

# WHAT ABOUT THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS?



# THEY ARE IMPORTANT FOR EMMAUS!

## European legislation directly impacts Emmaus' three core work areas:

- Unconditional welcoming and support for people needing help
- Employment and combating poverty
- Collection of second-hand goods and waste reduction

The EU has banned utilities from cutting off electricity to households that haven't paid their bill: a relief for many families supported by Emmaus

The EU has created an obligation to collect used goods and reuse or recycle them: this is increasing the useful work done by Emmaus.

The EU funds employment access initiatives and food aid by means of €99,3 billion provided by the European Social Fund (ESF) over 2021-2027



Because of Dublin Regulation, many people who now live at Emmaus ended up on the streets for months before they were able to claim asylum in the country whose language they spoke.

## WE NEED MEPS WHO SUPPORT OUR WORK

Over the past few years, we have been able to work with MEPS who are supportive of our values and the development of our social and environmental work. We hope that even more MEPS with a similar ethos will be elected in June.

This will enable us to continue our work to combat poverty and gain full recognition for the role of social economy stakeholders in the second-hand sector.

We will also be able to continue to take action in favour of a Europe that welcomes with dignity those fleeing their countries in fear of their lives, as it did for the Ukrainians in 2022.

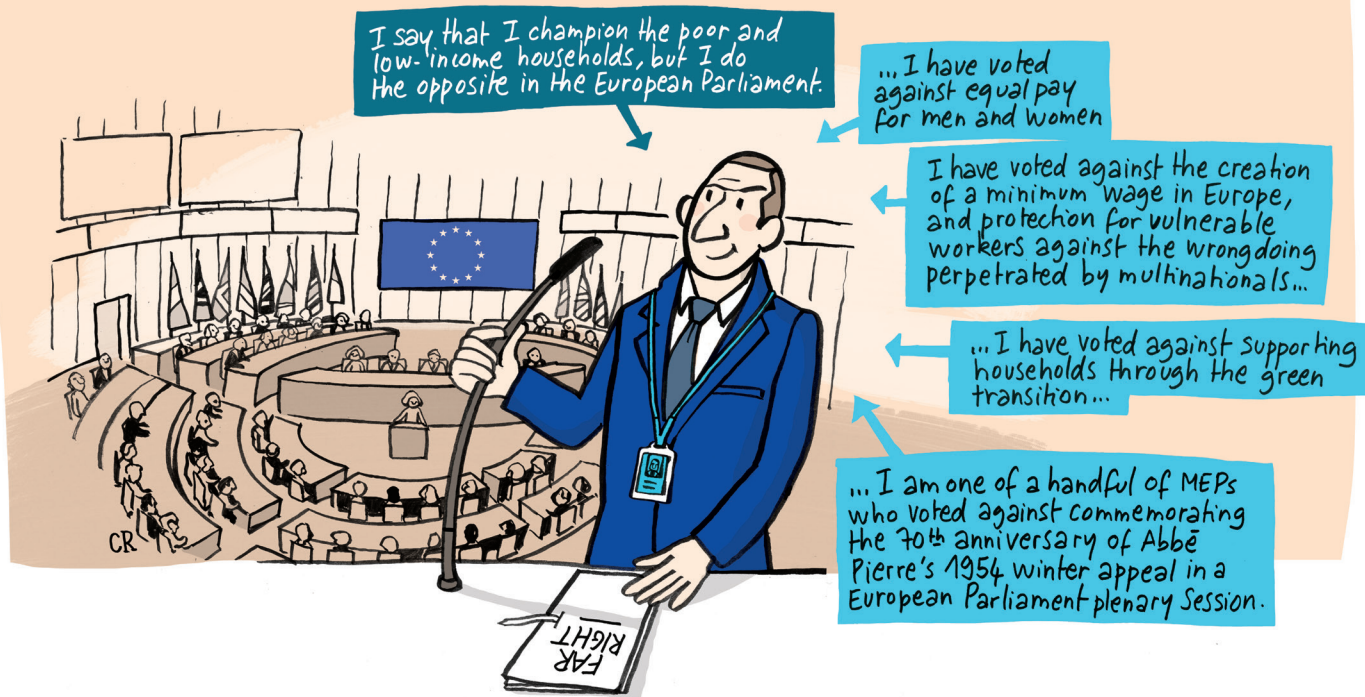
### Did you know?

Emmaus has a presence in 15 EU Member States and in 20 countries across the continent.



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**In the European Parliament, far-right MEPs vote against laws that protect the most disadvantaged people.**



## THE FAR RIGHT IS A DANGER FOR EMMAUS

Emmaus is a politically and religiously non-aligned international movement. However, our founder believed that it was important to influence policy so that unfair laws could be changed and the root causes of poverty could be addressed. During his life, Abbé Pierre identified the far right as an enemy of Emmaus' values.

In 2024, far-right political representatives from various European countries stated that they stand shoulder to shoulder with low-income families and that

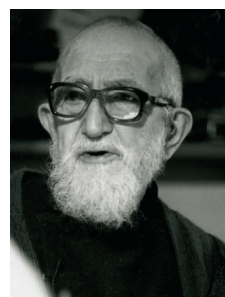
they wish to combat poverty, but their voting and actions in the parliament contradict this.

They are also openly opposed to one of Emmaus' founding principles: unconditional shelter and support for people in difficulty, regardless of their origins.

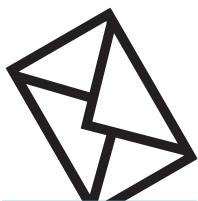
Opinion polls have predicted an increase in support for the far right at the upcoming elections; this is a real concern for the continuation of Emmaus' work, and we must raise awareness of it.

We need a Europe that raises humanity up rather than pitting the poor against the poorest members of society by stigmatising migrants!

■ Abbé Pierre, 1997 :  
"Today, with the worrying rise of the far right and racism, I have the feeling that we are already at war".



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EUROPEAN ELECTIONS: 6-9 JUNE 2024 (DEPENDING ON THE COUNTRY)

**VISIT [emmaus-europe.org](https://emmaus-europe.org) TO READ EMMAUS' PROPOSALS FOR THE PROSPECTIVE MEPS.**



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