

Transparency Register

Take a look at who is lobbying the EU institutions

Transparency and the EU

Citizens expect the EU decision-making process to be as transparent and open as possible. The more open the process is, the easier it is to ensure balanced representation and avoid undue pressure and illegitimate or privileged access to information or to decision-makers. Transparency is also a key part of encouraging European citizens to participate more actively in the democratic life of the EU.

Article 11 - Treaty on European Union

The institutions shall maintain an open, transparent and regular dialogue with representative associations and civil society.

What is the Transparency Register?

The Register covers all activities carried out with the intention of directly or indirectly influencing the formulation or implementation of policy and the decision-making processes of the EU institutions, irrespective of where they are undertaken and of the channel or method of communication used. It includes lobbying, interest representation and advocacy.

Stakeholders range from public affairs consultancies, self-employed consultants and law firms to in-house lobbyists, trade, business or professional associations, charities, NGOs, religious organisations, think tanks, academic organisations and those public authorities that have representative offices in Brussels.

Why was it set up?

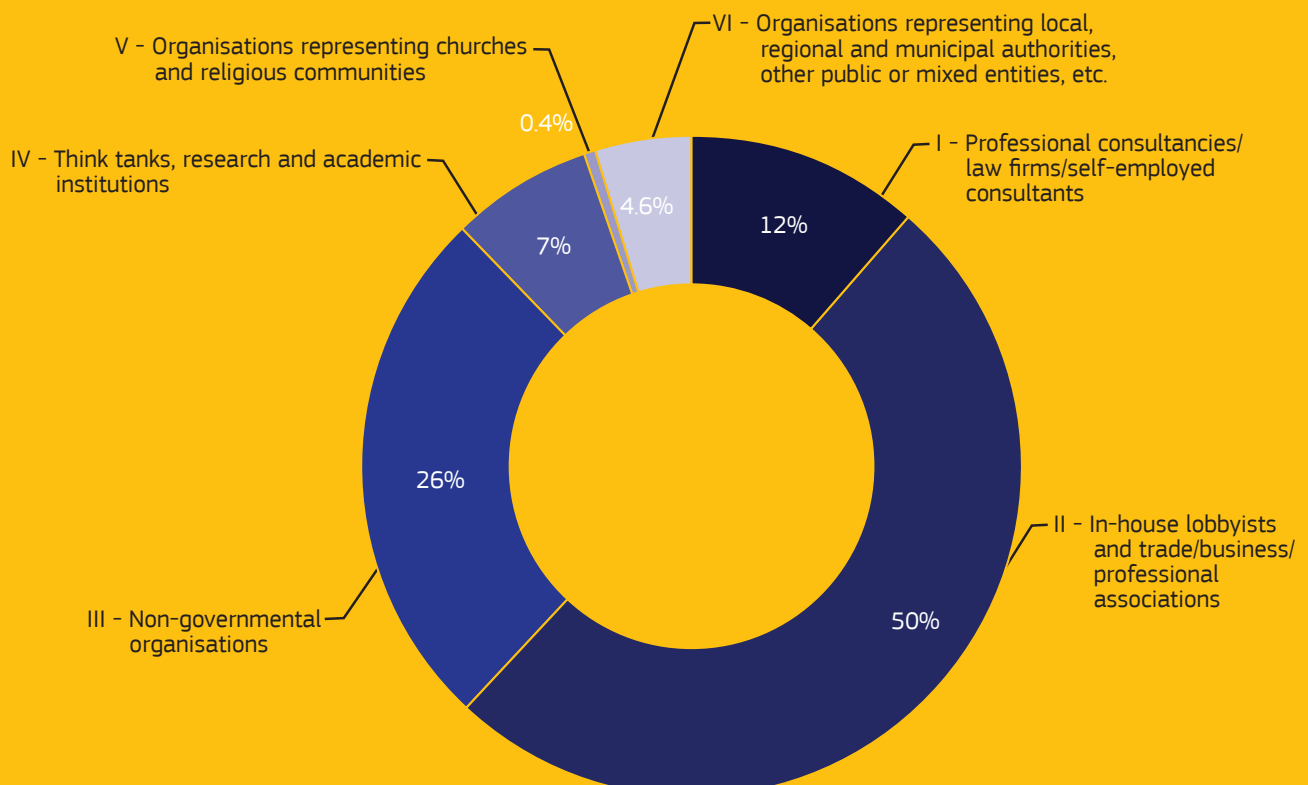
The Transparency Register has been set up to answer core questions such as what interests are being pursued, by whom and with what budgets. The system is operated jointly by the European Parliament and the Commission, and builds on previous initiatives in this area.

In this way, the Register allows for public scrutiny, giving citizens and other interest groups the possibility to track the activities of lobbyists.

