Annual report on the functioning of the Transparency Register 2025

Presented by the Transparency Register Management Board

to

the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission

An annual report on the functioning of the Transparency Register is to be submitted to the signatory institutions, in line with Article 13(3) of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency Register.

This report sets out factual information on the Transparency Register, its content and any changes concerning it in 2025. It also reports on the conditionality and complementary transparency measures, which are in force in the signatory institutions in the same year.

Contents

I. Executive summary

The use of the Transparency Register as a key information and reference tool for interest representation activities at EU level continued to grow in 2025. This trend is evidenced by a marked increase in new applications for registration compared with previous years. The surge can be directly attributed to the introduction of new conditionality measures by the signatory institutions.

As a public reference tool, the Register is expected to deliver both robust functionality and high-quality, reliable data. In 2025, the Secretariat addressed these expectations by updating the guidelines for applicants and registrants, as well as the FAQs and registration form, notably clarifying some requirements related to financial disclosures. The Secretariat also enhanced the website and digital platform – initially launched in 2024 – by introducing new features and functionalities, thereby improving the overall user experience.

The Secretariat further strengthened its oversight by continuing systematic data quality monitoring, covering nearly 60% of all registrations in 2025. At the same time, administrative experience indicates that users are becoming more familiar with the mechanism for complaints, contributing to a decline in manifestly inadmissible or unfounded complaints.

These developments are examined in greater detail in the report.

II. Introduction

The Transparency Register is the EU’s primary reference tool for interest representation at Union level. It provides the public with up-to-date information about interest representation activities aimed at influencing the current law-making and policy implementation processes of the EU institutions. In particular, it enables users to identify who is engaged in interest representation, on whose behalf, which legislative initiatives are targeted and what human and financial resources are devoted to these activities.

As such, the Register plays a central role in promoting transparent and ethical interest representation, while enhancing the openness and visibility of stakeholders and civil society organisations’ participation in the EU’s democratic decision-making process. By registering, interest representatives commit to a code of conduct that sets out the ethical principles and behavioural standards governing their interactions with the EU institutions.

The Transparency Register is jointly operated by the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission, on the basis of the Interinstitutional Agreement (IIA) adopted in 2021[1].

In accordance with Article 13 of the IIA, this report provides factual information on the Register, its content and developments during the reporting period. It also presents an overview of the conditionality and complementary transparency measures currently applied by the signatory institutions.

III. Governance

The Transparency Register operates under a two-tier governance structure, consisting of a Management Board, which provides strategic oversight and a Secretariat which is responsible for day-to-day administration.

The Management Board oversees the overall implementation of the IIA. It defines the annual needs and priorities of the Register, adopts the annual report on its functioning and issues general instructions to the Secretariat. It also examines and decides on requests for review of measures taken by the Secretariat following investigations.

The Board is composed of the Secretaries-General of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission. It meets at least once a year, with the chair rotating annually among its members. In 2025, the Secretary-General of the European Parliament held the chair. At its meeting on 21 May 2025, the Board appointed the Secretariat's Coordinator, adopted the annual report for the previous year as well as the Register's budget and priorities for the year ahead.

The Secretariat supports interest representatives through the registration process, including by providing guidance and assessing the eligibility of applications. It is also responsible for monitoring the quality of information submitted by registrants through targeted checks.

In addition, the Secretariat handles complaints concerning alleged breaches of the code of conduct by registrants. Where appropriate, it may open investigations into registrants' continued eligibility and observance of the code and apply measures in cases of non-compliance. The Secretariat also carries out awareness-raising activities (see section V) and reports on its work in the annual report.

The Secretariat is made up of staff from the three signatory institutions. In 2025 this amounted to 13 full-time equivalent staff members. In 2025, the head of the unit responsible for transparency in the General Secretariat of the Council was the designated Coordinator of the Secretariat.

In view of the scheduled review of the IIA, due by 2 July 2025 in accordance with Article 14(2) thereof, at its 2025 meeting the Management Board endorsed a mapping report prepared by the Secretariat outlining the state of implementation of the IIA to date. The Management Board noted that, without prejudice to the assessment by the signatory institutions on the review, the mapping report showed that the IIA has established a well-working Register that remains suitable for the objectives sought by the institutions and that further improvements and reinforcements to the Register can be made within the context of the current IIA.

Detailed information on the governance of the Transparency Register can be found in the dedicated Governance section on the Transparency Register's website.

[1] Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register, OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1.

IV. Conditionality and complementary transparency measures

The European Parliament, Council and Commission each adopt, by means of individual decisions, conditionality measures whereby registration in the Transparency Register is a precondition for interest representatives to be able to carry out certain key interest representation activities. The three institutions may also adopt complementary transparency measures to further encourage registration and strengthen the joint framework established by the IIA.

Other EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, as well as Member States in relation to their permanent representations to the EU, may notify the Management Board of conditionality or complementary transparency measures that they adopt, and ask for these to be published on the Transparency Register website. Transparency measures are already in place in the European Economic and Social Committee and the European Committee of the Regions. In 2025, the European Data Protection Supervisor adopted conditionality and transparency measures which were notified to the Management Board. The Secretariat received questions from other EU bodies that were looking into this possibility.

All Member States have committed to apply a conditionality measure during their Presidency of the Council and in the six months preceding it, by making meetings between their respective Permanent Representative and Deputy Permanent Representative to the EU and interest representatives conditional on the latter registering in the Transparency Register.

That conditionality measure applies to meetings organised with the Permanent Representative and Deputy Permanent Representative when acting in their capacity of acting or incoming Presidency of the Council. Therefore, interest representatives cannot participate in such meetings unless they are registered. In 2025, this applied to Poland and Denmark as they were holding the Presidencies of the Council of the EU, and to Cyprus as the incoming Presidency.

A list of the conditionality and other transparency measures currently in force in the EU institutions is outlined below and can also be found on the dedicated page of the Transparency Register website.

European Parliament

In 2025, the European Parliament's measures that require interest representatives to be registered when they are given a platform on Parliament premises have included: rules on events, MEPs' intergroups and unofficial groupings, former MEPs, meetings between interest representatives and managers, and long-term access to the premises.

Active participation or co-organisation of events held on Parliament premises is conditional on prior registration on the Transparency Register[2], meaning that any interest representative involved as a speaker or as a co-organiser from a logistical, practical or financial point of view must be registered. These rules apply in addition to the already established conditionality measure requiring[3] that speakers at Parliament's committee hearings are registered prior to the hearing.

[2] Decision of the Bureau of the European Parliament of 12 June 2023.
[3] Article 8 of the Decision of the Bureau of the European Parliament of 24 June 2024.

