

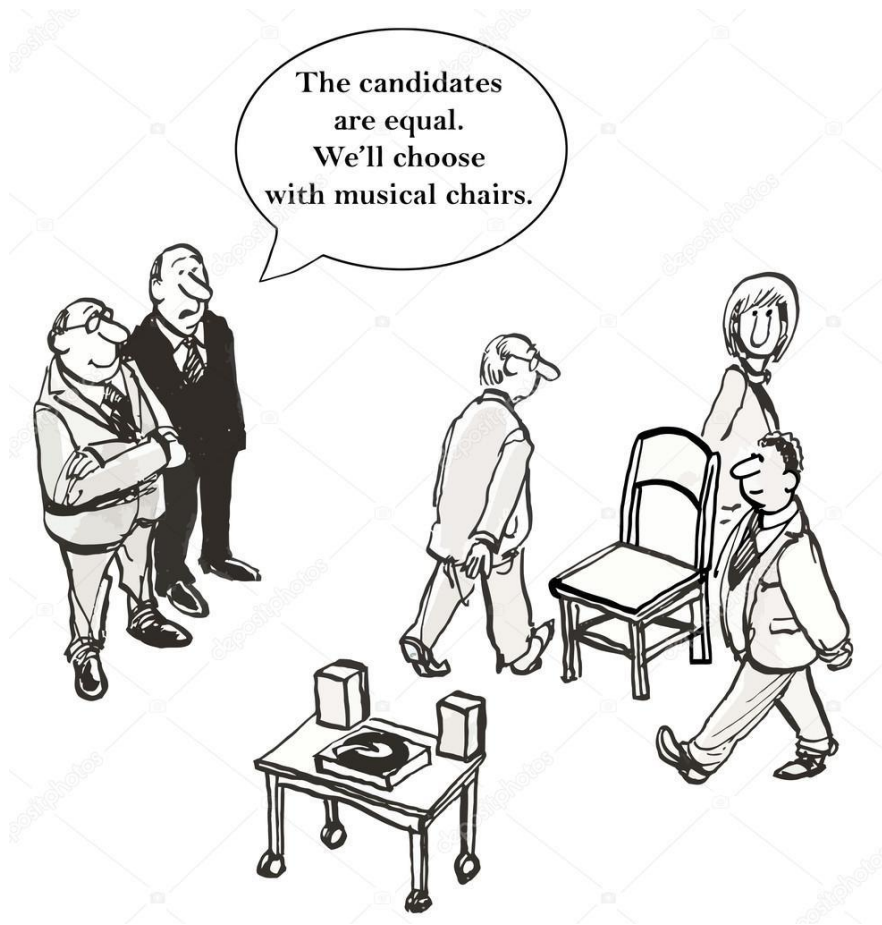


# THE FUTURE OF THE RETAIL REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY IN THE FACE OF EUROPEAN ELECTIONS AND POLICY CHANGES

