



European Elections 2019

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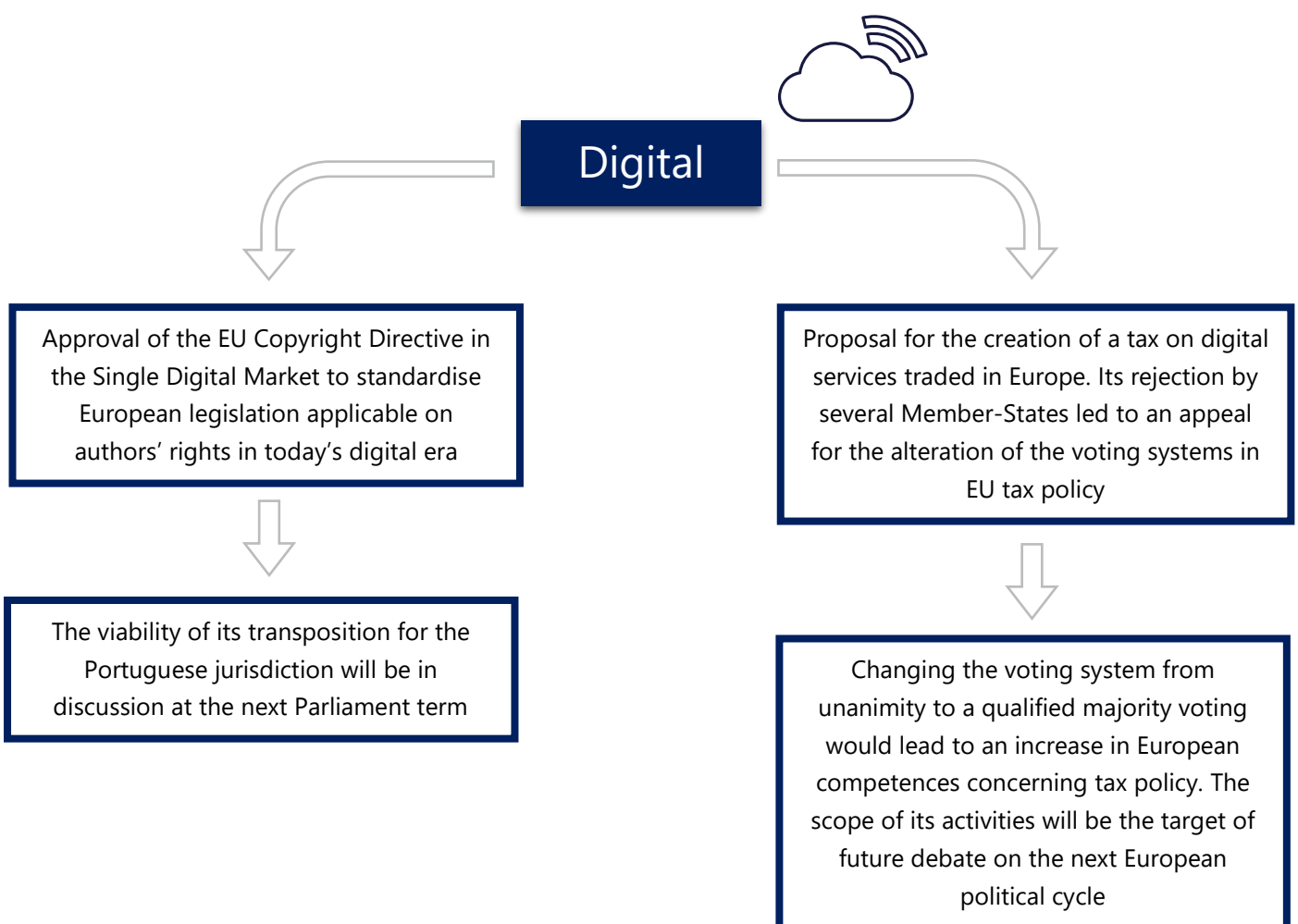
*In the Report “European Elections 2019”, **Political Intelligence Lisboa** assembles and analyses key political data on the next European Elections and Portuguese Electoral Landscape*

