

Press release – Parliament elects the von der Leyen Commission



In a roll call vote that took place at noon on Wednesday, MEPs approved [the new College of Commissioners](#) with 461 votes in favour, 157 against and 89 abstentions.

During her opening statement, European Commission President-elect Ursula von der Leyen reiterated many of the [commitments](#) she made in Parliament's plenary chamber in July, and [by the Commissioners-designate](#) during the [hearings process](#). She highlighted that appropriate investment and regulatory frameworks will be put into place for Europe to lead the way internationally on a range of critical issues: environmental protection and climate change, growth, inclusion, innovation and digitalisation, as well as the protection of democracy, European values, citizens' rights and the rule of law. She also confirmed one more portfolio change that Parliament had requested following the hearings, which established the candidates' suitability for the role and for the College of Commissioners.

Before the election at noon, political groups held brief meetings to decide on their voting intentions, which were followed by statements from their leaders in plenary. You can watch recordings from the plenary debate and the vote by clicking on the following links:

[Presentation by the Commission President-elect of the College of](#)

[Commissioners and their programme: statement by Ursula von der LEYEN, President-elect of the EC](#)

[Presentation by the Commission President-elect of the College of Commissioners and their programme: one round of political group leaders](#)

[Presentation by the Commission President-elect of the College of Commissioners and their programme: MEPs debate – Part 1](#)

[Presentation by the Commission President-elect of the College of Commissioners and their programme: MEPs debate – Part 2](#)

[Presentation by the Commission President-elect of the College of Commissioners and their programme: MEPs debate and Catch the eye – Part 3](#)

Background

Female representation in the Commission is the highest it has ever been: in addition to the President-elect, the current composition of the Commission comprises 11 female members and 15 male members.

Results of previous Commission investiture votes:

- 22.10.2014 Jean-Claude Juncker 423 votes in favour – 209 against – 67 abstentions (total number of MEPs 751)
- 09.02.2010 José Manuel Barroso 488-137-72 (total number of MEPs – 736)
- 18.11.2004 José Manuel Barroso 478-84-98 (total number of MEPs – 732)
- 15.09.1999 Romano Prodi 510-51-28 (total number of MEPs – 626)
- 18.01.1995 Jacques Santer 417-104-59 (total number of MEPs – 626)

Next steps

The new Commission needs to be formally appointed by EU heads of state or government. Its five-year term is expected to start on 1 December.