



Corporate Europe Observatory
LobbyFacts.eu



How much money have the biggest companies spent on lobbying in last 7 years?



WWW.CORPORATEEUROPE.ORG



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LobbyFacts.eu



Researching with LobbyFacts:

Revolving doors



Over 70% of Google's and Meta's lobbyists have formerly worked for governmental bodies at the EU or member state level.

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Researching with LobbyFacts:

What do you mean, dodgy data?



Today LobbyFacts.eu shows that 71% of registrants declaring the highest annual lobby spending in the EU lobby register are implausible.

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Corporate Europe Observatory

LobbyFacts: Investigating EU lobbying

Climate Arena
18 October 2024



About Corporate Europe Observatory

27 years of research and campaigning to expose and curb corporate power in EU decision-making, including on:

- ▶ Climate justice
- ▶ Food and agriculture
- ▶ Chemicals
- ▶ Big Tech
- ▶ Health
- ▶ Economic justice
- ▶ Democracy, transparency & accountability



EU lobby transparency register

- ▶ Biggest lobby register in the world
- ▶ You can find information on:
 - 1) Money spent on lobbying (not by NGOs)
 - 2) Numbers of lobbyists (lobbying employees + Euro Parl passes)
 - 3) Topics lobbied on
 - 4) Meetings with commissioners, cabinets, directors-general (not all Commission lobby meetings)
 - 5) Declared meetings with MEPs
- ▶ Anyone lobbying or trying to influence EU decision-making **should** register
- ▶ https://transparency-register.europa.eu/index_en

Search the register

cefic	
European Chemical Industry Council	
REG Number	64879142323-90
Status	ACTIVATED
Category	Trade and business associations
Country	BELGIUM
Latest update	19/02/2024

Cefic is a not-for-profit making organisation devoted to representing the interests of the European chemical industry. Here the main EU policy areas followed by **Cefic**: EU chemicals policy, including the Chemical...ritical Raw Material Alliance - via membership of **Cefic** Sector Group Eurofluor 14. Cross Sector Group on Materials in contact with food – Via **Cefic** Sector Group FCA 15. EEF - Europea...**Cefic** Members and Partners are listed here: https://transparency-register.europa.eu/index_en

LobbyFacts

- ▶ <https://www.lobbyfacts.eu/>
- ▶ A project of Corporate Europe Observatory and LobbyControl
- ▶ LobbyFacts takes the data from the EU lobby register & makes it more user-friendly
- ▶ LobbyFacts presents EU lobby data from 2012
- ▶ LobbyFacts enables filtering, ranking, comparing data
- ▶ LobbyFacts data is downloadable
- ▶ LobbyFacts enables you to perform various searches

[GET STARTED](#) [LOBBY ORGANISATION BY NAME](#) [ACCREDITED PERSONS BY NAME](#) [LOBBY CLIENTS BY NAME](#) [TOPIC SEARCH](#) [MEETINGS SEARCH](#)

Lobby register category
-- select --

Country of origin
-- select --

On date
dd / mm / yyyy

Belgian office
Either

European Parliament passholder
Either

High-level European Commission meetings
Either

Lobby register financial category
any

Search

Reset

Download

EU Transparency Register data as of: 08 May 2024. A total of 12501 results.

#	Name	Head office in	Lobby costs	EP passes	Lobbyists (FTE)	Meetings with EC
1	Fleishman-Hillard	BELGIUM	11,410,000€	57	45	53
2	Veracel Celulose SA	BRAZIL	10.000.000€ +		0.1	1
3	European Chemical Industry Council	BELGIUM	10.000.000€ +	13	43.35	168

But EU lobby register data is not perfect...

The register remains **voluntary**: it is **not legally-binding**, and the sanctions are **weak**.

This means that there are 3 problems with the data.

