RESEARCHING CORPORATE LOBBYING IN THE EU

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Corporate lobbying is a murky business that thrives in the absence of public scrutiny. If you're looking to research the world of big business lobbying, there are a range of free online tools that can help.

Sources on EU lobbying and EU policy-making:

- **LobbyFacts** is run by Corporate Europe Observatory and LobbyControl and it takes data from the official (Commission/Parliament/Council) register and allows it to be filtered, ranked, sorted, and analysed. Lobby register data dating back to 2012 is available in its unique archive lobbyfacts.eu

- **Integritywatch** is run by Transparency International's EU office and it takes data from MEPs' declarations of interest, MEPs' published meetings, and the published lists of lobby meetings held by Commissioners, cabinet members, and Directors-General integritywatch.eu

- **Parltrack** is a European initiative to improve the transparency of legislative processes. It combines information on dossiers, representatives, vote results and committee agendas into a database and allows the tracking of dossiers using email and RSS parltrack.org

- **Lobbypedia** is run by LobbyControl (in German) to highlight the influence of lobbyism on politics and the public lobbypedia.de/wiki/Hauptseite

- **AsktheEU** was built by the organisation Access Info Europe to help members of the public get information about the EU. You can submit access to documents requests and view those made by others asktheeu.org/

- **Powerbase** is published by Public Interest Investigations and is a guide to networks of power, lobbying, and deceptive PR powerbase.info

- **Open Security Data Europe** is a public platform aimed at tracking and displaying how EU spends money on security-related projects, including policing, border control, counter-terrorism, cybersecurity, and weapons opensecuritydata.eu

- **SEMDOC** is published by Statewatch and provides monitoring of EU Justice and Home Affairs policy statewatch.org/semdoc

- **Farmsubsidy.org** provides information on how EU farming subsidies are spent

Corporate Europe Observatory

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Official EU sources:

- **EU lobby transparency register** is run by the Commission, Parliament and Council. As the register is not legally-binding, its data is imperfect

- **Commission's rules** on 'ethics and good administration'

- Register of **Commission's expert groups**

- Commission's **SINAPSE platform** which promotes expertise in EU policy making and governance

- **Register of Comitology** procedures when the Commission implements EU legislation with committees of representatives from EU member states

- All Commission **press releases**

- Register of **Commission documents**

- Register of weekly **College minutes**

- **Who is Who database** which can help you to track down an individual working in the EU institutions

- **Register of European Union law** including the treaties, legislation, case-law and legislative proposals, plus extensive search facilities

- Documents and other information concerning ongoing and closed **public consultations** by the Commission

- The **budgets of the EU institutions**

- Information on **public contracts and funding programmes** managed by the Commission

- **Register of European Court of Justice cases**

- **The Legislative Observatory** which tracks the progress of legislation

- In the European Parliament, you can monitor **parliamentary questions** and check the **Parliament's calendar**

Sources on EU member state lobbying:

- **Irish** lobby register

- **German** lobby register

- **French** lobby register

- **Austrian** lobby register

- Transparency International also runs **IntegrityWatch sites** for Latvia, France, Greece, Netherlands, UK, Spain, Lithuania, Italy, Slovenia
data.integritywatch.eu

Sources on US lobbying:

- **OpenSecrets.org** is run by the Center for Responsive Politics and presents analysis of news, parties, elected members, candidates, as well as disclosing how much campaign money has been raised and where it comes from. It also analyses the lobby spending of registered lobby organisations

- **SourceWatch** is published by the **Center for Media and Democracy** and it provides analysis of US corporate public relations (PR) campaigns, including corporate front groups
sourcewatch.org

- **Gulliver** is a database run by CorpWatch which enables users to find details of corporate crimes anywhere in the world - and how communities are organising to hold these companies accountable. Also check out **Violation Tracker** by Good Jobs First in the US
corpwatch.org/gulliver
violationtracker.goodjobsfirst.org

- **FARA** is the Foreign Agents Registration Act with semi-annual reports published by the Department of Justice
fara.gov/annualrpts.html

You can find the website links to the tools above at
corporateeurope.org/researching-corporate-lobbying-eu