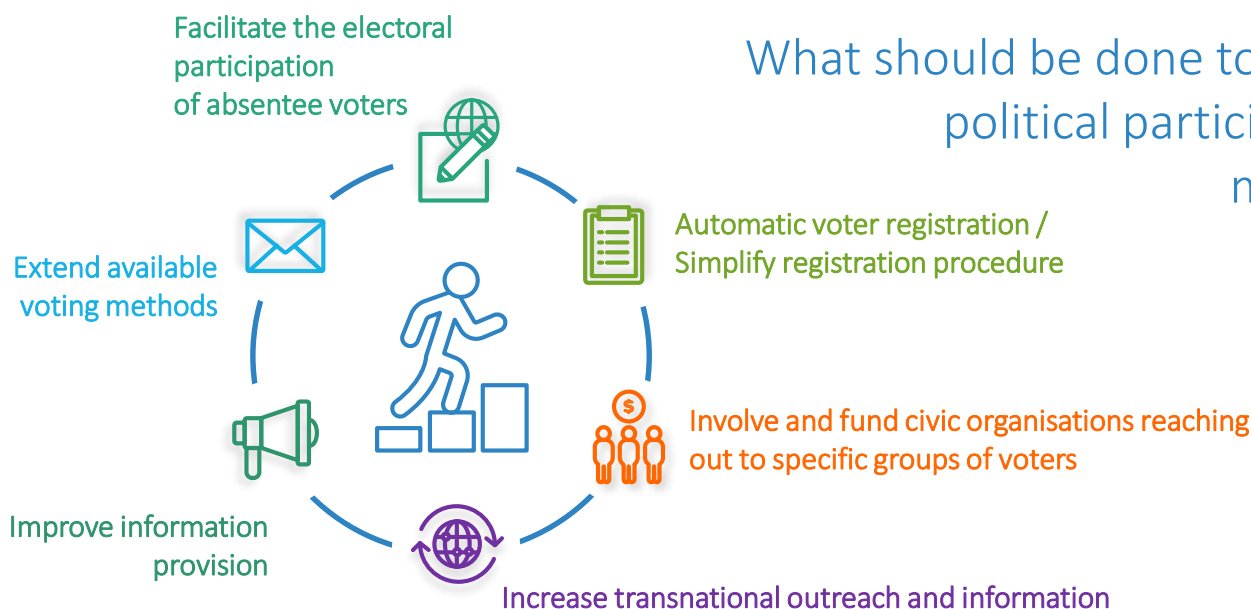
But there are also some **promising practices** aimed at facilitating the right to vote of mobile EU citizens:

-  Lack of clarity/ limited information on registration deadlines
-  Limited/differing degrees of involvement and coordination between municipalities
-  Information is provided in a limited number of languages
-  Non-automatic and/or *ad-hoc* voter registration



-  Online information on voting rights and registration procedures
-  NGO involvement and grassroots mobilisation
-  Concurrent organisation of municipal and EP elections

What should be done to improve political participation of mobile EU citizens?



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Sources cited:

- O. Garner, M. Haag, A. Ostling & R. Bauböck (2018), "Political Participation of mobile EU citizens: Insights from pilot studies on Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland and Poland", *EU-CITIZEN Network Type B report*, Florence, GLOBALCIT/European University Institute;
- GLOBALCIT (2017), "Conditions for Electoral Rights 2017", Florence, GLOBALCIT/European University Institute, <http://globalcit.eu/conditions-for-electoral-rights/>.



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