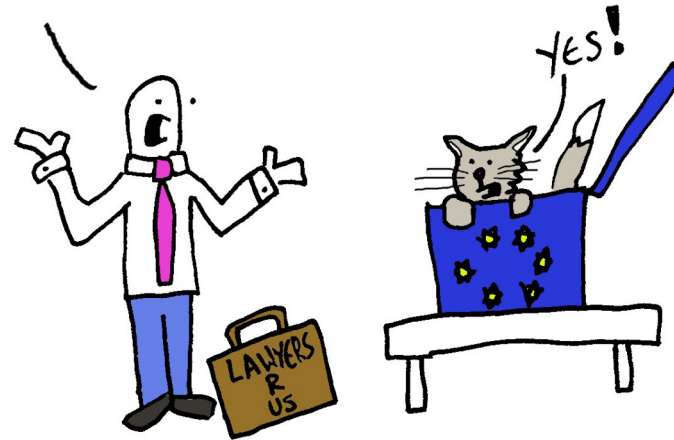


@CARTOONRALPH

SCHRÖDINGER'S LOBBYING

1. There is some lobbying going on in Brussels (or elsewhere on EU topics) which is **not captured by the register**

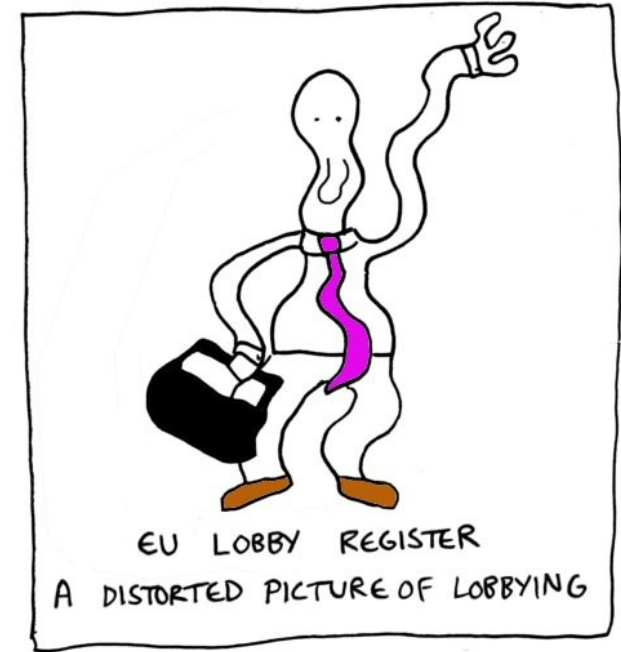
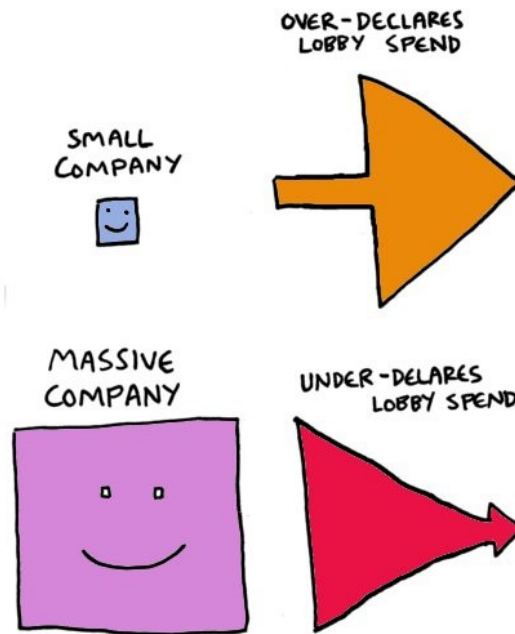
"IF WE LOBBY BUT WE ARE NOT IN THE REGISTER, DOES IT STILL COUNT?"



@CARTOONRALPH

2. It also means there is some **unreliable** or **implausible data**.

Almost all data is **self-declared** (key exceptions include EU Parliament access passes and Commission lobby meetings) and some lobbyists declare too much while others declare too little



@CARTOONRALPH

In September 2022 we complained about **430 entries**. Response:

"Only 3% were correct from the outset and, whilst in **59%** of total cases the registrant provided a satisfactory update, **38%** were removed from the register."



Corporate Europe Observatory

LF LobbyFacts.eu

LOBBY CONTROL

Researching with LobbyFacts:

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3. And a lot of **vague** or **inconsistent** data

FYI LobbyFacts
synchronises with the EU
lobby register once a day
but ... lobbyists often only
update registrations
annually

EU LOBBY REGISTER	
<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
GIANT INC	— "SOME STUFF"
INTERWEB INTERNATIONAL	— "THIS AND THAT"
LOBBYISTS R US	— "WE CAN'T REMEMBER EVERYTHING WE DID"

Despite imperfect data there are good stories to be found...

DÉCRYPTE

"Polluants éternels" : enquête sur les stratégies des lobbies pour influencer sur la proposition de restriction universelle des PFAS

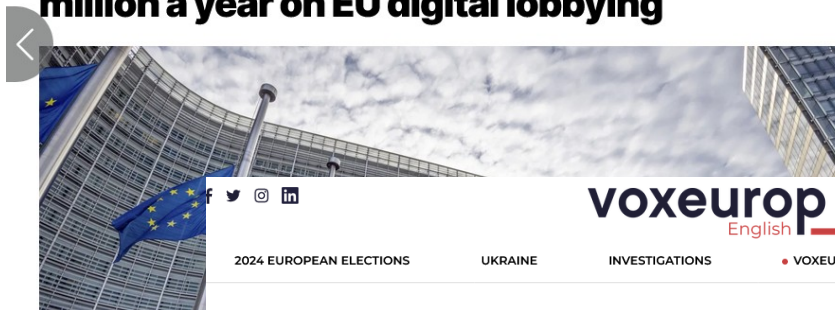


euronews.

