**List of Topics**

Choose the more *substantive* topic (i.e. inflation above election) when possible

Within topic categories: choose the more specific (e.g. safety umbrellas above government intervention). The more specific categories are place upfront (having the lower numbers).

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| **TOPIC01 Economy** | 1. The Euro (e.g. currency rate, inflation, stability) 2. Effect of Euro on the economy 3. Eurozone exit 4. Other currency related topic 5. Inflation (policy) 6. Interest rate (policy) 7. Taxes (policy) 8. Financing the EU: National contributions (from member states) 9. EU budget / finances / (incl. 3% rule, semester system) 10. EU debts (incl. 3% rule, semester system) 11. State budget / state finances / (non EU) 12. State debts (non EU) 13. EU economic policy: Stimulus package and safety umbrellas (bilateral credits, buying of state bonds, Eurobonds, EFSM, EFSF, ESM, SKS) 14. Bank and financial sector regulation 15. Banking Union 16. EU Structural Fund (EU funds for underdeveloped regions/areas) 17. EU competition policy (incl. investigations into state aid, mergers, take-overs, fixed prices, carving up of markets) 18. Competition policy non-EU (incl. investigations into state aid, mergers, take-overs, fixed prices, carving up of markets) 19. Government Ownership, nationalisation in general (land, banks, etc.) 20. Privatisation (of government owned business or industry) 21. Protectionism (e.g. methods to protect national markets, economic growth) 22. Government intervention/control over the economy (prices, wages, rents) 23. Economic Planning (of long-term economic planning, e.g. Greece) 24. Free movement of people within the EU (common market: including the Schengen agreement) 25. Free movement of goods, capital and services within the EU (common market) 26. EU trade policy (e.g. EU tariffs and import quotas towards non-member states) 27. Trade policy non-EU 28. Effects of financial crisis on domestic/ EU/ global economy (e.g. competitiveness, demand and supply, consumption, business climate) 29. State of the EU economy, current situation and outlook, growth, shrinkage 30. Stock market and its developments (shares, bonds, AEX, DAX, Dow Jones etc.) 31. Business (companies, banks, industry, mergers, manufacturing, bankruptcy) 32. Other economic topics |
| **TOPIC02 Social and labor market policy** | 1. EU employment policy 2. Employment policy (non-EU) 3. Labour market regulations (e.g. working hours, wage policy; unemployment insurance, unemployment regulation) 4. Health care (policy) 5. Retirement and pensions (policy) 6. Social housing (including poverty, social assistance) (policy) 7. Youth (policy) 8. Family policy (e.g. child care, parental leave) 9. Other social and labor market topics |
| **TOPIC03 Education and research** | 1. EU education policy 2. Education policy (non-EU) 3. Science and research policy 4. Other education and research topics |
| **TOPIC04 Law and order** | 1. EU police collaboration 2. Crime prevention policy 3. Fight against terrorism 4. Intelligence service 5. Data and personal information security 6. Courts, trials, court decisions 7. Crime (robbery, mugging, killing) 8. Other law and order topics |
| **TOPIC05 Immigration** | 1. EU immigration policy - regulating immigration from outside the EU (e.g. refugees, asylum, EU border protection) 2. Immigration policy (non-EU) - regulating immigration from outside the EU 3. Migration / immigration policy – regulating migration within the EU (e.g. labour migration from Eastern European countries or Southern European countries to the Northern member states) 4. Immigrant integration 5. Multiculturalism (cultural diversity, cultural plurality) 6. Anti-Islam 7. Other immigration topics |
| **TOPIC06 International Affairs** | 1. EU foreign affairs regarding Crimean Crisis 2. Foreign affairs regarding Crimean Crisis (non-EU) 3. EU foreign affairs general (e.g. EU-China, EU-Russia, EU-US relations, European neighbourhood policy) 4. Foreign affairs general (non-EU; e.g. relations Germany-US, UK’s role in the UN; relations between states or (international) political organizations) 5. EU defence / peace-keeping / EU security 6. Defence / peace-keeping / national security (non-EU; e.g. France sending troops to peace-keeping mission in Africa) 7. Armed forces (modernization, structure, expenditure, military strength) 8. Military cooperations / treaties / obligations (e.g. membership, obligations, NATO) 9. Other international affairs topic |
| **TOPIC07 Culture and Other** | 1. EU cultural and media / communication (policy) (arts, films/movies, theatre, music, media) 2. Cultural and media / communication (policy) (non-EU) (e.g. subsidies for theatre’s, movies, music etc.; the export of own culture, language etc.) 3. Human interest (soft news: about prominent persons, celebrities, anniversaries, weddings, animals, strange/funny events, etc.) 4. Religion 5. Sports weather report/ forecast 6. (Natural) disasters (earthquakes, floods) 7. Accidents 8. Other culture and soft news topics |
| **TOPIC08 Environment and Energy** | 1. Climate policy 2. EU Energy policy – supply safety (e.g. securing energy supply, EU contracts with Gazprom and other suppliers) 3. Energy policy – supply safety (non-EU) 4. Energy policy – renewable energies (e.g. wind, solar, water) 5. Energy policy – fossil energies (e.g. fracking) 6. Energy policy – nuclear energy 7. Other EU environmental and energy topics 8. Other non-EU environmental and energy topics |