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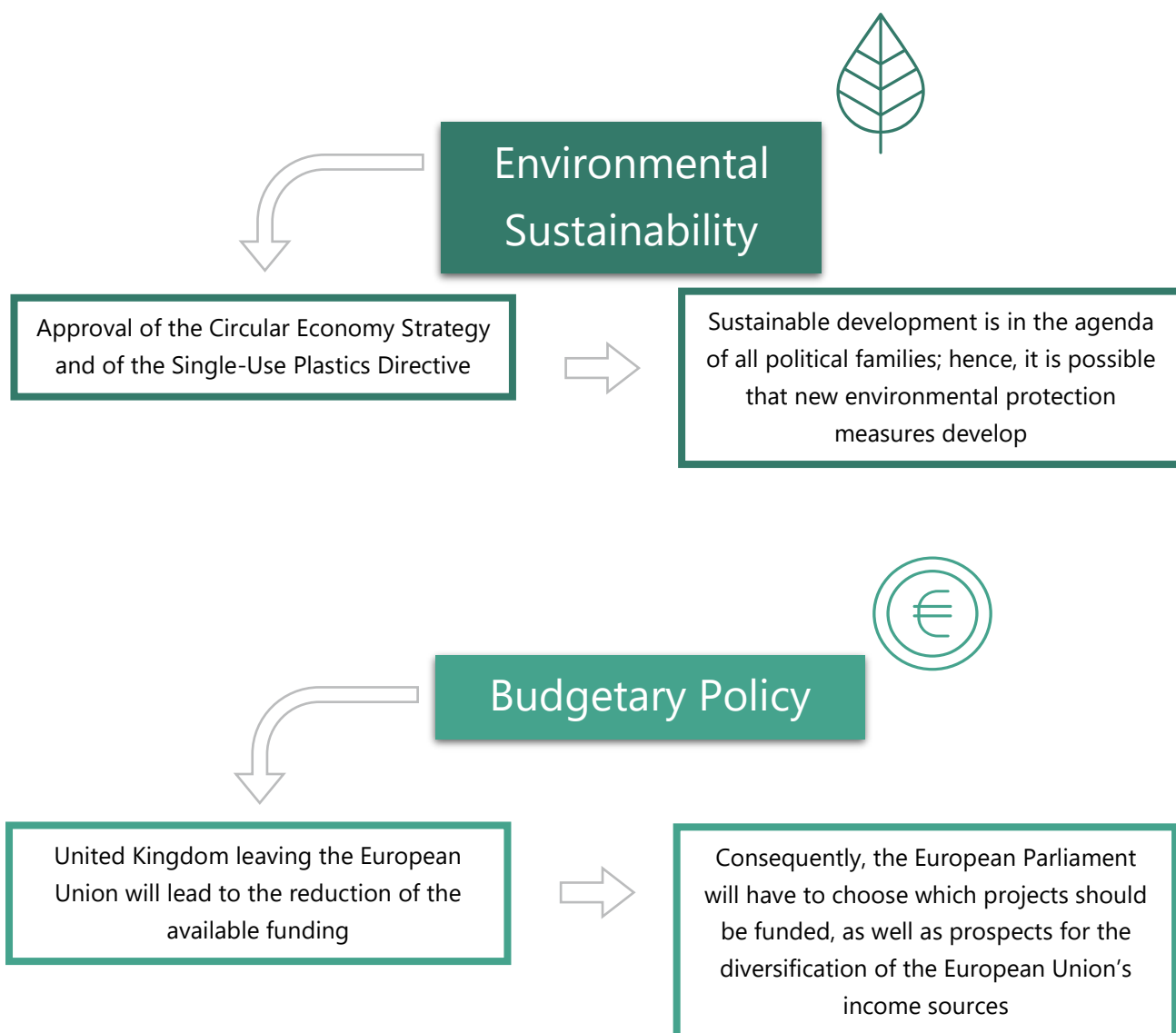
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1. EUROPEAN ELECTIONS SETTING

The last term of the European Parliament (2014-2019) was marked by several decisive moments, with repercussions on the next political cycle, namely on digital, environmental sustainability and budgetary policy subjects.