My Europe World Business EU Policy Green Next Health Travel Culture Video Programm

my.europe > Europe News

Tech companies spend more than €100 million a year on EU digital lobbying



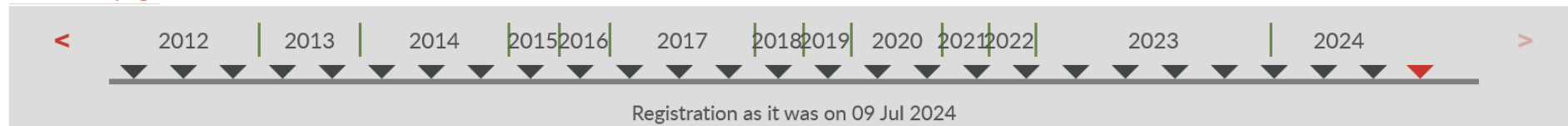
How much carmakers' lobbying on new EU emissions rules will cost Europeans

By aligning itself with the recommendations of the car industry when adopting new emission standards, the European Union could be caving in to the industry lobby at the expense of taxpayers' money and citizens' health, according to confidential documents obtained by Voxeurop.

LobbyFacts can help you to ... look at declared lobby footprints from past & today

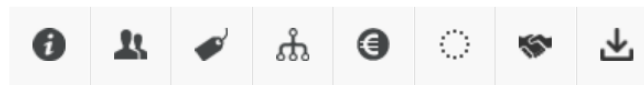
BASF SE

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[How to read and use this data card.](#)

[Download this datacard](#)



OVERVIEW

LOBBYING COSTS 4,500,000€ - 4,999,999€

Financial year: Jan 2023 - Dec 2023

LOBBYISTS (FULL TIME EQUIVALENT) 36.85 Fte (121)

For example: BASF profile

<https://corporateeurope.org/en/chemical-romance-politicians-basf>



#12 highest EU lobby
company spender

**€3-3.5
MILLION**
SPENT IN 2021

#1 company with most
European Parliament passes

19 PASSES

**43 HIGH-LEVEL
EU COMMISSION
MEETINGS**

INCLUDING WITH
11 COMMISSIONERS
(SINCE 12/2014)

EU Lobbying

**SPENT
€29.6
MILLION+**

2011-2021

BASF

TOXIC LOBBYING - EU

**15 LOBBY
CONSULTANCIES
& LAW FIRMS**

2011-2021

**53
MEETINGS
WITH MEPS**

(SINCE 7/2019)

