

## Results of the 3rd Round of European HomeParliaments by Pulse of Europe: “The future of European solidarity”

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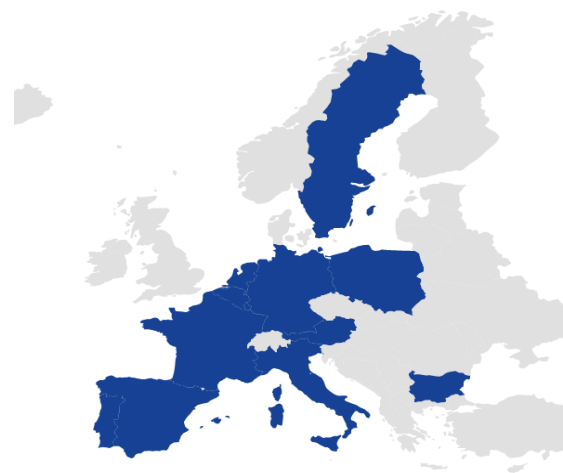
Dear participants, dear politicians,

Thanks to the support of EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and 30 dedicated EU politicians, Pulse of Europe succeeded during this round of European HomeParliaments **in implementing innovations for the participation of citizens in EU politics.**

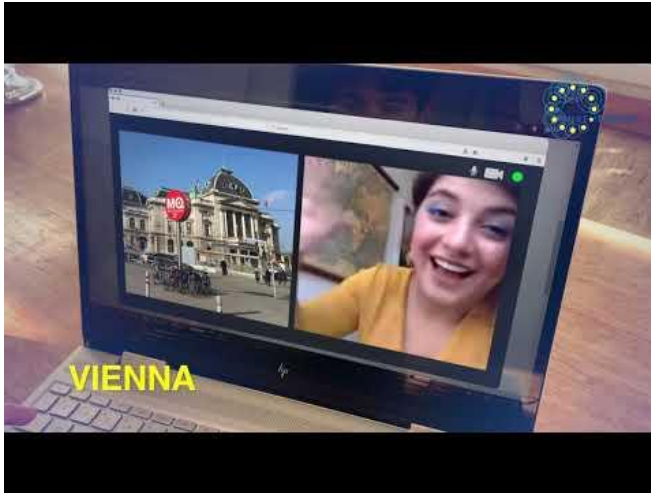
Pulse of Europe provides the **first pan-European, scalable grassroots project** for the participation of Europeans in EU policy decisions. It works both offline in a private environment

and now also online via our **Video HomeParliaments**. Our mission is to create a permanent, bottom-up format for engaging with EU policymakers.

For the first time, late 2020 people from Germany, Austria, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden, Portugal, Spain, Bulgaria and France exchanged their expectations for the EU. In addition, **numerous cross-border HomeParliaments** contributed to a transnational European dialogue.



# EUROPEAN HOME PARLIAMENTS



Click on the picture to see the video

About 700 Europeans participated in local HomeParliaments. Another 500 discussed the future of European solidarity via the new Video HomeParliaments. As in the first two rounds of the European HomeParliaments, the participants of the privately organized discussion rounds were enthusiastic about the constructive exchange, the mutual understanding and the insights gained from the structured discussions about the future of European solidarity.

	Ursula von der Leyen	EC
	Manfred Weber	EPP
	Othmar Karas	EPP
	Paulo Rangel	EPP
	Rainer Wieland	EPP
	Hildegard Bentele	EPP
	Katja Leikert	CDU
	Katarina Barley	S&D
	Gaby Bischoff	S&D
	Pedro Marques	S&D
	Łukasz Kohut	S&D
	Michael Roth	SPD
	Fabienne Keller	Renew
	Nicola Beer	Renew
	Moritz Körner	Renew
	Svenja Hahn	Renew
	Andi Glück	Renew
	Jan Christoph Oetjen	Renew
	Michael Link	Renew
	Michael Theurer	FDP

The Video HomeParliaments enabled a special innovation, among other things: a **location-independent matching of participants**, i.e. HomeParliaments with Europeans who did not know each other before. This resulted, (among other things), in cross-generational debates across different political spectra.