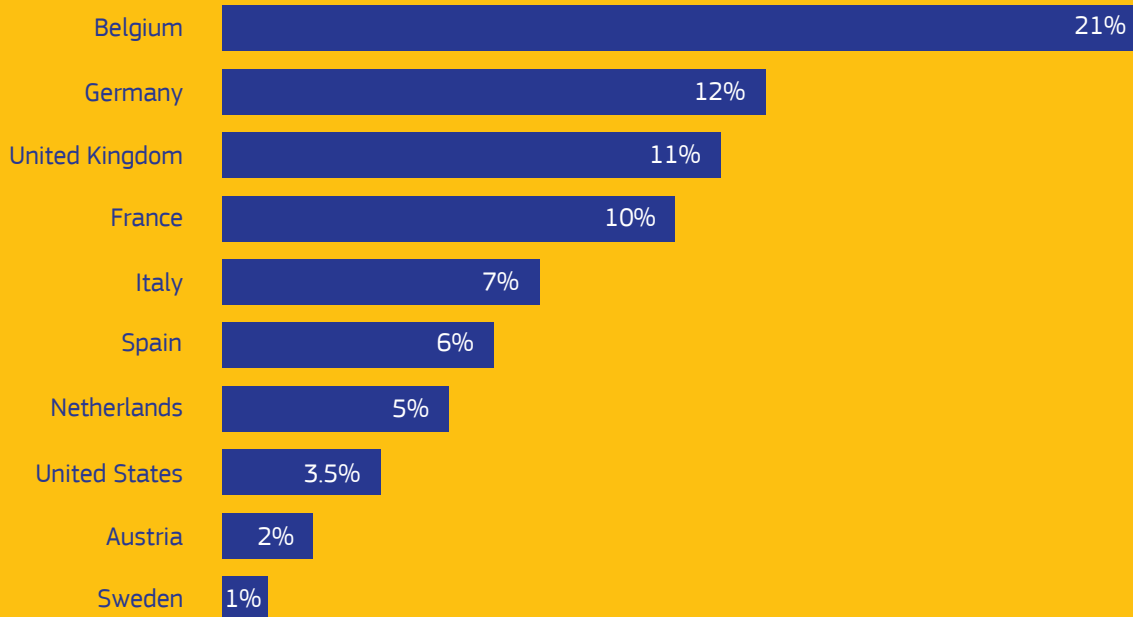
The Register in numbers

- Includes over 9,000 entities bound by a common Code of Conduct
- Half of all registered organisations come from the section "In-house lobbyists and trade/business/professional associations"
- An average of 50 organisations join the Register every week
- One fifth of all registrants have a head office in Belgium
- 92% of registered organisations are EU-based
- Every single EU Member State is represented
- 6,100 persons from registered organisations hold an access badge to the European Parliament's buildings

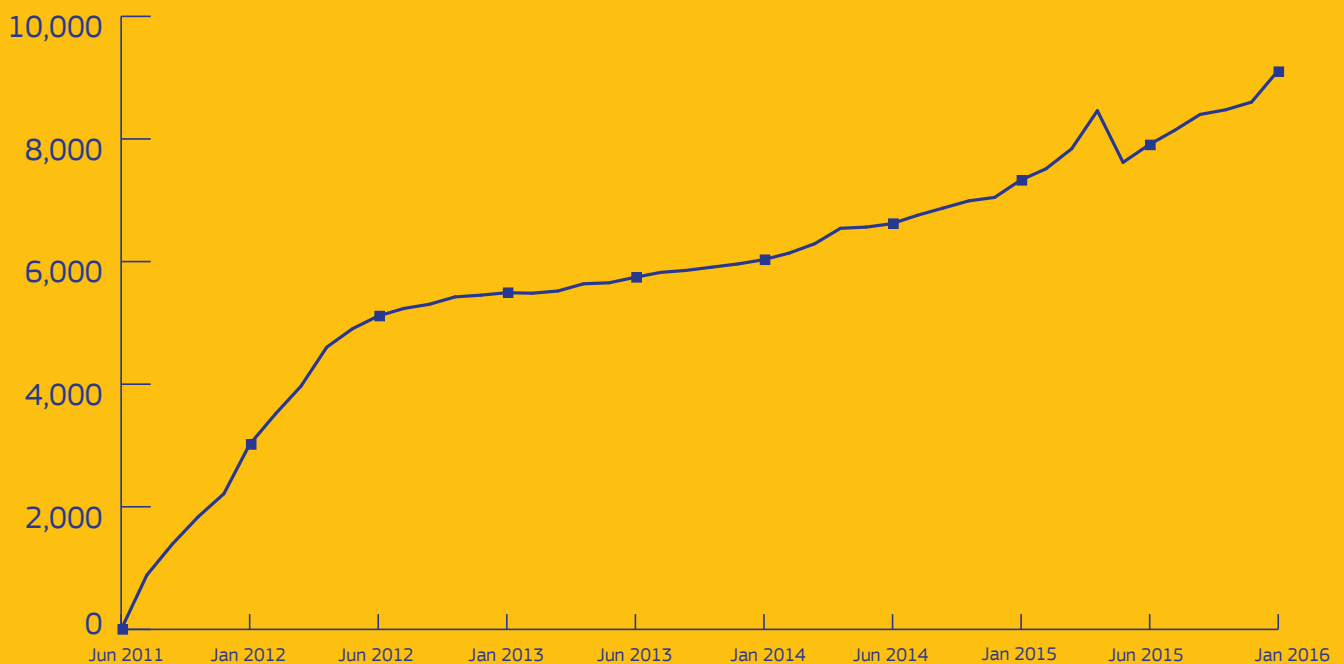
Registrants by sections*



Registrants by countries - Top 10**



Evolution of registrations



Looking forward

President Juncker's Priorities for the Commission contain a strong commitment to increased transparency. A public consultation on a mandatory Transparency Register invites feedback from citizens and stakeholders on the current system and its evolution. The purpose is to assess and understand what has worked well so far, what can be improved and how, to ensure that the Register fulfils its full potential as a meaningful tool governing relations between the EU institutions and interest representatives.

To participate in the public consultation go to: http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/civil_society/public_consultation_en.htm

Consult the Transparency Register in all official EU languages, and contact us via the form available here: <http://ec.europa.eu/transparencyregister>

* On 5 February 2016, there were 9,185 registrants in the Register.

** Head office figures