Getting your research into the European Parliament

Why?

- Helps MEPS scrutinize proposals from the European Commission
- Informs policies and laws
- Demonstrates the societal impact of research...
- Which is high on the agenda for EU, universities and funders

The routes in:

- MEP initiatives and events
- The European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS)
- Intergroups
- Committee hearings
- European Commission proposals
- Correspondence with individual members
- A charity, think tank, or evidence broker

TOP 10 TIPS:

Making connections

1. Be visible online or at events so policy makers can find you. Make sure your contact details are easy to find.
2. Invest time to find out who is making the policy decisions.
3. Team up with researchers from other fields, NGOs, and lobby organizations to widen your connections.
4. Use networks within your institution or professional association.
5. Someone is representing you in Parliament. Find out who your MEP is and get in touch with them.
6. Put yourself in the mind of a policy maker. Don’t tell policy makers what you want; ask them what they need.
7. Timing: Find out where your topic is in the policy cycle. A useful tool is the legislative train schedule.
8. Translate: Explain your research in a way that non-specialist policy makers will be able to understand.
9. Be brief: Use short key messages with links to evidence. Consider visuals - a picture can paint a thousand words.
10. Provide context: How does your research fit into the bigger policy question? Be honest about limitations and caveats.


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