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Plurality of European political parties is essential for democracy

Press release from EFA MEP François Alfonsi

EFA MEP **François Alfonsi** has welcomed today's vote in the European Parliament regarding the statute and funding of European political parties and foundations.

European political parties are transnational political parties which are active across Europe, bringing together political forces which share common ideological values. They have a legal basis at EU level and are eligible for funding.

The European parliament has debated and adopted its proposals for the future of European political parties. Whilst there was a broad consensus overall, a controversial proposals for a purely votes-based distribution of funds was rejected.

Commenting on the outcome of the vote, **François Alfonsi MEP** said:

"The plurality of European political parties and foundations is essential to European democracy. Their funding must be guaranteed and must not be jeopardised by new regulations, which would make small parties in coalitions more vulnerable."

Speaking in the earlier debate, **François Alfonsi** said:

"Active political parties are an essential pillar of European democracy. Beyond the electoral cycle they are vital for encouraging political debate and helping citizens make an informed choice."

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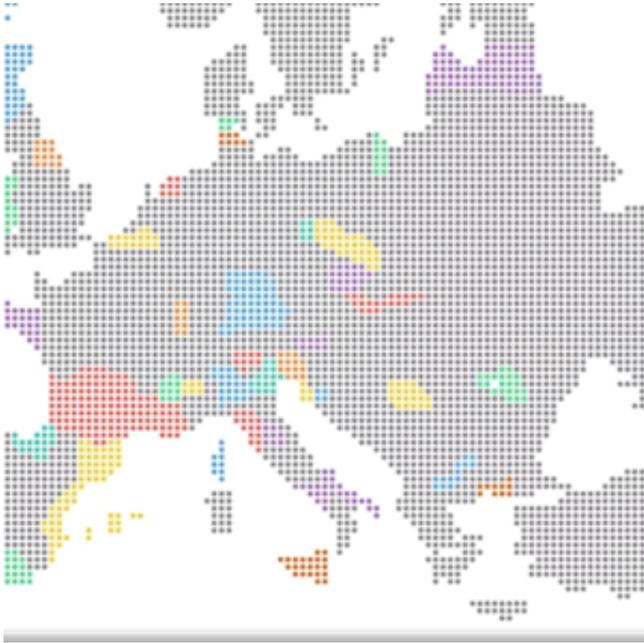
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