

STRONGER TOGETHER: NATIONAL COALITIONS IN EUROPEAN POLICY-MAKING

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European Parliament

 @eupatientsforum
@hello_camille

“ A STRONG PATIENTS' VOICE TO
DRIVE BETTER HEALTH IN EUROPE ”

EPF 
European
Patients
Forum

Why does Europe matter to Patient Organisations?





Article 168 TFEU: a limited competence in health, BUT!

- “A high level of human health protection shall be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Union policies and activities”
- EU action shall complement national policies



Binding legislation (regulations & directives) to harmonise Member States laws



Health Programme since 2003

The added-value of EU action in health

Cross-border healthcare and cross-border health threats

Antimicrobial resistance

Air pollution

Free movement of health professionals

Public health aspects of the internal market (movement of tobacco, alcohol and unhealthy food products within the EU) and the external trade

Research about new medicines and the causes of ill health

The European Medicines Agency

The non-communicable disease epidemic EU is facing

EU insurance card



Meet the



European
institutions

Meet the European institutions



EUROPEAN COMMISSION



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

The ordinary legislative procedure



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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

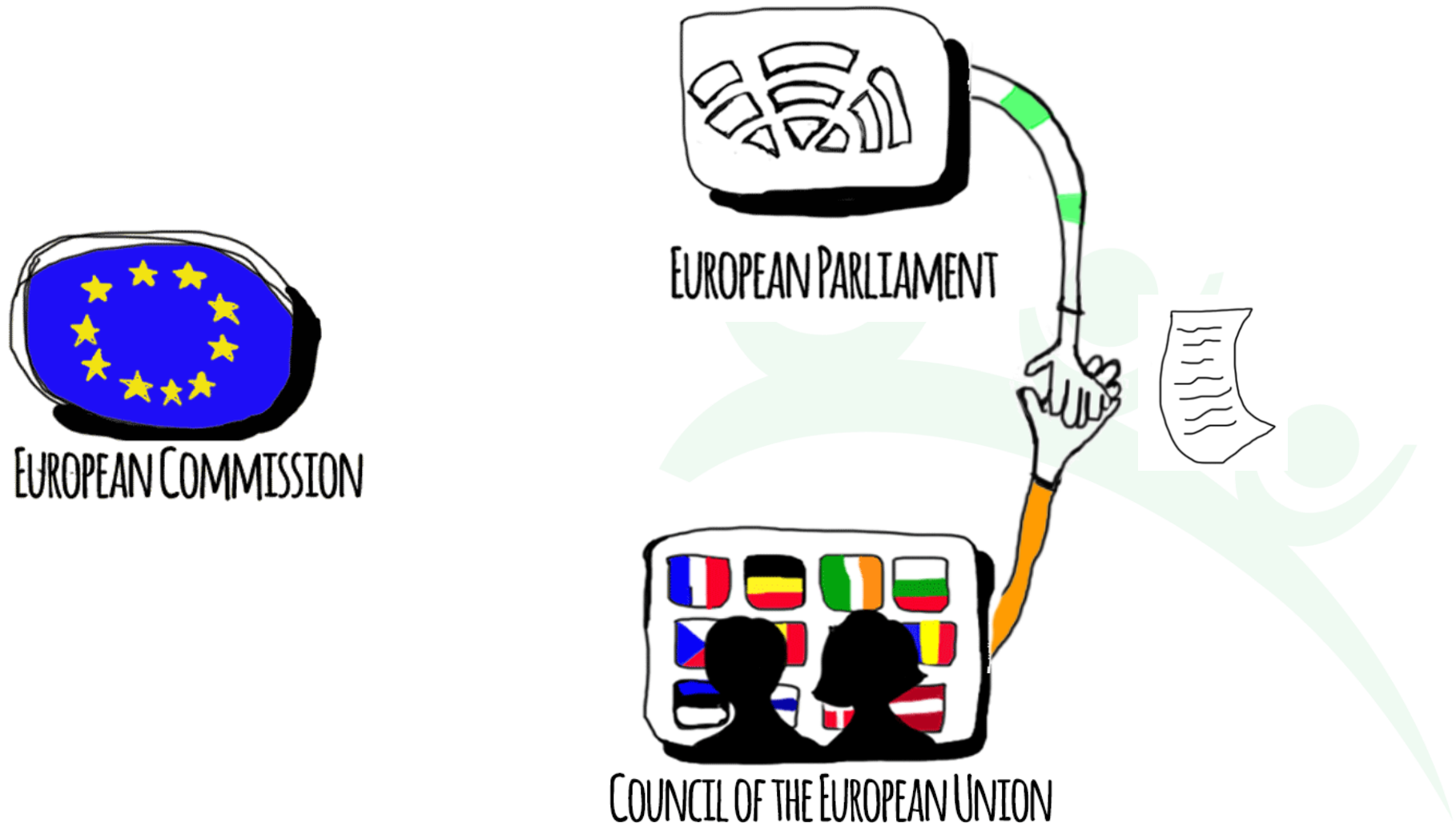


EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

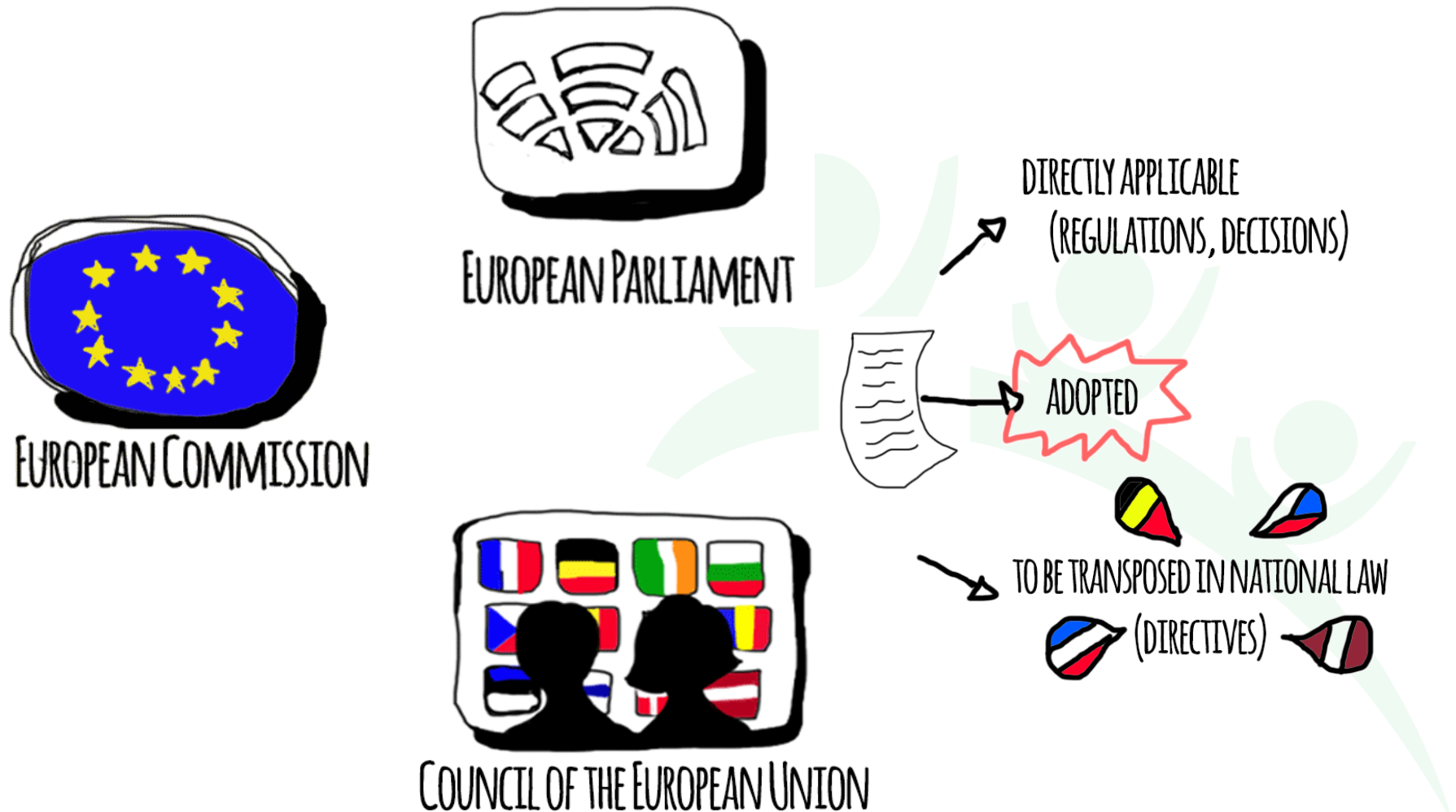


COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

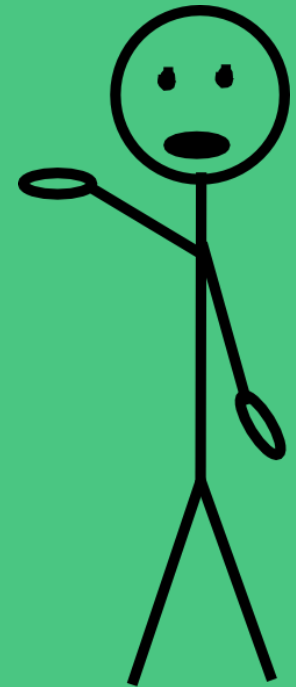
The ordinary legislative procedure

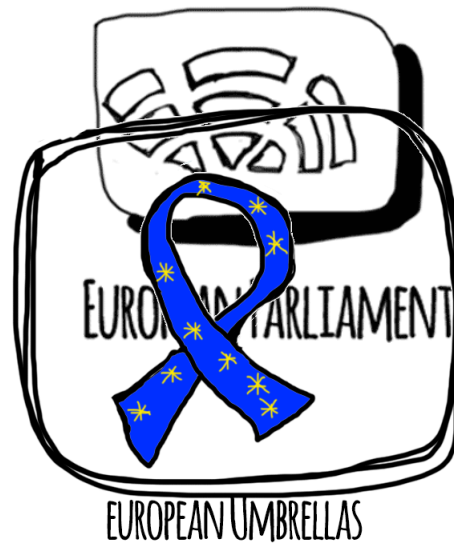


The ordinary legislative procedure



OK, but what can
Patient
organisations
do?



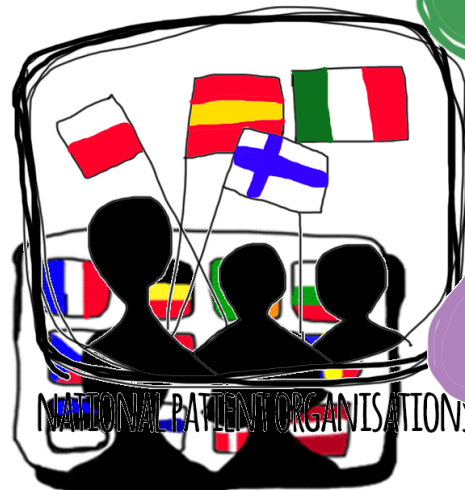