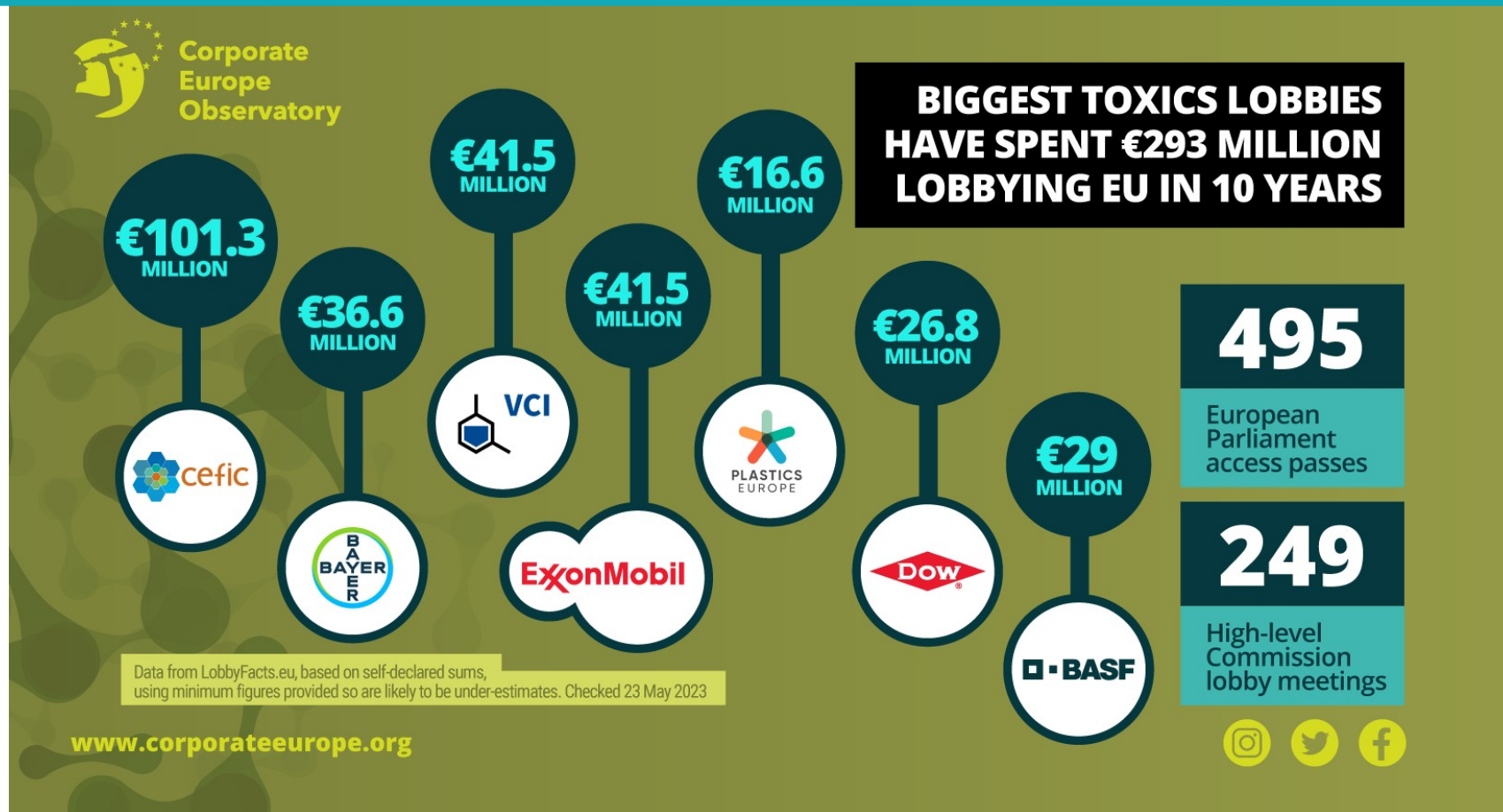
(All data from LobbyFacts 9/3/2023: <https://www.lobbyfacts.eu/datacard/basf-se?rid=7410939793-88> or IntegrityWatch)

www.corporateeurope.org



Or for a sector:

<https://corporateeurope.org/en/big-toxics-firepower>



LobbyFacts can help you to ... explore an individual lobbyist's career moves

SEARCH

HOW TO

LATEST STORIES

Accreditations for Mr Ukko Elias METSOLA

- [FIPRA International Limited](#)

Follow the money:

<https://www.ftm.eu/articles/corporate-lobbies-unimpededly-recruit-former-european-parliament-staff?>

22 APRIL 2023 · ⌚ 15 MIN

From Huawei to Shell: corporate lobbies unimpededly recruit former EU Parliament staff



PETER TEFFER



0 CONTRIBUTIONS

The European Parliament presents hardly any obstacles to former MEP assistants who wish to become lobbyists. There are no consequences for former staff who disregard the duty to report new work for approval, leaving the Parliament unaware of conflicts of interest. Even if they move on to lobby on legislation that they were involved with as political staff, they often easily receive a lobby pass.

THIS ARTICLE IN 1 MINUTE

- ➔ Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) have assistants who carry out a lot of the legislative work required. Many of the amendments to EU legislation proposed by MEPs are drafted by their



LobbyFacts can help you to ... investigate clients of lobby & law firms

Search all clients declared by lobby consultancies and law firms by name

BASF

Type at least 3 characters (or 2 + space for short acronyms) and the results will be shown below

- [BASF](#)
- [BASF Plant Science](#)
- [BASF www.basf.com](#)
- [BASF Catalysts](#)
- [BASF France](#)
- [BASF Española](#)
- [BASF SE](#)
- [basf belgium coordination center commv](#)
- [basf belgium coordination center](#)



LobbyFacts can help you to ... research lobbying on a specific topic or file

This searches the following fields: goals/remit; main EU files targeted; and client

climate

Download

Search

3188 results.

[4sfera Innova](#)

[shecco](#)

[Edelman Public Relations Worldwide](#)

[Rosenthal Relations Public Affairs](#)

[Thorvik International Consulting AS](#)

[Sustainable Energy and Climate Policy](#)

[PT-Management Consultants](#)

[Sean O'Neill](#)

This searches the following fields: goals/remit; main EU files targeted; and client

pfas

Download

Search

107 results.