Only registered interest representatives may participate in the activities of MEP's intergroups and unofficial groupings[4] on Parliament's premises, by participating, offering support, or co-hosting their events and registrants can be transparent about which groupings they support as part of the information they provide on the Register.

The Parliament continued to apply its conditionality measure requiring former MEPs to observe a six-month cooling-off period before they register and engage in interest representation activities with sitting MEPs[5]. The code of conduct for MEPs regarding integrity and transparency mirrors this rule[6].

In terms of access to decision-makers for lobbying purposes, only registered interest representatives may apply for long-term access to Parliament premises[7]. On 31 December 2025, of the 16 474 entities registered in the Transparency Register, 3 642 had at least one accredited representative with a badge to access Parliament's premises, and there were 8 340 active badges in total. Following the roll-out of the Parliament's new online application platform in 2024, the system was improved in 2025 to process applications for badges only up to the number of persons declared by interest representatives on the Transparency Register to be engaged in influencing activities. As before, the names of people with accreditation to enter the Parliament's premises for interest representation purposes on behalf of a registered entity are published on that interest representative's register profile page.

All MEPs are required to publish online information on their scheduled meetings with interest representatives falling under the scope of the interinstitutional agreement[8]. This means any meeting relating to parliamentary business (report, opinion, resolution, plenary debate or urgency) held with the purpose of influencing the policy or decision-making process of the European institutions, whether in person or remote.

The obligation applies regardless of whether MEPs attend the meeting personally or Members' parliamentary assistants attend on their behalf. The published meetings are linked to the registrants' respective profiles on the Transparency Register. As of 31 December 2025, MEPs had declared 32 122 meetings for 2025. Taking account of their specific role and mandate, it is recommended[9] that MEPs meet only those representatives which are registered on the Transparency Register. In addition, rapporteurs are required to add a 'declaration of input' to their draft reports or opinions, listing the organisations or people from whom they received input on matters pertaining to the subject of the initiative[10].

[4] European Parliament Rules of Procedure: Rule 35(5) and 36(5).
[5] Decision of the Bureau of the European Parliament of 17 April 2023.
[6] Article 9 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the European Parliament.
[7] Rule 126 of the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure.
[8] Article 7 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the European Parliament
[9] Rule 11(2) of the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure.
[10] Article 8 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the European Parliament.

In 2025, Parliament further broadened its conditionality and transparency requirements following the adoption of rules[11], which require Parliament's managers to meet only registered interest representatives, and to declare such meetings as well as meetings with representatives of public authorities of third countries. Following the entry into force of the rules on 1 September 2025, a total 107 meetings have been declared on the Parliament's website during the reporting period.

To improve transparency and encourage registration, Parliament sends automatic alerts to registrants who have specified an interest in particular policy areas, notifying them of the work done by the relevant Parliamentary committees.

Council of the EU

As set out in [Council Decision (EU) 2021/929](), registration in the Transparency Register is a precondition for interest representatives to meet the Secretary-General of the Council or the Directors-General.

The same rule applies for the participation by interest representatives, in their professional capacity, in thematic briefings organised by the General Secretariat of the Council (where appropriate and after consulting the Presidency) or as speakers at public events organised by the General Secretariat. Since 1 January 2025 these activities subject to conditionality are internally registered and for 2025 consisted in 23 meetings and 7 thematic briefings.

A broad definition of meetings is applied, intended to cover 'any scheduled encounter with one or more interest representatives, either in person or through any form of remote connection, whether on the Council premises or not, and including during missions.

In addition, while encounters of a purely private or social nature and unscheduled or spontaneous meetings are not covered, the rules instruct staff to refrain from engaging in substantive discussions about the formulation or implementation of policy or legislation, or the decision-making processes of the European Council or the Council, in any such meetings or encounters.

In addition, before any meeting with any interest representatives, all staff of the General Secretariat of the Council are requested to check the credentials of interest representatives in order to ensure that they have an active entry in the Transparency Register. If not, these staff should carefully assess how appropriate the meetings are and consult with their line manager[12].

As a further measure to improve transparency and encourage registration, invitations to interest representatives to attend a meeting of the Council or its preparatory bodies should be conditional on them being registered in the Transparency Register.

Their registration number should be recorded on the provisional agenda. The Council's annual report on the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council

[11] Decision of the Bureau of the European Parliament of 5 May 2025
[12] Staff note 17/24 of 13 December 2024. Also, Staff note CP 42/22

and Commission documents includes relevant information about the attendance of interest representatives at meetings of the Council or its preparatory bodies[13].

European Commission

2025 was the first full year of implementation of the Commission's strengthened transparency measures concerning meetings held between Commission decision-makers and interest representatives.

The Commission applied already Transparency Register requirements to Commissioners, their cabinet members and Directors-General: these are allowed only to meet interest representatives registered in the Transparency Register and must provide public details of all such meetings[14].

As of 1 January 2025 the Commission requires Commissioners, their cabinet members and all staff holding management functions in the Commission and its executive agencies, including the (Deputy) Secretary-General, the (Deputy) Directors-General and all Directors and Heads of Unit or equivalent, to only meet interest representatives which are registered in the Transparency Register and publish information on, and minutes of, all such meetings in accordance with Commission Decisions (EU) 2024/3081[15] and (EU) 2024/3082[16]. The Commission has published information on meetings[17] held with 5 079 registrants in 2025. Those registrants held 7 226 meetings with Commissioners and/or members of their cabinets and 7 057 meetings with Commission managers[18]. In addition, the Commission made publicly available the same number of minutes of such meetings.

The information on meetings, in addition to being published on the Commission website[19], is also made available as a list of meetings on the pages of the registrants concerned in the Transparency Register. The Commission also makes publicly available consolidated datasets of meetings held with registered interest on the European data portal, in machine readable and Excel format. This provides interested parties and the public with accessible information that is comprehensive and easily processed to extract the relevant information.