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2. EUROPEAN POLITICAL FAMILIES

The European Parliament is composed by 751 MEPs. In a post-Brexit scenario, it would be composed by 705 MEPs, organized in 8 political families.

Group of the European People's Party



- Most influent group within the European Parliament, composed by centre-right MEPs.
- The Group supports the deepening of european integration and the attribution of more decision-making competences at the European level, favoring the alteration of the voting system from unanimity to qualified majority in particular topics.
- However, said integration mustn't overpower the subsidiarity and proportionality principles.

Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats



- Includes MEPs of center-left parties.
- The creation of a new redistributive economic model, solidary and sustainable, is among the group's priorities.
- Promotes the increase in public participation in the decision-making process.

European Conservatives and Reformists Group



- Supports the continuity of the European Union, but claims profound reforms.
- The Group is opposed to a single currency and to the development of a federal Europe, striving for greater economic liberalisation.

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Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe



- The Group believes in the virtue of the European project and in the need to answer challenges common to all States, such as climate changes, terrorism and globalization.
- Supports EU enlargement, deepening of the single market, and the promotion of citizens' participation in the European project.

Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left



- Considers that EU has been dominated by a market driven vision, both in its relation with State-Members, as well as in its interactions with third countries.
- Proposes the deepening of European integration, in order to foster the social features of the European project.

Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy Group



- Opposes European integration, as it would lead to a democratic deficit and aggravate the European Union's bureaucratisation.
- Intends to remove all obstacles to citizens' knowledge of what is going on at the European level.

Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance



- Group whose focus is on environmental protection and the development of a sustainable economic model.
- In that sense, it defends the creation of an environmental taxing system and an increase in transparency of the processes which lead to the approval of herbicides and GMOs.

Europe of Nations and Freedom Group



- Eurosceptic party, focused on preserving the identity of the Nation-States and limiting the interaction between States to cooperation on particular subjects.
- Rejects the transference of national competences to supranational bodies.

3. PORTUGUESE ELECTORAL LANDSCAPE

The 2019 European Parliamentary Elections, also designated as European Elections, are scheduled for May 26th, in which 21 Portuguese MEPs will be elected for a period of five years. Candidates from 17 Portuguese political parties will try to secure a place in the European Parliament and, besides those with parliamentary seats, i.e., PSD, PS, CDS-PP, BE, PCP and PAN, one should highlight the debut of the party Aliança, led by Pedro Santana Lopes.

There is uncertainty regarding the total of members to elect for the European Parliament – with Brexit, one predicts the election of 705 MEPs. If, however, Brexit is not announced before European Election, British MEPs ought to be elected. If UK leaves until October 31st, it will be necessary to elect British MEPs, which will raise issues on the level European Member-States proportional representation.

Political Intelligence will elaborate on the Electoral Manifestos of the following parties, encompassing several of the existent political ideologies – PS, PSD, BE, CDS-PP and Aliança.

According to poll¹ conducted between March 30th and April 1st, voting intentions give the lead to PS, with 33,6%, followed by PSD, with 31,1%, and PCP, with 9,4%. At the end there is BE, with 8%, and CDS-PP, with 6,8%. The newcomer Aliança matches PAN's voting intentions, with 1,3%.