| **TOPIC09 Infrastructure** | 1. EU transportation policy 2. Transportation policy (non-EU) 3. ICT policy (e.g. communication infrastructure) 4. Energy grid 5. Other technology and infrastructure topics |
| **TOPIC10 Agriculture and Food** | 1. EU agricultural policy (e.g. subsidies for farmers, food safety, genetically modified food) 2. Agricultural policy (non-EU) 3. EU maritime affairs and fishery policy 4. Maritime affairs and fishery policy (non-EU) 5. Food safety 6. Food and public health 7. Other agriculture and food topics |
| **TOPIC11 Consumer protection** | 1. EU consumer protection policy 2. Other consumer protection topics |
| **TOPIC12 Citizens’ rights** | 1. Female rights and equality 2. Abortion 3. Immigrant rights 4. Minority rights (e.g. handicapped, gay marriage, children, elderly) 5. Private property and copyright rights 6. Other citizens’ rights topics (e.g. Human rights in general, civil liberties, equality before law) |
| **TOPIC13 Constitutional questions and functioning of EU** | 1. Division of power *between political institutions* (e.g. between Parliament and Government, between the Council and the European Parliament, separation of church and state) 2. Division of power *between political levels* (e.g. delegation and transference of decision-making power between Brussels and the national level; between regional and national levels; federalism, regional autonomy AND devolution; subsidiarity) 3. EU’s *democratic deficit* (e.g. distance or ‘gap’ between the EU and its citizens or the responsiveness of the EU towards its citizens, citizens feeling not represented or understood by the EU) 4. Division of power *between the people and the political system* (e.g. democracy, referendums, sovereignty of the people); non-EU 5. Other *rules of decision-making* (e.g. qualified majority voting, EU treaties, right to veto, other treaty reforms) 6. Competences of the European Parliament (power, legislative procedures) 7. Competences of the European Commission (Powers of the European Commission) 8. Competences of the European Council/Council of Ministers (Powers of the European Council/Council of Ministers) 9. Competences of the European Court of Justice (references to the powers of the European Court of Justice) 10. European Central Bank functioning and power 11. Power and position of the EU presidency of member state 12. Power and position European Council President/Presidency (Rompuy position) 13. Power and position European Commission President/Presidency (Barroso position) 14. Power and position external affairs (Ashton position) 15. Power and position Eurogroup leader (Dijsselbloem) 16. Other EU polity / constitutional topic |
| **TOPIC14 Territorial questions** | 1. EU-Membership (existing) (e.g. British referendum on EU membership) 2. Enlargement (negotiations, criteria, pros and cons) of EU 3. Potential EU membership Turkey 4. Potential EU membership other (e.g. enlargement of EU with Croatia, Iceland, Macedonia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo) 5. Other territorial questions topics |
| **TOPIC15 Administration and bureaucracy (corruption)** | 1. Executive and administrative efficiency 2. EU political corruption, fraud, scandals EU-level politicians or institutions, including regulations and anti-corruption measures (not abuse of EU funds by member states) 3. Political corruption non-EU: Fraud, scandals of non-EU (e.g. national, supranational) politicians or institutions, including regulations and anti-corruption measures 4. Other administration and bureaucracy topics |
| **TOPIC16 Election*s*** | 1. European Elections: Candidates, politicians, parties; their images and strategic positions, personality, candidate MEP’s personal character, background, leadership qualities 2. European Elections: Electioneering, campaigning (strategy, style, finance, fundraising, events, media appearances, endorsements, targeting of electoral groups, political marketing, publicity, advertising) 3. Media coverage of the campaign 4. European elections: Voters, public opinion, polls, (anticipated) electoral success 5. European Election: Voter turnout (e.g. expectations) 6. European Elections: List of party positions on issues (a “manifesto story“) 7. European Elections: Voting procedures (e.g. electronic voting machines, foreign votes 8. European Elections: Election laws, rules, regulations 9. European Elections: (Formal, public) debates (as an event) between parties, politicians 10. Political consequences of EP election outcome (e.g. for national-level politicians, parties, power in the) 11. EU policy profile of national political parties (e.g. party manifesto on EU integration issues) (only in context of EU elections) 12. Political party groups/alliances in European Parliament (e.g. political party group profile, internal affairs, conflict, organization, internal elections) 13. Vote advice for European Elections 14. Other EP election-related topics 15. Other National, regional, local elections in EU Countries 16. Other National elections in non-EU Countries |
|  | 1. Other topics |