[13] Guidelines on the occasional attendance of third parties, including interest representatives, at meetings of the Council or its preparatory bodies, 22 July 2021.
[14] These obligations are set out for Commissioners and their cabinets in Article 7 of Commission Decision of 31 January 2018 on a Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission (C(2018)700) (OJ C 65, 21.2.2018, p. 7). The publication requirements apply since 2014.
[15] Commission Decision (EU) 2024/3081 of 4 December 2024 on transparency measures concerning meetings held between Members of the Commission and interest representatives, and repealing Decision 2014/839/EU, Euratom, OJ L, 2024/3081, 5.12.2024.
[16] Commission Decision (EU) 2024/3082 of 4 December 2024 on transparency measures concerning meetings held between Commission staff holding management functions and interest representatives, and repealing Decision 2014/838/EU, Euratom, OJ L, 2024/3082, 5.12.2024.
[17] These details consist of the date of the meeting, the location, the name of the Commissioner and/or cabinet member or Commission management staff, the name of the interest representative and the subject of the meeting. They are published within 2 weeks of the meeting taking place.
[18] The same registrant may be concerned by more than one meeting.
[19] In particular, the dedicated transparency webpages of the websites of the Members of the Commission, and of Directorates-General of the Commission.

The Commission appoints only registered interest representatives to Commission expert groups, in line with its internal rules[20]. This requirement (prior registration) applies to both Type 'B'[21] and 'C'[22] members. If these members are suspended or removed from the Transparency Register, the Commission suspends them from the expert group(s) on which they sit until their registration has been re-established.

As a further measure to improve transparency and encourage registration, the Commission sends automatic alerts to registrants who have specified an interest in particular policy areas, notifying them of the launch of public consultations or roadmaps in these fields. Contributions to these consultation exercises from registrants are also processed separately from those of non-registered respondents[23]. These contributions can be found on the registrants' pages in the Register.

[20] Article 8 of Commission Decision of 30 May 2016 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups (C(2016)3301).
[21] Individuals appointed to represent a common interest shared by stakeholders in a particular policy area.
[22] Organisations in the broad sense, including companies, associations, non-governmental organisations, trade unions, universities, research institutes, law firms and consultancies.
[23] Better Regulation Guidelines of the European Commission (SWD (2017)350), in particular Chapter VII Guidelines on Stakeholder Consultation.

V. Activities of the Secretariat

The Management Board determined the following annual priorities for the Transparency Register for 2025:

- streamlining monitoring activities to ensure high data quality standards of registration, allowing for all registrations to be checked once every three years following initial validation;

- improving the public experience of the Transparency Register, by improving communication on conditionality and transparency measures, providing regularly updated guidance to registrants, and improving the public look and feel of the new TR website;

- improving communication on complaints handling, by clearly communicating its investigative powers, with a view to inviting more meaningful cooperation from registrants and allowing the Register to continue to stand up to public scrutiny;

- support for the 2025 review of the IIA by carrying out a mapping exercise outlining the state of implementation of the IIA to date and reflecting the Register's evolution as well as the Secretariat´s acquired experience in performing its tasks.

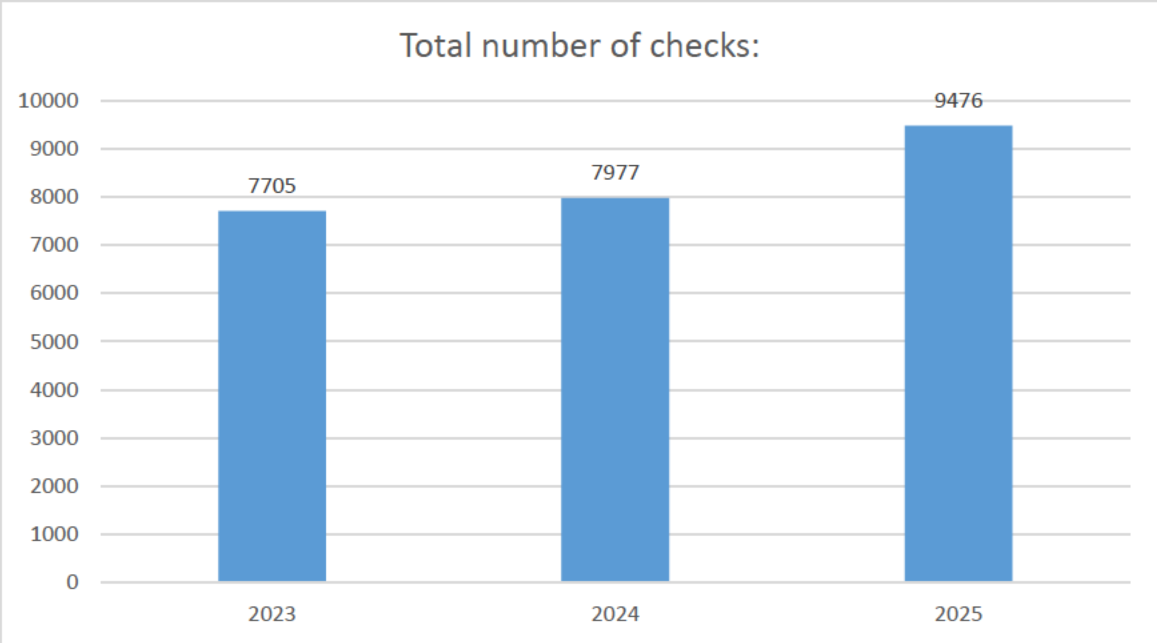
The Secretariat worked on delivering on these annual priorities, including by handling a surge in new applications, ensuring timely helpdesk assistance and by introducing a number of improvements to the IT platform, in conjunction with its daily activities, detailed below.

1. Data quality monitoring

The Transparency Register provides information on current lobbying activities carried out by interest representatives in relation to the formulation or implementation of EU policies and decision-making processes. This includes details of the main legislative proposals or policies targeted. As such, the data is dynamic: some interest representatives register for a limited period, while others remain listed over a longer term.