1

MONITORING THE WORK
OF THE COMMISSION
(LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS,
OPINIONS, WORK
PROGRAMME, CALLS FOR
PROPOSALS...)

2

RESPONDING TO PUBLIC
CONSULTATIONS



3

RAISING AWARENESS ON
WHAT IS MISSING

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

➔ PROACTIVE ADVOCACY



EUROPEAN UMBRELLAS



NATIONAL PATIENT ORGANISATIONS



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

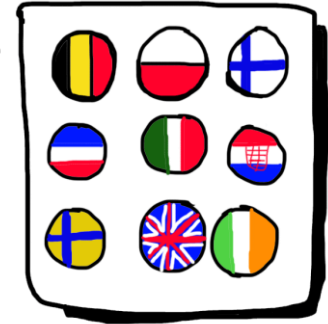
751 MEPS

Committees

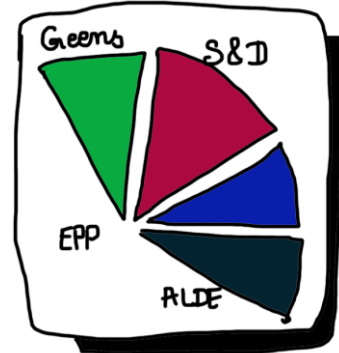


ENVI COMMITTEE

Nationality



Political party



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



EUROPEAN UMBRELLAS



NATIONAL PATIENT ORGANISATIONS



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

- ☐ SEND YOUR POSITIONS
- ☐ SEND AMENDMENTS' PROPOSALS
- ☐ Meet them to discuss!
- ☐ AWARENESS-RAISING: CAMPAIGNING – WHAT IS MISSING?
- ☐ ASK MEPS TO ASK QUESTIONS TO THE COMMISSION