While European institutions and initiatives continue to work on details of the **Conference on the Future of Europe**, we are already several steps ahead: The European HomeParliaments provide a space for exchange and the consideration of different perspectives and engage European citizens in a process of differentiated formation of opinions in European democracy.

# EUROPEAN HOME PARLIAMENTS



	Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield	Greens / EFA
	Ska Keller	Greens / EFA
	Damian Boeselager	Greens / EFA
	Franziska Brantner	Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen
	Michael Bloss	Greens / EFA
	Jutta Paulus	Greens / EFA
	Daniel Freund	Greens / EFA
	Hannah Neumann	Greens / EFA
	Sergey Lagodinsky	Greens / EFA
	Martin Schirdewan	GUE / NGL
	Helmut Scholz	GUE / NGL

The feedback from the numerous political dialog partners from the European Parliament, the German Bundestag, **five different countries and five different parties** who participated in the third round of European HomeParliaments was consistently positive. They wanted to come in contact with Europe's citizens, take note of the results of their discussions and take a personal position. They also played a key role in spreading the word about the project, for example on social media.

We currently estimate that about one million people across Europe learned about the European HomeParliaments via print and social media (e.g., about 420,000 via Facebook and about 210,000 via Twitter). In addition, about 400,000 people were informed about the project via newsletters from Pulse of Europe and from our cooperation partners [Democracy International](#) and [openPetition](#). Thus, we ensured that a broad political spectrum of citizens was motivated to participate in the HomeParliaments and that a corresponding range of political opinions was reflected in the discussions.

In this way, we were able to send a signal to a significant number of EU citizens: The EU is part of public life and people have a stake in the political opinion-forming that takes place in Brussels.

Katarina Barley @katarinabarley · 25. Okt. Ich bin gespannt, von euch zu hören! 🇪🇺 #EuropeanHomeParliaments @PulseofEurope

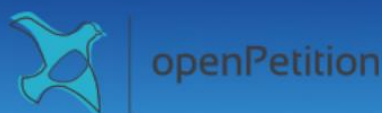


4 replies, 10 retweets, 46 likes

Manfred Weber @ManfredWeber · 23. Sep. Die #HausParlamente starten in eine neue Runde. Diskutiert mit, wie Ihr die Zukunft Europa gestalten wollt! Neben vielen anderen Verantwortungsträgern bin ich auch mit dabei. #CoFoE @PulseofEurope



7 replies, 13 retweets, 28 likes



## Results of the discussion in the European HomeParliaments

About 1,000 participants out of almost 1,200 submitted their results. Almost 200 European HomeParliaments have spoken out **with a large majority (approx. 97%) in favor of more mutual solidarity in Europe.**



EUROPEAN HOME PARLIAMENTS  
**L'EUROPE N'EST PAS FAITE DE PAYS PAUVRES ET DE PAYS RICHES, MAIS DE PAYS QUI VEULENT TRAVAILLER ENSEMBLE.**

**EUROPE IS NOT MADE UP OF RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES, BUT OF COUNTRIES THAT WANT TO WORK TOGETHER.**