**Joost Koomen**

Head of European Public Affairs  
ICSC Europe

# What is at stake? 2019, the year of EU Musical Chairs!





# What is at stake? 2019, the year of EU Musical Chairs!



# What's going to happen?

## Key moments

2019

**Presidential Debate in the Brussels chamber**

15 May

**European Elections**

23-26 May

**Elected candidates negotiate to form political groups for the upcoming Parliament's 9<sup>th</sup> term**

June

**European Council Summit**

20-21 June

**Political groups notify their composition**

24 June

**End of Parliament's 8<sup>th</sup> term**

1 July

**Inaugural plenary session of the newly-elected Parliament**

2 July

**First opportunity for the Parliament to elect European Commission President**

July II plenary session\*

**Hearings of Commissioners-designate in Parliamentary committees**

September and October\*

**New Commission is elected, new Commission President gives inaugural speech**

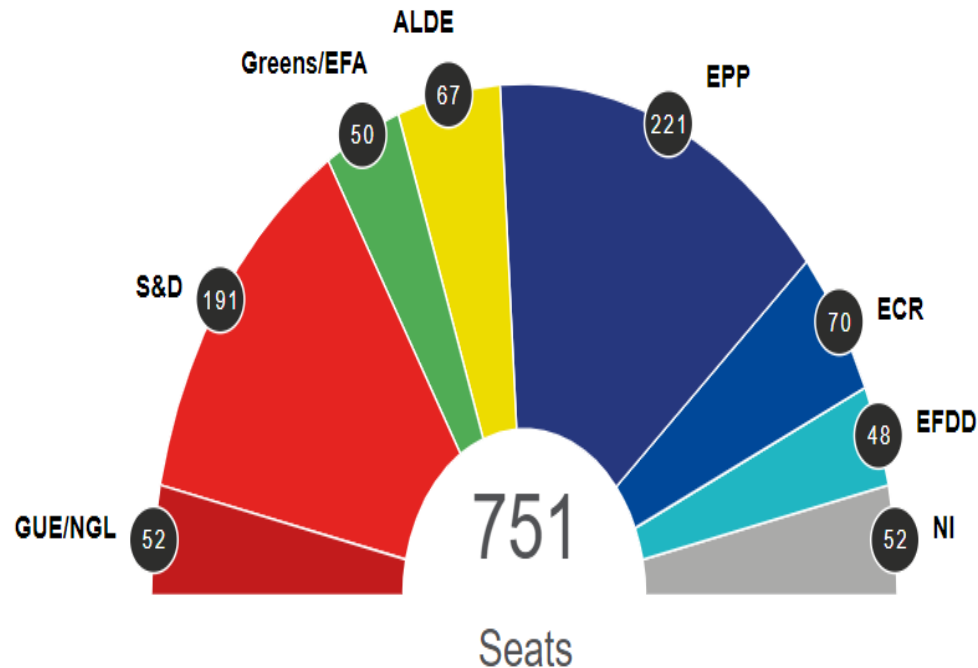
October II plenary session\*

*\* Based on the timeline at the start of the 8<sup>th</sup> term*

# What happened in the EU elections?

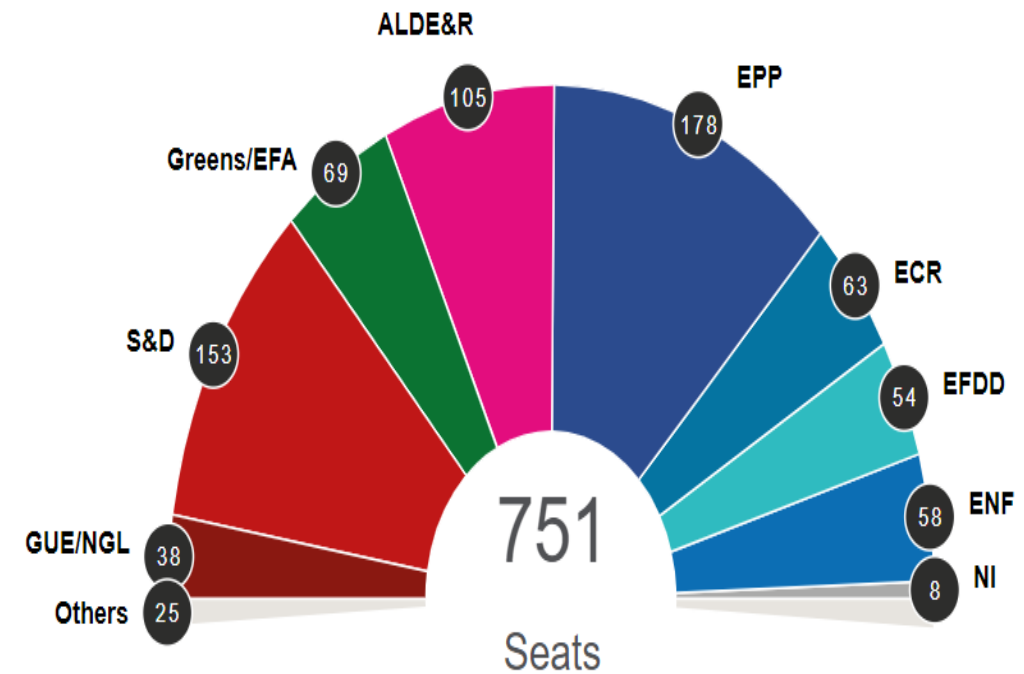
European Parliament: 2014-2019

Constitutive session



European Parliament: 2019-2024

Provisional results

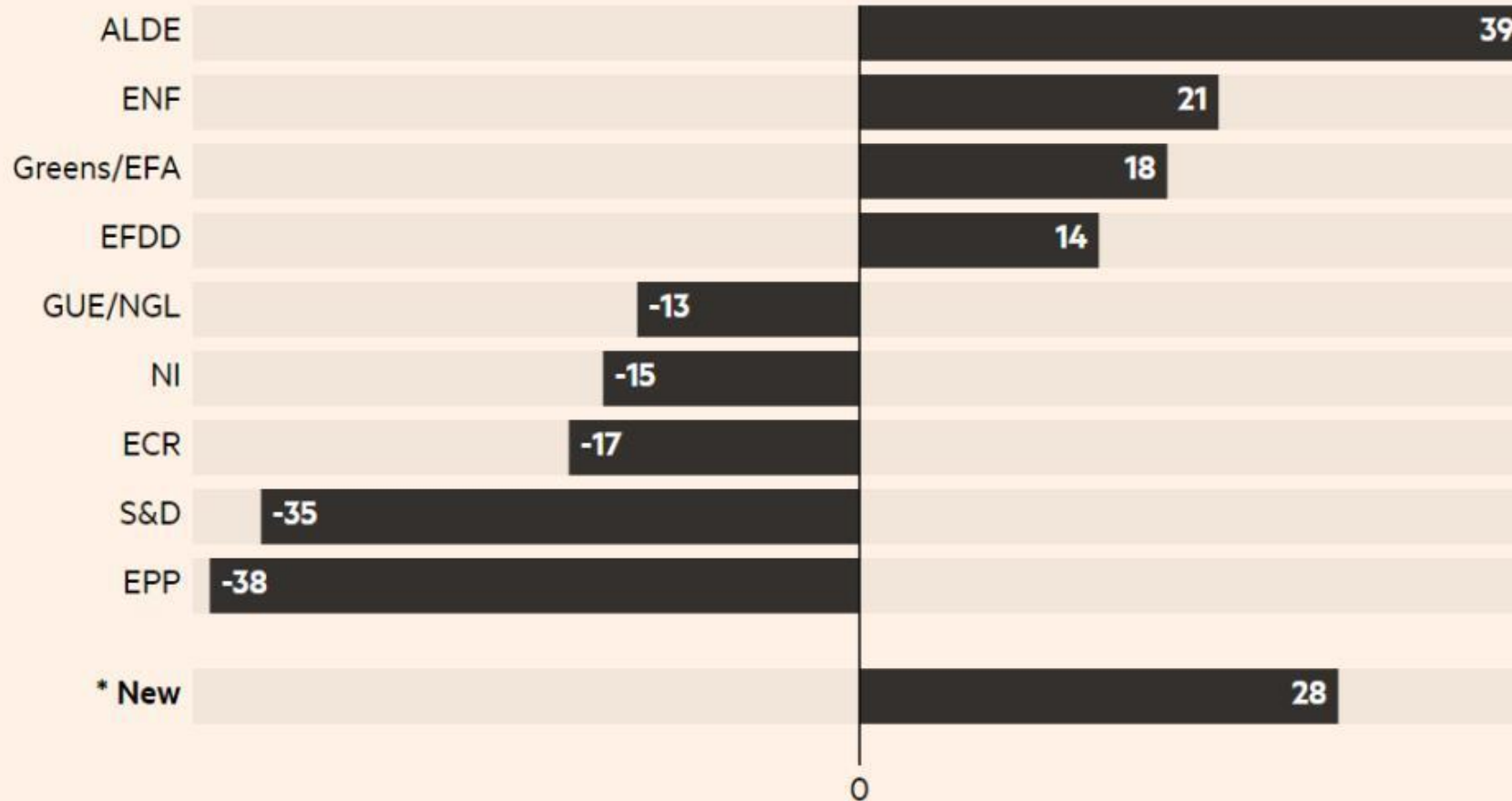


**Turnout: 50,97%**  
**Highest since 1994**

# Who won?

## Net change in seats

Compared to outgoing parliament, 28 of 28 countries reported