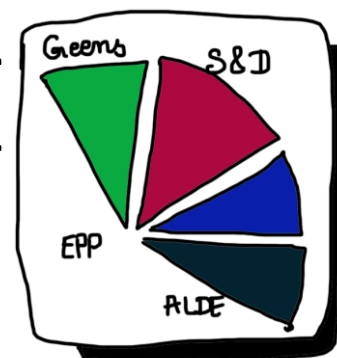
Committees



Nationality



Political party



☐ MONITOR WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE EPSCO COUNCIL:
'EMPLOI, POLITIQUE SOCIALE & CONSOMMATEURS'

☐ SEND POSITION PAPERS / SEND AMENDMENTS



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



EUROPEAN UMBRELLAS



NATIONAL PATIENT ORGANISATIONS



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

ONCE
THE TEXT
IS ADOPTED...



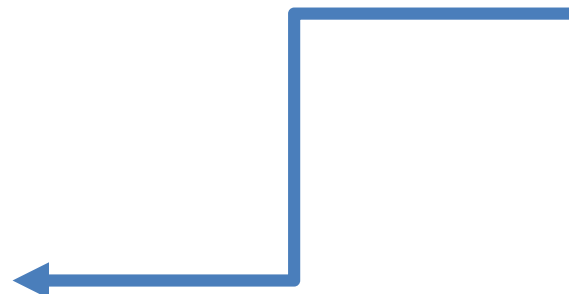
DIRECTLY APPLICABLE
(REGULATIONS, DECISIONS)



TO BE TRANSPOSED IN NATIONAL LAW
(DIRECTIVES)



NATIONAL PATIENT ORGANISATIONS





NATIONAL COALITIONS VS. EUROPEAN UMBRELLAS



- **Closer to European decision-makers**
(better access to the European Commission, European Parliament's Committees)
- In a better place to **monitor the legislation at EU level**
- **Have a better “overview”**, able to compare situations and transfer best practices whenever possible

INFLUENCE

KNOWLEDGE

- **Closer to national decision-makers**
(including Council of the EU)
- **Have a greater influence on MEPs** from their country (they are voters!)
- **Know about national-specific situations, realities**
- Know about national legislation
- **Closer to patients**

Stronger together:
building a united voice
at national level



Why building a national coalition?

- Improving the **visibility** of patient organisations
- Increased **representativeness** means more credibility
- The national coalitions as a natural **single point of contact for external stakeholders**
- Speaking for your country on the international stage
- Continuous presence of patient-related issues in health and social policies and programmes
- Seeing the big picture, learning from each other
- Putting resources together



First steps to start a national coalition

- Start with a small group and build it from there
- Ability to perceive common interest
- Build your legitimacy from the start: right individuals, with the right values



First steps to start a national coalition

What is already there? Look around you!

- What has already been done?
- Who are your potential members?
- Who are your potential allies and partners?
- Who is your target audience?



- ➔ Conduct an environmental (PEST) analysis: what are the determining Economical, Political, Social and Technological factors in your country?
- ➔ What are the opportunities & threats?

Defining who you are

- What is your vision?
- What is your mission?
- What are your values?



- Make it real, make it legal
 - “We need a taskforce”
 - Consultation, consultation, consultation
 - Constituent assembly: this is when it happens!
 - Register your coalition legally as an NGO
 - Post-assembly period



It is a long way!