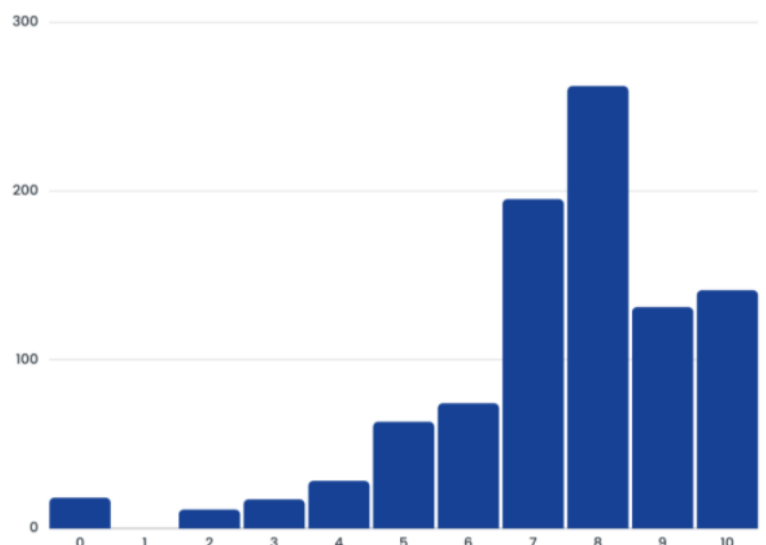
FRANCE - 2020



### 1) Should wealthy EU Member States provide more economic support to Member States that are particularly hard hit by crises?

On this question, participants chose an average value of **7.4** on a scale of 0 (no way) to 10 (yes, absolutely): **This shows clear support for mutual solidarity in the event of a crisis.**

The evaluation of the arguments behind the generally homogeneous sentiment reveals a multi-faceted opinions. Most HomeParliaments would like to see mutual economic



# EUROPEAN HOME PARLIAMENTS



support in the event of a crisis because this strengthens cohesion and mutual trust, which in turn strengthens the **European community's ability to act in foreign policy**. Moreover, mutual solidarity is an obligation because it fosters faith in the EU and a common self-image. Another important argument was **that both donors and recipients of financial resources benefit**. At the same time, it became clear that financial support must be used to further develop the EU and the member states. **Various conditions should go hand in hand with the subsidies**, which must be closely monitored. This means that aid should be allocated as precisely as possible to its objectives and subsequently tracked transparently.



EUROPEAN  
HOME PARLIAMENTS

**FINANCIAL  
SOLIDARITY  
STRENGTHENS THE  
FAITH IN THE EU IN  
THE AFFECTED  
POPULATIONS.**



2020



The stated counterarguments show why some people are opposed to economic support in the event of a crisis: It can **counteract structural reforms** that are necessary in countries that have been particularly hard hit by crises. Moreover, for many people it is important that financial support is tied to conditions, which, however, are difficult to control. This was also an argument against financial support. Many argue that mutual support not only creates cohesion, but also strengthens an argument of euroskeptic initiatives and in this respect **promotes criticism of the EU**.



EUROPEAN  
HOME PARLIAMENTS

**WE SUPPORT OTHER  
MEMBER STATES IN A  
SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY IF  
THE SUPPORT IS LINKED  
TO CORRESPONDING  
STRUCTURAL REFORMS.**



2020

This view was similar in HomeParliaments in Germany as in other European countries. There was a clear willingness to provide mutual support if it is used in a targeted manner, i.e., if it provides initial financial assistance for regional industries. **The linking of support to the principles of the rule of law was also called for across all countries**. In France

in particular, it was repeatedly emphasized that EU emergency aid should be used to promote local structures.