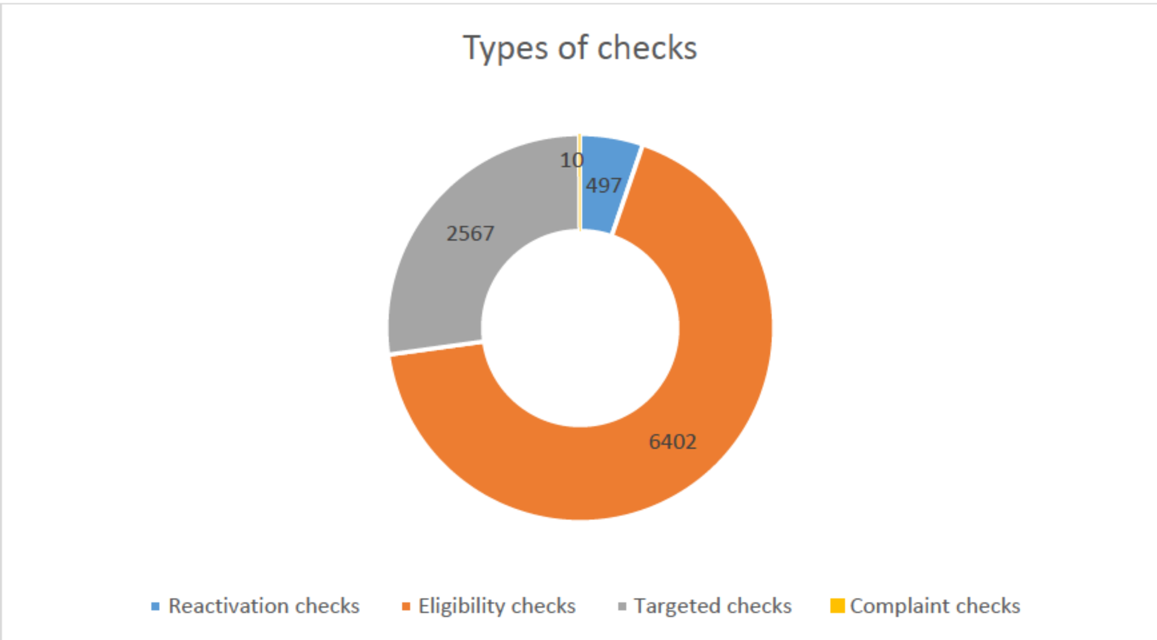
By registering, interest representatives commit to providing information that is complete, up-to-date, accurate and not misleading. They remain fully responsible for the accuracy of their data. Registrants are required to review and update their information whenever significant changes occur and, at a minimum, to renew their registration annually in order to remain listed. They also receive reminders to review their data at least twice a year.

Ensuring the overall quality of the data is a core task of the Secretariat. To this end, it reminds registrants of their obligations and monitors compliance with the Register's requirements.



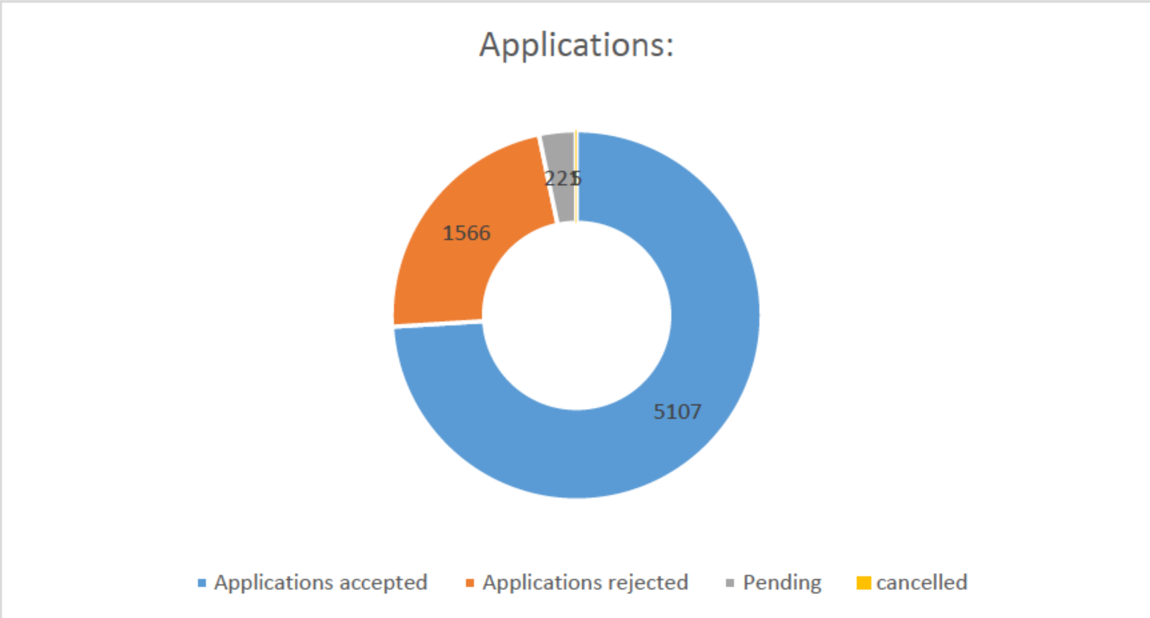
In 2025, as part of its general monitoring activities, the Secretariat checked a total of 9 476 entities that either applied for registration (including re-activation requests) or were already entered in the Register (including complaints-related checks). This represents a notable increase of 18.7% over the number of checks performed the previous year, which can be attributed to a marked rise in applications.

These checks consisted of screenings carried out at the application stage, targeted quality checks on the data provided by already registered entities and any additional checks carried out as part of investigation procedures.



Application stage

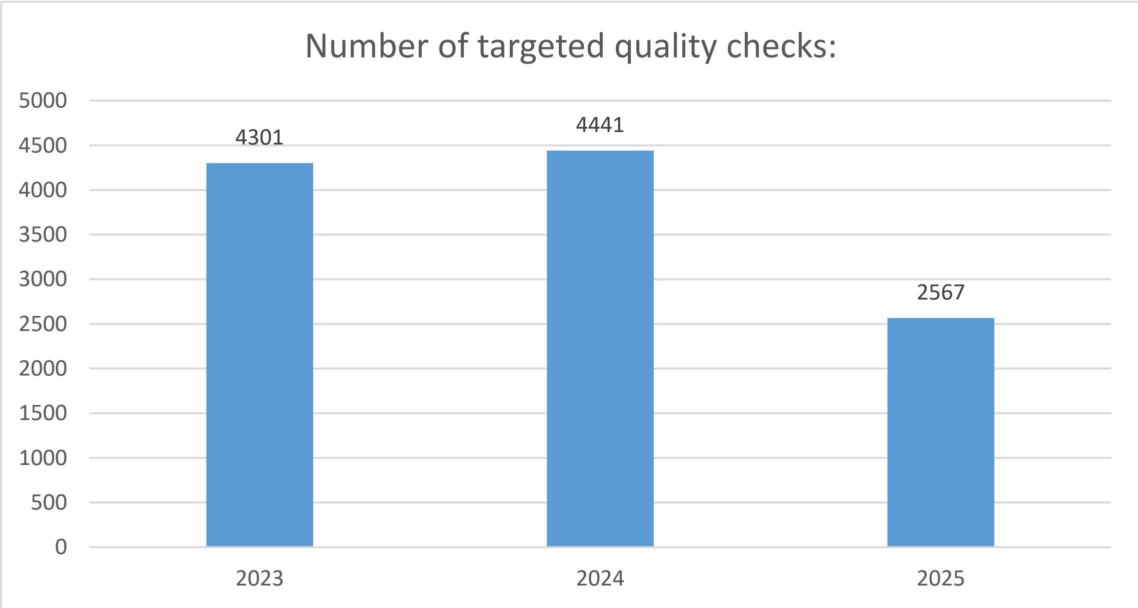
The Secretariat systematically assesses the eligibility and data quality of all new applications for registration before they are activated and published on the Register, ensuring greater relevance, reliability and consistency of the information disclosed. In 2025, the introduction of enhanced transparency measures coincided with an unprecedented surge in interest representation reporting. The Secretariat received a total of 6 899 applications for registration – almost 18 per day – marking a 95% increase compared to 2024 and a dramatic rise over previous years. This exceptional growth represents a steep change in engagement with the Register.[24]
Of these applications, 5 107 (74%) were accepted and activated following the initial verification process, which in most cases required applicants to update or correct their submissions. This high volume of new registrations, combined with strengthened scrutiny, has not only expanded the Register significantly but also contributed to the overall quality of the information it contains.



