

Flash Notes 11/02/2019

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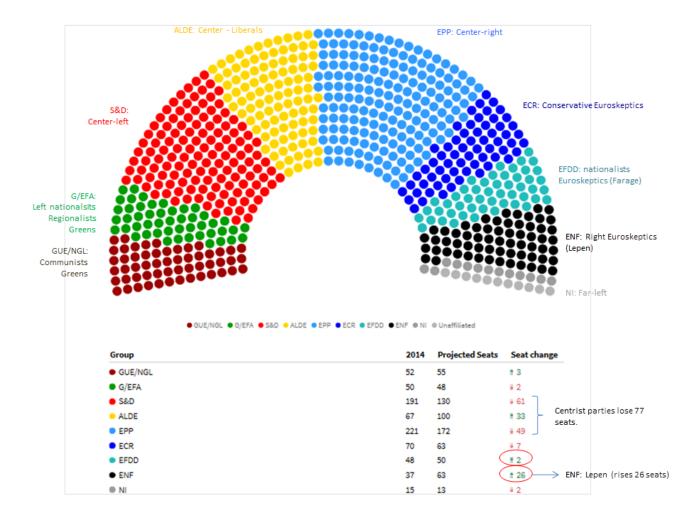
European elections. More bark than bite or the return of Euroskeptic parties?

What follows is a brief summary of the conclusions that I draw after my analysis of the last survey carried out by Europe-elects:

- Centrist parties lose ground: Center-left and Center-right groupings show their combined seat-share falling sharply
- Right-wing nationalist parties are expected to see their vote-share rising from 21% to 25%.
- Left-wing populist parties will rise by another 3%-4% (to 15%-16%)
- Centrists (EPP+S&D+Liberals) would retain 400 seats (from 480)
- Extremists (rest) would reach almost 292 seats (from 272)
- Lepen's ENF would rise 26 seats (reaching an important share of 63 seats)
- If these forecasts are met, it seems that the European institutions will be more polarized than ever (with a weight of Euroscepticism never seen). As such, the institutions will be a little more difficult to be managed after the elections, though it seems that the European Parliament will remain under the control of center-right and center-left groupings.
- No reason to think about the chaos, but it seems to me that this is not the way in the right direction.

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