# What does this all mean?

- Liberal, Green and Eurosceptic/anti-EU parties biggest winners
- End of the Grand Coalition between the centre-right EPP group and centre-left S&D group
- EP more pluralistic or more fragmented
- 3 political groups needed to form a majority
- *Spitzenkandidates*? Yes, but uuhmm maybe not.....
- Decision by 21 June?
- Currently all EU top jobs held by the EPP group, that will in any case change!

# Brexit?



- EP from 751 to 705 seats
- Biggest losers will be the Liberals and Greens, biggest winner the EPP
- Post-Brexit, 353 MEPs needed for a majority. Currently 376
- If it happens....



# What to be expected from the EU in the coming 5 years?



# And what could it mean for EU policies relevant to our sector?

## EU Retail Establishment policy

- EU guidelines post the Visser ruling?
- Better application Services Directive?
- Bigger focus by EU on retail sector?

## Climate change/Sustainability

- EU adopted very tough 2030 targets
- New Energy Efficiency Directive and Energy Performance of Buildings Directive
- Buildings sector accounts for 40% of the EU's total energy consumption & 36% of total greenhouse gas emissions

## Level-playing field

- Digital taxation?  
Average EU rate for brick & mortar 23%, for e-commerce 10%
- Competition policy remedies?
- EU omni-channel policies?

And remember..



IF YOU AREN'T AT THE TABLE  
you are probably on the menu.



# Thank You !



[www.icsc.org](http://www.icsc.org)  
[jkoomen@icsc.org](mailto:jkoomen@icsc.org)