¹ Aximage poll, elaborated for Correio da Manhã and Jornal de Negócios

4. PORTUGUESE POLITICAL PARTIES MANIFESTOS



Candidates:

Pedro Marques

(Head of the Party List)



Maria Manuel Leitão

Marques

Pedro Silva Pereira

Margarida Marques

André Bradford

Sara Cerdas

- Claiming that the Portuguese right-wing political family is the same which now imposes austerity policies at the European level, PS, which participates in the European Elections since 1987 and in historical terms leads in the number of MEPs elected, proposes a reformist project for the European Union whose pillars are: innovation, sustainability and solidarity. PS integrates the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats.
- PS Electoral Manifesto Guidelines:
 - 1) Strengthen the Social Rights European Pillar, to combat inequalities;
 - 2) Elaboration of a European Plan of Housing Policies to promote the right to dignified housing at accessible prices;
 - 3) Promotion of fiscal justice at the European level, combating evasion and unfair competition;
 - 4) Concluding the Creation of the Economic and Monetary Union and Banking Union through a Euro Zone autonomous budget;
 - 5) Development of a new European strategy of growth and sustainable development, as well as the implementation of a European Fund for Environmental Transition;
 - 6) Investment in R&D, technological modernization and human resources qualification;
 - 7) Ensure the democratic integrity of the European electoral process.



Candidates:

Paulo Rangel

(Head of the Party List)



Lídia Pereira

José Manuel Fernandes

Graça Carvalho

Álvaro Amado

Cláudia Aguiar

- In its manifesto, PSD proclaims a pro-European identity, advocating for liberal democracy, the social European model and market economy. Such are the values cherished by the Group of the European People's Party, to which PSD belongs. Participating in the European Elections since 1987, it is the second Portuguese political party with the most elected MEPs.
- PSD Electoral Manifesto Guidelines:
 - 1) Developing of a Common Strategy for Natality, with the adoption of policies in the social European pillar on health, social security and education;
 - 2) Rejecting of any cuts to the Cohesion Funds and to the Common Agricultural Policy;
 - 3) Boosting the global transition to a Zero Carbon Society though the replacement of fossil fuels for electricity and renewable energy;
 - 4) Investing in "blue economy", aiming to increase the competitiveness and the sustainability of all associated sectors;
 - 5) Promoting Portugal as a multi-platform connectivity centre in Transeuropean Networks, increasing the investment in railroads and aviation;
 - 6) Supporting entrepreneurship, start-ups and SMEs, parallel to a development strategy of the 4.0 industry;
 - 7) Consolidating Economic and Monetary Union, endowing the European Union of an autonomous budget and finishing the creation of the Banking Union via the creation of a Deposit Security European Safety;
 - 8) Rejecting all European taxes and maintenance of unanimity vote in tax policy;
 - 9) Development of a strategic relation with Atlantic countries.



Candidates:

Marisa Matias

(Head of the Party List)



José Gusmão

Sérgio Aires

Anabela Rodrigues

Alexandre Abreu

Ana Rute Marcelino

- Bloco de Esquerda participates in the European Elections since 1999, when it was founded. Assuming a Eurosceptic view in its manifesto, the party considers Brexit and the rise of the far-right political phenomena a direct consequence of the liberal consensus and unequal integration. In that sense, its manifesto defends an increase in State sovereignty and resources redistribution, advocating, exactly as the Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left, the reinforcement of European project's social pillar.
- BE Electoral Manifesto Guidelines:
 - 1) Revoking of the Budgetary Treaty and of the Stability and Growth Pact for equivalent international trade among countries;
 - 2) Rejecting the conditionality principle (implementation of programmatic measures to have access to European policies);
 - 3) Increasing communitarian budget, directed at European solidarity and financed equitably among the Member-States;
 - 4) Negative definition of the Central European Bank duties, limiting its intervention on economic policies outside of its mandate;
 - 5) Embargo on weapon trade and acquisition of fossil fuels in territories occupied by terrorist groups;
 - 6) Evaluation of the environmental impact of the European public policies;
 - 7) Reaching an agreement on the implementation of minimum labour conditions at the European scale;
 - 8) Imposing digital taxes on European companies;
 - 9) Defending internet neutrality and measures to combat misinformation.