Targeted checks

In addition to the continuous review of new applications, the Secretariat carries out targeted checks on existing registrations, focusing in particular on cases where there are indications that the required information may not have been reported accurately. In 2025, the Secretariat conducted a total of 2 567 targeted quality checks. While this represents a decrease compared to previous years, it should be seen in the context of the sharp rise in new applications undergoing scrutiny as well as the overall improvement in the quality of the information provided following the checks performed already at the application stage. Together, these developments point to a more efficient and better-functioning registration system.

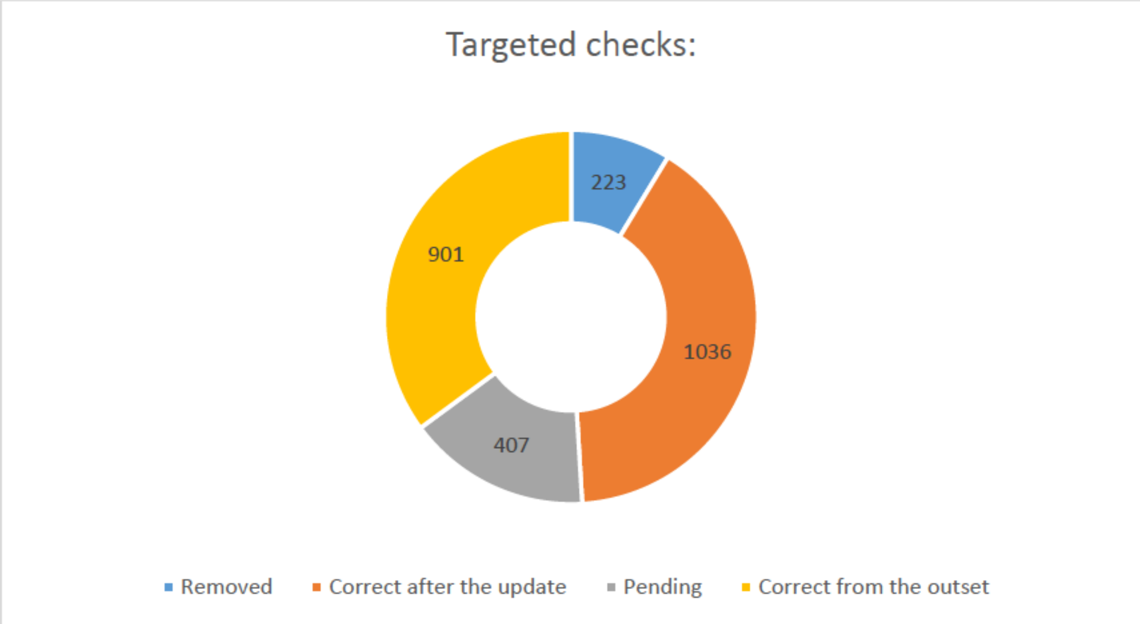
[24] 13118 on 31 December 2024 and 16474 on 31 December 2025.



Of these:

- 1 937 (75%) of checked registrants provided satisfactory data quality, either from the outset (901 registrations or 35%), or after being prompted by the Secretariat to update (1 036 registrations or 40%);
- 223 were removed from the Register following the check performed by the Secretariat, either for ineligibility or failure to update (9%);
- 407 cases were still pending at the end of 2025 (16%).

Additionally, 119 registrations self-removed from the Register, and 1 411 were removed automatically after neglecting to update their registration at least once every 12 months.



As part of its 2025 priority to streamline monitoring and maintain high data quality standards, the Secretariat targeted registrations that had not been reviewed for three years (since May 2022). These checks led to corrections of outdated data or inconsistent information, including more accurate and consistent declarations of clients and intermediaries. The results of this monitoring exercise confirmed the need for systematic and regular monitoring of all entities in the Register to ensure a periodic and comprehensive review of its content, without overlooking any registered entity.

The Secretariat also carried out targeted checks on registrations showing potential inconsistencies in financial data. In particular, it examined cases with unusually high or low estimated annual costs related to activities covered by the Transparency Register, or declared total budgets. In addition, checks were conducted where there were discrepancies between the number of individuals reported as carrying out interest representation activities and the number of access authorisations issued by the European Parliament for those registrants. These efforts helped accelerate the alignment of registration data, following the introduction in autumn 2025 of an automated consistency check on accreditation requests.

In 2025, 75% of registrations met satisfactory data quality standards either from the outset or as a result of the Secretariat's targeted check, compared with 83% in 2024. While this represents a moderate decrease, the result remains broadly in line with recent years and may reflect the more stringent monitoring measures introduced to further improve data quality. At the same time, the proportion of removals from the Register due to ineligibility or failure to update decreased slightly, from 10% to 9%, indicating a modest improvement in compliance.

Overall, the upward trend in data quality continued in 2025, supported both by the high number of compliant new registrations following eligibility checks and by the Secretariat's targeted monitoring of specific segments of the Register.

2. Helpdesk service

The Secretariat provides a helpdesk service through a multilingual website, available to applicants, registrants and the public to respond to all types of queries related to the Transparency Register. It aims to provide assistance, as promptly as possible, generally responding within 48 hours.

In 2025, the Secretariat handled 2 048 queries. These included requests for general information about the Transparency Register from stakeholders, researchers and individuals, as well as requests for technical support and guidance from applicants and registrants during the registration process or when encountering technical difficulties. Of these queries, 478 concerned the submission of an application for a new registration, 1 231 related to existing registrations, and 339 did not specify the precise topic when submitted.

The total number of queries received increased again in 2025, compared to 2024[25], rising by approximately 11%. which may also reflect the intensification in the Secretariat's monitoring activities.