openPetition

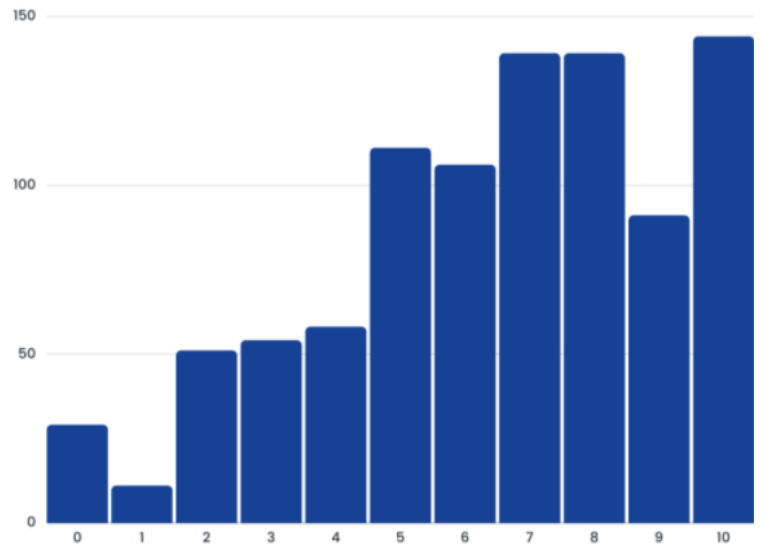


## 2) Should the EU invest more in social policy measures to tackle social inequality between the Member States?

The participants had different opinions on this question. Here, the average score was **6.5**, with both very high and very low scores given. **The participants in the discussion had different views with regard to combating social inequality between the member states.**

While one-third of the HomeParliaments see the EU as an economic community, others would like to see increasing emphasis placed on counteracting social inequality between member states. Investment in social policy measures is not only worthy of support as an end in itself, but also strengthens the sense of community and European identity.

Regardless of their nationality, supporters see a harmonious European social policy as a way to create cohesion in the EU. Indeed, social inequalities can be perceived as a threat to cohesion in the EU. By creating harmonious social systems, some of the proponents hope to limit migration between European countries. In some discussions, the point came up that more resources should be invested in education to promote social justice.



EUROPEAN  
HOME PARLIAMENTS

**FREE MARKETS:  
YES!**

**SOCIAL POLICY:  
ALSO!**



2020



EUROPEAN  
HOME PARLIAMENTS

**THE DIVERSITY OF THE  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
REGIMES MAKES IT  
ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO  
ACHIEVE FINANCIAL  
COMPENSATION IN AN  
EQUITABLE MANNER.**

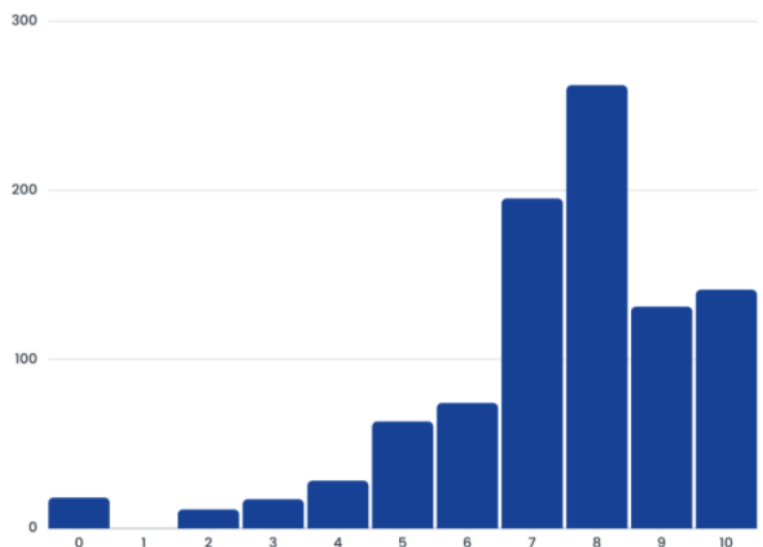


2020

While some citizens would like to see a common social policy to complement the free market, almost as many do not think this approach would be effective, given the different social security systems and cultural backgrounds. They think such an endeavor can only fail. Some HomeParliaments believe that it is up to the member states and not the EU to provide social security for their citizens, especially since an ever-widening prosperity gap has emerged within those countries. In addition to these structural deficits, some participants consider the cost of a common EU social policy to be inappropriate.

### 3) Should the EU, in the interest of future generations, primarily focus on environmentally friendly innovation and jobs?

