
THE HARD RIGHT IS MAINSTREAM IN BRUSSELS NOW

- 19.11.2024

Politico (19 November 2024)

By Eddy Wax

An inevitable truth is emerging: The hard-right populists are here to stay and are calling the shots in EU politics.

Two recent major political decisions – the appointment of the new European Commission and a vote to gut a deforestation bill – have cemented the EU's new power center squarely on the hard shoulder of the center-right European Peoples Party — and allies to its right.

Some experts reckoned June's European election results meant the blocs centrists would be able to stave off a unified hard right in the European Parliament after the EPP continued its reign as the largest group in the legislature. But right-wing political forces such as the European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR) have proven to be the real powerbrokers in recent weeks.

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