- Draft your strategic plan
- Draft your operational plan
- Fundraising plan

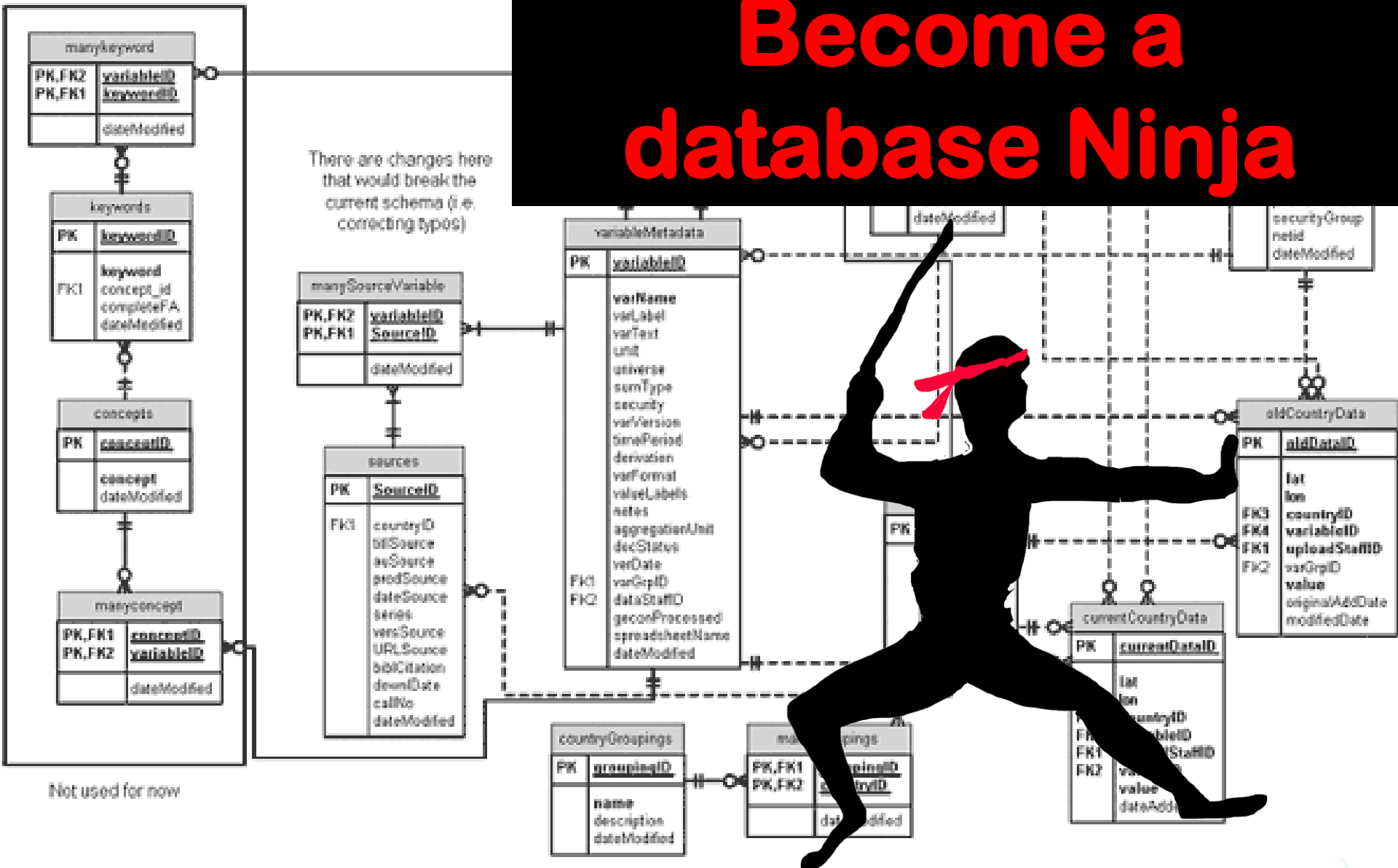


a few



tips

Become a database Ninja





anticipate

- ☐ Integrate Legislation timelines or input needed in your own organisation's calendar
- ☐ Monitor the Commission's websiteSSSSS
- ☐ Subscribe to newsletters, RSS Feeds
- ☐ Your network, your informers!
- ☐ THERE's NO SUCH THING AS CHRISTMAS BREAK FOR LEGISLATORS

The background is a solid light orange color. It is decorated with numerous overlapping, organic, teardrop-shaped outlines in various colors including magenta, blue, green, orange, grey, and red. A single, solid green five-pointed star is positioned in the upper-middle section of the slide.

Consult with your members

Your Legitimacy, your Credibility

** Camille*

Know Your Dossiers!



meeting
is easy
as a



*Camille

Camille

*



**Find allies
And work together**

The illustration shows two grey, featureless human figures against a yellow brick wall. One figure is positioned higher than the other, with its right arm extended to support the other figure's back. The lower figure is pushing off the wall with its right leg, propelling both of them upwards. The drawing style is simple, using thick black outlines for the figures and the bricks.



* Camille

**Tailor your
communications**

trust
your
worth

THANK YOU!

**STRONGER
TOGETHER**



www.eu-patient.eu

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