Participants made a clear call, however, with regard to the question of whether the EU should primarily promote environmentally friendly investments and jobs. On average, the participants chose a value of **8.9** here. **In this respect, even after weighing up the counter-arguments, the participants make a clear call for action for more investment in climate protection.**



# EUROPEAN HOME PARLIAMENTS



On the question of promoting environmentally compatible innovations and jobs, a majority of the HomeParliaments (40%) affirmed that a change of course on climate change is **urgent and necessary**. It is not a matter of "if and when" but "how now?"! In their opinion, **this sustainable change** not only preserves jobs and social systems, but also increases the **EU's competitiveness**. The latter is another argument for rapid change. Thus, it was confirmed that in the spirit of the "Green Deal", financial resources should be used now in a sustainable way to avoid placing an excessive burden on future generations. The participants underlined that **this change presents an opportunity**.



EUROPEAN  
HOME PARLIAMENTS

**THOSE WHO ALIGN  
THEIR ECONOMY WITH  
ECOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES  
AT AN EARLY STAGE,  
SECURE COMPETITIVE  
ADVANTAGES FOR THE  
FUTURE.**



2020

Only about one-fifth of HomeParliaments expressed concerns about a strong focus on environmental sustainability. This was similar across different countries. In their opinion, the EU must support this ambitious structural change not only for particularly affected industries, but also in member states that have to catch up economically and are heavily involved in traditional, CO2-intensive industries. This rapid economic and social change must be well explained to the people affected in order to counteract social tensions, for example via Europe-wide media. In addition, some want a slower approach to reduce the risk of job loss as well as restrictions on competitiveness.





## Politicians react live – discuss with them

Commission President Ursula von der Leyen already showed her appreciation towards the project and the results of the European HomeParliaments. She, too, focuses on the cooperation of EU member states in combating the pandemic and climate change.



*Click on the picture to see the video*

In January 2021, members of the European Parliament and the German Bundestag will receive the results of the European HomeParliaments. Most of them will comment in video statements. **A few of them will respond live in special webinars. Not only participants of the HomeParliaments are invited to these webinars but everybody may join those discussions.**

# EUROPEAN HOMEPARLIAMENTS



Exchange your views of the topics with our political partners



On January 5th, 7 pm with Katarina Barley (GER) and Łukasz Kohut (PL) from the S&D group. [See the Facebook-Event](#)

On January 7th, 7 pm with Nicola Beer (GER) and Fabienne Keller (FR) from Renew Europe. [See the Facebook-Event](#)



On January 11th, 7 pm with Manfred Weber (GER) and Othmar Karas (AT) from the EPP. [See the Facebook-Event](#)

In early February with Ska Keller (GER), Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield (FR) and Franziska Brantner (GER), from the Greens / EFA. Preregister under the link below.



End of January Martin Schirdewan (GER) and Helmut Scholz (GER), from GUE / NGL. Preregister under the link below.

Please [register for the webinars here](#).

More information about the webinars with EU politicians can be found [here](#).

# EUROPEAN HOME PARLIAMENTS



## The future of the European HomeParliaments

Our innovative concept of deliberative citizen participation has attracted the attention of various actors from the **CoFoE** environment. Over the past months, we have held numerous discussions with them and have already made concrete arrangements to become a **significant part of the planned transnational platform for more citizen participation in the EU as part of the fourth round of European HomeParliaments planned for spring 2021.**

**We have come closer to our goal of promoting a direct and results-oriented dialogue between EU citizens and EU politicians:** The participation of Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and 30 EU politicians, highlights the importance of the project for the European democracy. We are eager to hear what positions they take on the questions posed and the results of the debates, and how they incorporate people's opinions into current EU policy.

Thanks to our above-mentioned experiences and the innovations we have introduced, the coming rounds will increasingly **anchor the European HomeParliaments in other European countries, consolidate the transnational dialogue, and bring together even more heterogeneous discussion groups through the matching process.** This strategy is framed by the overarching goal of **institutionalizing** the project step by step and thus increasing the number of participants in the European HomeParliaments even further.

**We as Pulse of Europe are very pleased to be able to contribute to the further development and vitalization of the European public sphere and democracy!**

*Let's be the Pulse of Europe!*



openPetition