3. Investigations

The Secretariat is responsible for monitoring registrants' continued eligibility and observance of the code of conduct of the Transparency Register and, handles complaints and conducts own-initiative investigations in accordance with the procedures set out in Annex III to the IIA. In doing so, it follows the principles of proportionality and good administration.

A 'Complaint' refers to a procedure concerning allegations that a registrant has failed to comply with the Code of Conduct. Any natural or legal person may submit such a complaint by completing the complaint form available on the Transparency Register website and providing supporting evidence.

An 'Own-initiative investigation' is a procedure in which the Secretariat examines whether a registrant is eligible to remain on the Register. This may be based on information received or identified, for example in cases of absence of relevant activities or non-observance of the Code of Conduct.

In 2025, the Secretariat handled 10 complaints carried over from the previous year, one of which was deemed inadmissible. The other nine admissible complaints from the previous year concerned issues such as accurate and complete declarations of memberships and affiliations, associated costs, intermediaries and communication activities. Of the nine registrants concerned by these investigations, seven provided satisfactory information and updated their registrations in line with the Secretariat's recommendations. Two registrants were removed from the Register as a result of these investigations, including one case involving additional measures (prohibition of registration for a period of three months).

In the course of 2025, the Secretariat received 18 new complaints. Eight of these were found to be inadmissible, either because they fell outside the scope of the Transparency Register (for

[25] In 2024, the Secretariat answered 1835.

example, personal grievances or consumer complaints) or because they did not meet the admissibility criteria set out in Annex III to the IIA.

Of the ten admissible complaints, five were closed in 2025, with the full cooperation of the registrants concerned. The remaining five were still under investigation at the end of the year, including three cases for which admissibility had not yet been determined.

When conducting investigations, the Secretariat seeks to maintain a constructive dialogue with the registrant(s) concerned, with the aim of clarifying and resolving issues wherever possible before taking any necessary measures. The Secretariat's commitment to such a constructive and evidence-based dialogue with registrants, and where appropriate with complainants, often requires iterative requests for clarification and supplementary information, which may result in longer investigation periods.

In 2025, the Secretariat also opened two own-initiative investigations concerning two registrants about potential non-observance of the code of conduct in terms of reputational damage, proper identification of themselves, the interests promoted and their behaviour in their relations with decision-makers as well as data quality. These investigations were still ongoing at the end of the year.

4. 2025 Management Board meeting

The Secretariat prepared the fifth meeting of the Management Board, which took place on 21 May 2025. At that meeting, the Management Board took the following decisions:

- Appointed the head of the unit responsible for transparency issues at the European Parliament as 'Coordinator of the Secretariat' for one year (1 January until 31 December 2026);

- Adopted the annual report for 2024, agreed to submit it to the signatory institutions and to publish it on the Transparency Register website;

- Determined the annual priorities for the Register in 2026, together with the budget estimates and share for each signatory institution[26];

- Took note of and endorsed the mapping report prepared by the Secretariat outlining the state of implementation of the IIA to date, ahead of the review by the signatory institutions due by 2 July 2025 under Article 14(2).

The Management Board emphasised that the reliability of the Register's content is essential, given the continued high level of public scrutiny of both, the database and the implementation of the associated measures within the institutions, as well as the strong public expectations placed on the Secretariat for effective monitoring and investigations.

All documents relating to the meeting of the Management Board, including the agenda and minutes of the meeting, are published on the Governance section of the Transparency Register website.

[26] For 2026 the budget estimates can be found on this website. The following shares were agreed: Parliament: 33%; Council: 10%; Commission: 57%.

5. Guidance and awareness raising

The Secretariat issues guidance to clarify and explain in more detail certain requirements in the IIA. This guidance can be the fruit of regular exchanges with stakeholders and aims to help applicants and registrants provide accurate information and avoid common mistakes.

In that context the Secretariat updated in 2025 its guidelines for applicants and registrants and FAQ as well as the registration form with a clarification about some financial information requirements for intermediaries and their clients. During its monitoring activities, the Secretariat may also invite entities to register in the Transparency Register, where appropriate. In 2025, this applied, in particular, to eligible clients that had not yet registered.

The Secretariat undertakes regular communication and awareness-raising activities to promote the tool among stakeholders. In 2025 this included information sessions and exchanges held with various stakeholders[27] and university researchers/students[28], as well as contacts and best practice sharing with similar bodies at national or European level[29].

The three institutions provide considerable awareness-raising activities about the Transparency Register within each institution, through dedicated information and training sessions for Members and staff[30]. In 2025, additional awareness-raising sessions were held to assist with the implementation of new rules linked to conditionality and transparency measures in both Parliament and the Commission.

6. Technical developments

The Secretariat coordinates the development of IT solutions to improve the Transparency Register. In 2025, the Secretariat aimed at further improving the digital platform launched in 2024, by introducing the feature allowing to re-activate removed registrations without losing the (same) registration number and allowing to keep all historical information included therein. The development included also the possibility for registrants to rearrange the order of clients, intermediaries and contributors in their financial declarations, as well as the creation of a link between the information regarding clients and intermediaries in registrations.

[27] MedTech Europe, European Public Affairs Consultancies' Association (EPACA), European Law Academy (ERA), Public Affairs Council (PAC).

[28] European Public Affairs & Advocacy Institute (EPAAI).

[29] OECD, European Lobbying Registrar's Network (ELRN), Advisory Board for the Finnish Transparency Register, German Ministry for Home Affairs, Eurostat.