[Alber & Geiger](#)

[Werkfeuerwehrverband Deutschland](#)

[AGC Chemicals Europe](#)

[Japan Business Council in Europe](#)

[Izar_Innovation Zone for Accountable Results](#)

[Association des Distributeurs, Collecteur, Récupérateurs, retraités et](#)

[Cummins Ltd.](#)

[DVGW Deutscher Verein des Gas- und Wasserfaches e.V. - Technische](#)

LobbyFacts can help you to ... investigate high-level Commission meetings

[GET STARTED](#)[LOBBY ORGANISATION BY NAME](#)[ACCREDITED PERSONS BY NAME](#)[LOBBY CLIENTS BY NAME](#)[TOPIC SEARCH](#)[MEETINGS SEARCH](#)

This searches the Commissioner/Cabinet/Director-general (high-level) Commission meetings published since December 2014. Please search for a topic. Meetings for a particular registrant can be downloaded from their datacard.

[Download](#)[Search](#)

90 results.

[BUSINESSEUROPE](#)[European Chemical Industry Council](#)[European Environmental Bureau](#)[SMEunited aisbl](#)[EUROMETAUX](#)[RTX Corporation](#)[Norwegian Refugee Council Europe](#)[3M](#)[Airbus](#)[Basim International Corporation - Belgian Branch Office](#)

LobbyFacts can help you to ... analyse lobby organisations from a specific country

EU Transparency Register data as of: 14 Feb 2022. A total of 12 results.

#	Name	Head office in	Lobby costs	EP passes	Lobbyists (FTE)	Meetings with EC
1	United Company RUSAL	RUSSIA, FEDERATION OF	750,000€		3.25	2
2	Gazprom	RUSSIA, FEDERATION OF	650,000€	1	2.5	10
3	LUKOIL	RUSSIA, FEDERATION OF	550,000€	4	2	
4	Kaspersky	RUSSIA, FEDERATION OF	250,000€		1	4
5	Novolipetsk Steel	RUSSIA, FEDERATION OF	250,000€		0.75	4
6	Consulting Agency "Rumyantsev & partners" LLC	RUSSIA, FEDERATION OF	150,000€		3	

LobbyFacts can help you to ... avoid dodgy or implausible data

EU Transparency Register data as of: 12 Oct 2024. A total of 12855 results.

#	Name	Head office in	Lobby costs	EP passes	Lobbyists (FTE)	Meetings with EC
31	BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DE L'EDITION FRANCAISE	FRANCE	4,000,000€		1	
32	European Banking Federation	BELGIUM	4,000,000€		11.6	75
33	EU Focus Group	BELGIUM	3,970,000€		12.5	2
34	ExxonMobil Petroleum & Chemical	BELGIUM	3,500,000€	5	6.1	62
35	Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie e.V.	GERMANY	3,500,000€	4	12.7	193
36	Dow Europe GmbH	SWITZERLAND	3,500,000€	2	6.3	79
37	Ordem dos Solicitadores e dos Agentes de Execução	PORTUGAL	3,500,000€		1.25	
38	APCO Worldwide	UNITED STATES	3,185,000€	20	62	26
39	Acumen Public Affairs	BELGIUM	3,075,000€	18	27.5	6
40	Bundesverband deutscher Banken e.V.	GERMANY	3,000,000€	2	15.25	87

But watch out...!

14	Dentons Global Advisors Europe SA	BELGIUM	5,575,000€	24	65.75	19
15	European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations	LUXEMBOURG	5,500,000€	7	13.4	118
16	EUROFI	FRANCE	5,000,000€		3.5	
17	Amazon Europe Core SARL	LUXEMBOURG	5,000,000€		7.45	124

NEWS > FINANCIAL SERVICES

The secretive €6M EU lobby group paying for lawmakers to stay in fancy hotels

With membership fees said to be about €50,000, the huge increase in Eurofi's budget raises concerns about its power over financial policymaking.

LobbyFacts tips:

- ▶ Searches can be **downloaded**
- ▶ We have (limited) capacity for bespoke **data requests** so get in touch if you need help
- ▶ There is more detail in our **how to guide**:
<https://www.lobbyfacts.eu/how-to>
- ▶ Check out our **disclaimer**:
<https://www.lobbyfacts.eu/disclaimer>
- ▶ You can check financial data for BE-based organisations, at the **National Bank of Belgium**
- ▶ And if you **publish** using LobbyFacts data, let us know: <https://www.lobbyfacts.eu/latest-stories>



Thank you



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