Candidates:

Nuno Melo

(Head of the Party List)



Luís Pedro Mota Soares

Raquel Vaz Pinto

Vasco Weinberg

- The Popular Party sustains the Portuguese integration in European Union, considering its presence in the bloc strategic for the country. Having always elected a MEP since 1987, CDS-PP is a pro-European party despite rejecting federalism and measures which consequently increase taxes and decrease national sovereignty. Like PSD, CDS-PP's MEPs belong to the Group of the European People's Party.
- CDS-PP Electoral Manifesto Guidelines:
 - 1) Rejecting European taxes;
 - 2) Rejecting inequalities on the distribution of the CAP;
 - 3) Strengthening cohesion policies;
 - 4) Placing European Agency for Civil Protection headquarters in Portugal;
 - 5) Reinforcing cybersecurity;
 - 6) Subsidies for the Portuguese "blue economy";
 - 7) Promoting technological modernization of businesses and public administrations;
 - 8) Measures to promote demographic growth at the national and European level;
 - 9) Brexit must occur in a way which safeguards Portuguese citizens' interests which live and work in UK;
 - 10) Creation of a European Defence Fund, regardless of Portugal's membership in NATO.



Candidates:

Paulo Almeida Sande
(Head of the Party List)



Maria João Moreira
Bruno Ferreira da Costa
Daniela Antão
João Gonçalves
Paula Pacheco

- Founded in October 2018, the party Aliança, led by the former PSD Prime-Minister, Pedro Santana Lopes, is the newest addition to the European Elections. Having as guiding principles "personalism", "liberalism" and "solidarity", its manifesto is clearly pro-European, with measures which seek to reinforce Portuguese presence in Europe and allow for budgetary equilibrium.
- Aliança Electoral Manifesto Guidelines:
 - 1) Revising criteria for the attribution of structural funds, in order to guarantee the fulfilment of the established goals and the control of its use;
 - 2) Increasing cohesion funds, to bolster the most specialized and competitive sectors in each country;
 - 3) Developing information and mechanisms for companies, creating opportunities for EU businesses to benefit from the EU's trade deals;
 - 4) Increasing citizens' participation in the decision-making process through a mandate from the Parliament;
 - 5) "Red Card" to immediately terminate a legislative initiative from the Commission;
 - 6) Electronic voting elections;
 - 7) Revising European obligations regarding environment and sustainability issues;
 - 8) Monthly visits to Portuguese communities around the world;
 - 9) The Portuguese Speaking Countries Community should be attributed competences to monitor and influence European policies which impact the Community's countries.

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1. EUROPEAN ELECTIONS HOT TOPICS

	<i>PS</i>	<i>PSD</i>	<i>Bloco de Esquerda</i>	<i>CDS-PP</i>	<i>Aliança</i>
<u>European Integration</u>	Deepening of the integration in the European Union.	Deepening of the Single Market.	Euroscepticism.	Portugal should remain in the European project.	Portugal should remain in the European project.
<u>Budgetary Police</u>	Concluding the creation of the Economic and Monetary Union, endowing the EU of autonomous budget.	Concluding the creation Economic and Monetary Union, endowing the EU of autonomous budget. Finish the Banking Union and create a European Deposit Security System.	Revoking the Budgetary Treaty.	Rejecting of taxes at the European level. Strengthening of Cohesion Funds.	Strengthening of Cohesion Funds and revision of the criteria to attribute them.
<u>Digital Economy</u>	Promoting of taxes at the European level. Creation of a European Strategy for the Digital Revolution.	Promoting digital literacy and professional requalification. Single Digital Market and the development of Artificial Intelligence.	Promoting of taxes at the European level. Combating misinformation and supporting internet neutrality.	Rejecting digital taxes.	Digital voting elections

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<u>Sustainability and Environment</u>	Creating a European Fund for Environmental Transition. New European strategy for sustainable growth and development.	Transition for a zero-carbon society, emphasising energetic efficiency and circular economy. Investment in “blue economy”, increasing the competitiveness and sustainability of the sectors.	Impact evaluation of European policies.	Reinforcing Common Agricultural Policy.	Revising Circular Economy’s policies.
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