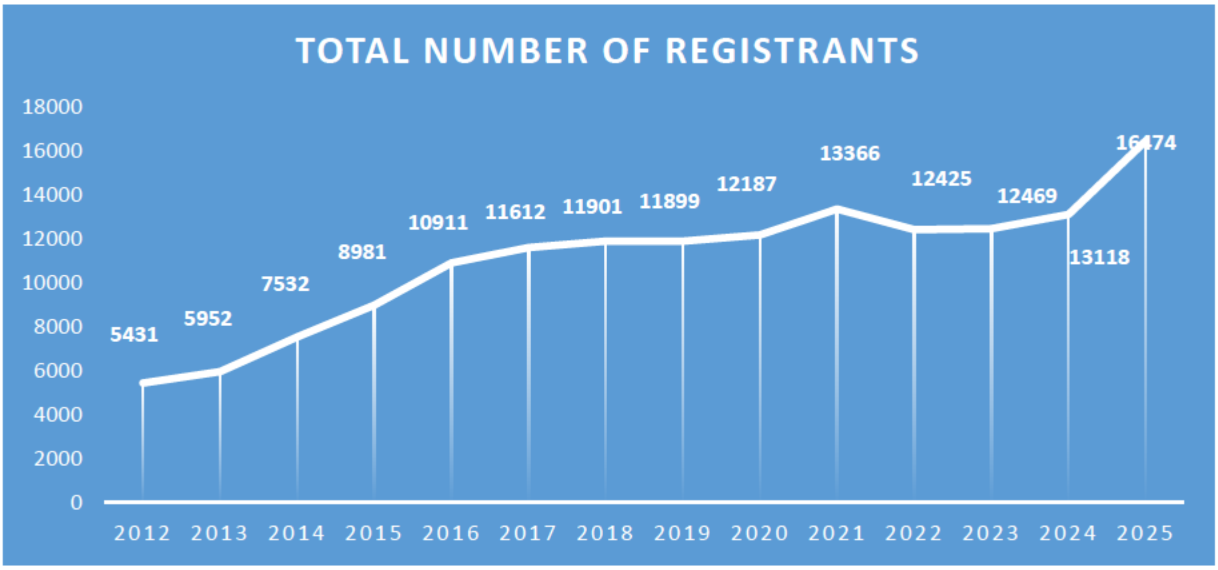
[30] This includes 46 trainings and information sessions for MEPs, staff and accredited assistants in the European Parliament. Three training and information session for GSC staff, one for the Incoming Cyprus Presidency. 15 presentations and information sessions for Commissioners, Cabinets and specific services and 5 regular trainings for staff in the Commission.

VI. Statistics

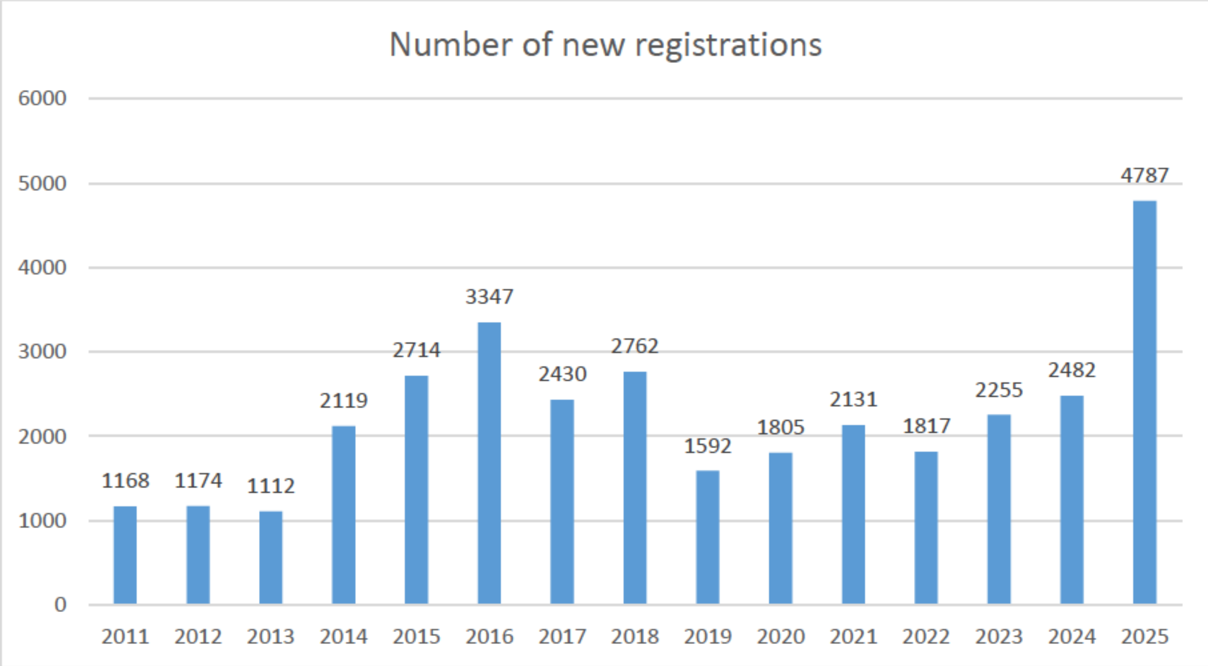
1. Development of the Transparency Register

The Transparency Register has grown steadily from its inception as a joint public database of the European Parliament and the Commission to the current tripartite scheme established by the IIA.

In 2025 the total number of registrants grew significantly, compared to 2024. There were 16 474 registered interest representatives at the end of 2025.

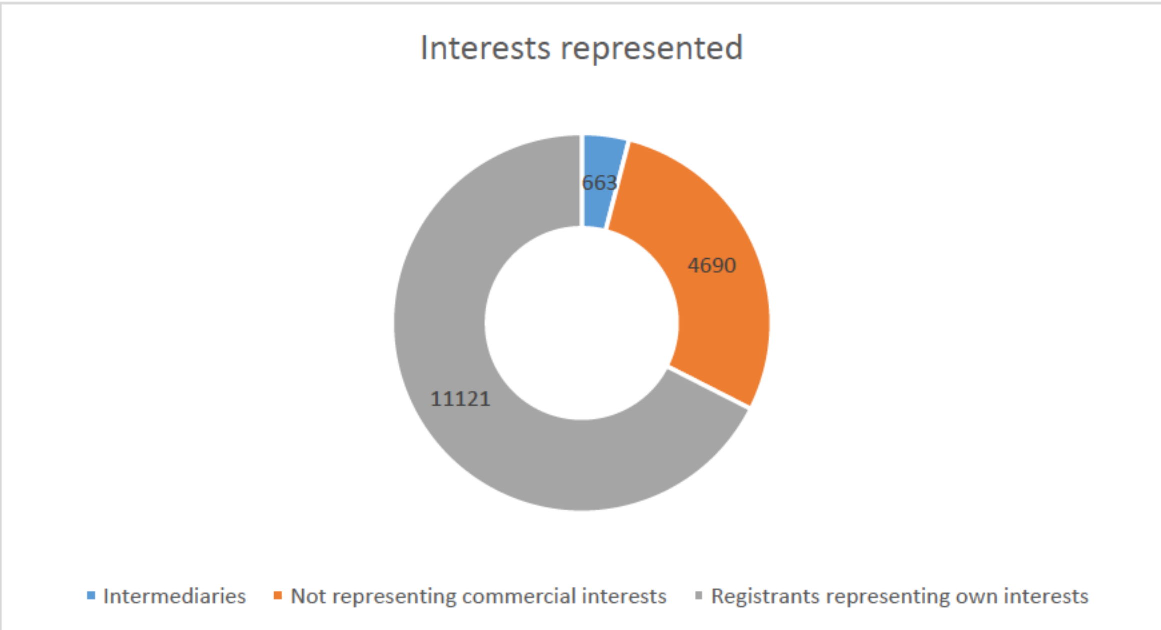


The chart below shows the changes in numbers of new registrations, covering interest representatives registered over a 12-month period (1 January to 31 December 2025) and still active at the end of that period. The number of new registrations in 2025 (4 787) has almost doubled compared to the previous years. The Secretariat received 6 899 applications (almost 18 a day), meaning that 74% of those were accepted and activated following the Secretariat's screening.



