

# CORPORATE LOBBYING & EU Member States

Member States are key actors in the European Union's policy-making process, along with the European Commission and the European Parliament. For corporate lobbyists, they are primary targets to influence EU laws and policies.



## Council of the European Union

The governments of the EU Member States are represented in the **Council of the European Union**.

The **presidency of the Council** of the EU rotates among the EU Member States every six months. Presidencies produce proposals and find compromises among the other Member States.

An opportunity for corporate lobbyist to influence the presidency's agenda



**The European Commission** is the institution responsible for proposing legislation and implementing decisions.

**Comitology** is a series of committees, run by the European Commission, where EU Member States input into how the EU policies are implemented, and can strongly influence the details of agreed rules.

An opportunities for corporate lobbyist to influence the implementation of the rules



An opportunity for corporate lobbyist to influence Member States' positions

Member State officials working in **Permanent Representations to the EU** prepare national positions for the negotiations in the Council.

Perm. Reps. are not subject to EU rules regarding lobby transparency, access to documents, or revolving doors and conflicts of interest.

**EU Agencies** help the European Commission take decisions and implement policies.

Agency committees contribute to setting the agency's position. Member State officials working in these committees can have conflicts of interest related to side activities or former jobs.



## European Parliament

The European Parliament is the only parliamentary institution of the European Union that is directly elected by EU citizens.



## European Council

**European Council** plays a key role in EU's policy-making and coordination, setting out its agenda through the conclusions of the European Summits.



An opportunity for corporate lobbyist to influence the EU agenda-setting