



Ibec
For Irish Business

Ibec the voice

An Ibec campaign



European Elections, Friday 24 May 2019

Make 24 May Your Business

The EU is central to our future success. The 2019 European Parliament elections are an opportunity to shape that future. An opportunity to put strong Irish voices into one of Europe's key institutions.

The needs of business must be to the fore. Why? Because the success of businesses, large and small, will determine the ability of the EU to grow and prosper, improve job opportunities and living standards and generate the resources for public services and infrastructure investment.

We need more cooperation in areas where there is a clear collective benefit. This includes completing the single market, digitalisation and global

trade. In other areas, such as taxation, labour market and social legislation, individual governments can best tailor policy to domestic needs.

The elections are an opportunity to strengthen Ireland's influence in the European Parliament, in its political parties and on its policy committees. An opportunity to send out a strong, positive message about Ireland's future at the centre of a dynamic, sustainable and prosperous EU.

A strong Irish voice in the European Parliament matters

The European Parliament has a big say on big issues

The European Parliament plays a central role in EU decision making. It shapes policy in areas vitally important to Irish business, including employment and social policy, internal market rules, trade policy and agri-food. It also has the power to approve or reject major international agreements.

The European Parliament directly connects citizens to Europe

Irish MEPs play a vital role in ensuring that specific Irish concerns are heard, understood and reflected in EU law. The Parliament provides citizens with direct representation in Brussels and works with national parliaments to improve accountability.

The European Parliament shapes the EU's future direction

The European Parliament plays a defining role in setting the EU's political direction. Working with the Council, it elects the President of the European Commission and approves other senior EU appointments. It also has oversight of the EU's multi-billion euro annual budget and its multiannual financial framework.

How can the European Parliament make our lives better?



A Europe of opportunities for our citizens

Globalisation, digitalisation, changing lifestyles and new consumer preferences are transforming how we live and work. The European Parliament has an important role to play in ensuring the people of Europe can make the most of these new opportunities.

Let's ensure the next European Parliament:

- 1.** Champions excellence in European education, research and innovation through the ambitious funding of programmes such as Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe, and provides more support for entrepreneurs.
- 2.** Supports the need for member states to tailor employment and social policies to their specific economic circumstances. The European Parliament must be a champion of subsidiarity and proportionality.
- 3.** Makes it easier for citizens to access the benefits of technological innovation and new digital products across Europe.



2
A Europe that helps
business grow and
create jobs

Businesses must constantly adapt and innovate to keep up with a changing global environment. The European Parliament must support these efforts, not hinder them. It must open new opportunities for companies to trade across borders and not lose sight of the need to stay globally competitive.

Let's ensure the next European Parliament:

1. Makes it easier for companies, large and small, to trade across the EU, this requires the completion of the Single Market, Digital Single Market, Capital Markets Union and Banking Union.
2. Leads the world in developing global trade rules and forging new international trade agreements with key partners, such as the US and China.
3. Respects the autonomy of member states to put in place tax strategies that meet their economic needs, while supporting the OECD work on a new global tax framework.



3

A sustainable
Europe, planning
for the long-term

The European Parliament should ensure that sustainability is a core element of its approach to policy-making. It must work to deliver a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally-friendly economic future for Europe.

Let's ensure the next European Parliament:

- 1.** Supports carbon-reduction goals that are ambitious, achievable, cost-effective and do not leave business or citizens behind.
- 2.** Designs policies to mobilise private capital and support citizens and businesses to invest in renewables, energy efficiency and new green technologies.
- 3.** Promotes the circular economy through easier access to green finance and more support for eco-design, eco-innovation and entrepreneurship.



**Make
24 May
Your
Business**



**Find out more about
the European Parliament
and how its decisions
impact your business.**

www.ibec.ie/EPelection



Tell the candidates how creating the right conditions for business can improve living standards, generate tax revenue and create new job opportunities.

Inform your employees of the benefits that the EU provides for your business.



Encourage voting by your staff.



Ibec is Ireland's largest lobby group representing business regionally, nationally and internationally. Our membership is home grown, multinational, big and small, spanning every sector of the economy.



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