2. Interests represented

Under the IIA, registrants are sorted into three main types of interests represented, with different corresponding bands of financial information applicable to each category.

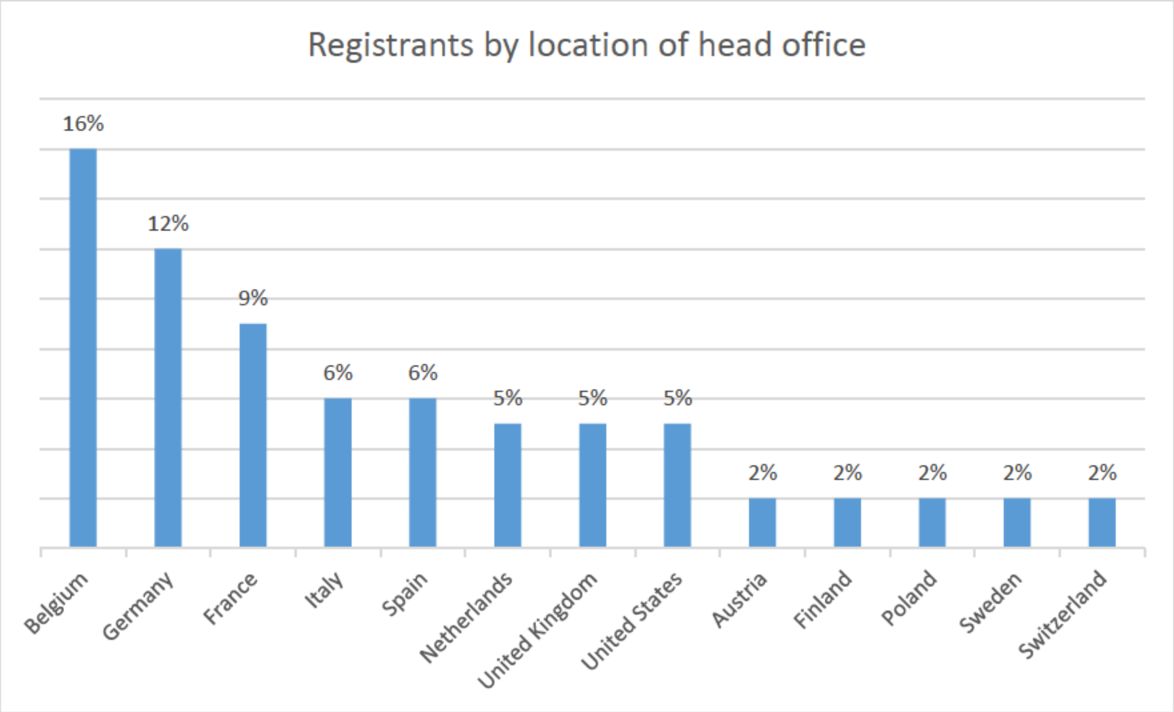


Registrants selected the following sections, describing the form of the interest representative:

Professional consultancies	714
Law firms	111
Self-employed individuals	193
Companies & groups	4922
Trade and business associations	2911
Trade unions and professional associations	1100
Non-governmental organisations, platforms and networks and similar	4444
Think tanks and research institutions	682
Academic institutions	427
Organisations representing churches and religious communities	66
Associations and networks of public authorities	214
Entities, offices or networks established by third countries	3
Other organisations, public or mixed entities	687

3. Geographical data

The Transparency Register is not limited to interest representatives established in the EU, although the largest group operates from establishments based in Belgium. However, since the scope of EU legislation and policy also affects individuals and businesses outside the EU, impacting trade and other external relations beyond the 27 Member States, this global reach is also reflected in the Transparency Register.



4. Transparency Register data views

In 2025, the Register's consolidated dataset on the European data portal was the seventh most viewed among over 1 900 000 datasets published there. These datasets allow users to download (in xml or Excel format) the list of entities featuring on the Transparency Register, with data going back several years.

VII. Conclusions

In 2025, the Transparency Register continued to serve as the main reference tool for tracking interest representation activities at EU level. The total number of registrants increased sharply compared to 2024 and to previous years. New registrations rose significantly, with a 95% increase in applications compared to the previous year; 74% of these were considered eligible and accepted following screening by the Secretariat.

Beyond the usual year-on-year changes in the Register's population, this steep rise in applications can be partly attributed to the introduction of new conditionality measures by the signatory institutions, as well as to the rigorous implementation of existing rules requiring prior registration of interest representatives engaging directly with decision-makers.

The Secretariat continued to enhance the features of the Transparency Register website and database, following the rollout of the new digital platform in the previous year. It also provided updated guidance to registrants, helpdesk support, and awareness-raising activities.

With regard to its core tasks – namely quality monitoring and investigations – the Secretariat reviewed the data quality of almost 60% of all registrants in 2025. Overall, the data in the Transparency Register shows clear signs of stabilisation and improvement, reflecting the impact of intensified monitoring and verification efforts. Targeted monitoring exercises, particularly those focusing on entities that have not been subject to checks for some time, have proven effective in maintaining high data quality standards and raising awareness among registrants of their obligations. Interlinking declarations of clients and their intermediaries has greatly helped with consistency and compliance. In line with the priorities set for 2025, these efforts further confirmed the need for systematic and regular monitoring of all entities to ensure a comprehensive and up-to-date Register.

To support the review process of the IIA by the Institutions in 2025, the Management Board endorsed a mapping of the agreement's implementation prepared by the Secretariat. This mapping identified key challenges and proposed actions to address them, including strengthening the Register's technical capabilities to improving compliance from registrants, optimising the Secretariat's monitoring efforts, consolidating its practices and promoting the use of the Register proactively among other EU institutions and bodies. These efforts aim to further showcase the shared commitment of the EU institutions to promoting transparent and ethical interest representation.

As a public tool, and in a context of continued public scrutiny, the Transparency Register plays a key role in maintaining public trust and strengthening accountability within the EU institution broader transparency framework.