

SHOULD THERE BE A TEST FOR MEPs TO TEST THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF EUROPE, ECONOMICS AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICS?



Sari Essayah

Group of the European People's Party
(Christian Democrats)

“Sovereignty is the only criteria for a candidate for the European Parliament. It would danger democracy to set any other criteria. From the viewpoint of human rights, all the limitations for being a candidate are problematic.”



Hannu Takkula:

Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe

“I think that there should not be a test. We operate in open democracy and people can choose freely their representatives. It is simply democracy. I feel that the candidates should know the EU institutions and their political structures, but a test can't be required.”



Anneli Jäätteenmäki

Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe

“I don't support the idea of organizing that kind of an exam. I still hope that the candidates and all EU-citizens would understand the importance of democracy.”



Liisa Jaakonsaari

Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

“The European Parliament is the only institution in the EU in which the members are directly elected. The election is a hard test for the candidates. And actually, there can't be any other test. It would be best, if the media was more interested about the EU. The issues handled in the EU are often difficult and complicated.”



Jan Store

Ambassador Jan Store, Finland's permanent representative to the European Union

“My answer is NO. Voters are the ones whose job is to judge what kind of representatives they want to have in the European Parliament. The candidates are supposed to present their policy and thoughts about different questions in front of the voters. And by that, the voters make their decision.”