







## Ireland<sup>1</sup>

Partis nationaux	Group in the European Parliament	Link to the official party site	Link to the official campaign site	Link to the programme	Slogan	Link to the detailed list
Fine Gael (FG) Fine Gael		<a href="http://www.finegaele.ie">www.finegaele.ie</a>	x	<a href="http://www.finegaele.org/policy/c/20/article/">http://www.finegaele.org/policy/c/20/article/</a>	x	<a href="http://www.finegaele.org/policy/c/20/article/">http://www.finegaele.org/policy/c/20/article/</a>
(Lab) Labour Party		<a href="http://www.labour.ie">www.labour.ie</a>	x	<a href="http://www.labour.ie/download/pdf/euro_manifesto_211_draft_1.pdf">http://www.labour.ie/download/pdf/euro_manifesto_211_draft_1.pdf</a>	Putting people, jobs and fairness at the heart of Europe	<a href="http://www.labour.ie/">http://www.labour.ie/</a>
(PD) Progressive Democrats <sup>2</sup>		<a href="http://www.progressivedemocrats.ie">http://www.progressivedemocrats.ie</a>	x	x	x	<a href="http://www.progressivedemocrats.ie/our_election_candidates">http://www.progressivedemocrats.ie/our_election_candidates</a>
(FF) Fianna Fail		<a href="http://www.fiannafail.ie">www.fiannafail.ie</a>	x	<a href="http://www.fiannafail.ie/page/s/manifestos2009">http://www.fiannafail.ie/page/s/manifestos2009</a>	x	<a href="http://www.fiannafail.ie/content/pages/our-candidates-for-june-5th/#european">http://www.fiannafail.ie/content/pages/our-candidates-for-june-5th/#european</a>
(GP) Green Party		<a href="http://www.greenparty.ie">www.greenparty.ie</a>	<a href="http://www.election09.ie/">http://www.election09.ie/</a>	<a href="http://www.election09.ie/european-elections/manifesto">http://www.election09.ie/european-elections/manifesto</a>	x	<a href="http://www.election09.ie/">http://www.election09.ie/</a>
(SF) Sinn Fein (SF)		<a href="http://www.sinnfein.ie">www.sinnfein.ie</a>	<a href="http://www.sinnfeineu.com/">http://www.sinnfeineu.com/</a>	<a href="http://www.ardfheis.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/eu09-manifestoweb.pdf">http://www.ardfheis.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/eu09-manifestoweb.pdf</a>	Keeping Ireland at the heart of Europe	<a href="http://www.sinnfeineu.com/en/sf-eu-candidates">http://www.sinnfeineu.com/en/sf-eu-candidates</a>

<sup>1</sup> Updated 27/05/09

<sup>2</sup> The parties highlighted in blue are the governing parties

(SP) Socialist Party	-	<a href="http://www.socialistparty.net">www.socialistparty.net</a>	<a href="http://www.socialistparty.net/index.php/elections-2009.html">http://www.socialistparty.net/index.php/elections-2009.html</a>	<a href="http://www.socialistparty.net/index.php/elections-2009.html">http://www.socialistparty.net/index.php/elections-2009.html</a>	x	<a href="http://www.joehiggins.eu/category/europe/">http://www.joehiggins.eu/category/europe/</a>
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Source : Data collated and processed by the Robert Schuman Foundation, Fondation Robert Schuman ©

#### **Analysis of the electoral campaign 5 weeks before the elections:**

**Author :** Aoife Roche

**Election Date:** 5th June (local elections on the same day)

**Number of MEPs to be elected:** 12

The campaign has not really started and the media are showing that the major stakes are national, notably economic (present economic crisis, health, education agriculture) and even local – the Irish are also voting on 5th June to renew their local representatives. The main opposition party Fine Gael (FG) is undertaking a hard campaign against Fianna Fail (FF) in power. The Libertas party will also be running for the first time in Ireland in two constituencies. Its founder Declan Ganley, a candidate in the North West has said he would give up his campaign against the Lisbon Treaty if he failed to win a seat as MEP, a position he would so much like to occupy. Finally Fianna Fail has just left the UEN group (Union for Europe of the Nations), too diverse and far too eurosceptic to its taste, to join the Alliance of Democrats and Liberals for Europe (ALDE).

The most recent survey reveals the following trends: Fine Gael, 30% Fianna Fail, 23% (losing ground), Labour Party (Lab), 22%, Sinn Fein (SF), far right party against the Lisbon Treaty and main beneficiary of Fianna Fail's decline.