European Tech Champions Act Simulation: Role Handout

The Pirate Academy was made possible by the Greens/EFA group in the European Parliament.

Parliament: Patriots for Europe

Confidential: for the assigned participant only. Do not share with other participants, including members of your own institution. Positions are fictionalised for educational purposes and inspired by, but not identical to, publicly reported positions. Roles are institutional functions, never named living individuals.

The Parliament in this scenario

Five or six political groups sit in the Parliament: EPP (188 seats), S&D (136), ECR (78), Renew Europe (77) and Greens/EFA (53), and Patriots for Europe (84, voting together with the 25 seats of Europe of Sovereign Nations) if cast. A text is adopted if the groups voting in favour hold at least **361 seats**. Each group votes as one bloc. The Left, the non-attached members and, if the Patriots are not cast, Europe of Sovereign Nations are not played and count as not voting in favour. Count before you argue: with the core cast, there is no majority without the EPP. On day 1 you build a Parliament mandate with the other groups; on day 2 you defend and trade it in the trilogue against the Council. The rules in full are in the general factsheet.

Your position in October 2025

Patriots for Europe is the third-largest group in the Parliament with 84 seats. In this simulation, the 25 seats of the smaller Europe of Sovereign Nations group vote with you, so you speak for 109 seats. The other groups keep a “cordon” around you and refuse formal cooperation, but in 2025 the EPP has passed several votes with your support. Together, EPP, ECR and Patriots hold 375 seats: a majority without the centre and the left.

Your group wants a Europe of sovereign nations that protects its own industry and workers. You support “Buy European” more strongly than anyone else in the room. You oppose new EU debt, new EU taxes and climate conditions that, in your view, have weakened European industry. You

oppose any programme that brings more workers from outside Europe, however highly skilled. You would rather see money managed by national governments than by the Commission.

Your best outcome may be no act at all. But if the EPP is willing to build a majority to its right, you could write a protectionist, debt-free, condition-free programme into European law, and that would be a bigger victory.

Your needs, wants and pain points

Needs (+3 each if fully met)

1. **No EU debt (budget sheet, block B).** Fully met: both EU borrowing lines (grants and loans) are zero. Partly met (+1): no borrowing for grants, but some loans.
2. **Buy European (Article 4 or a new article).** Fully met: procurement financed by the programme gives preference to European products and components. Partly met (+1): preference only as a tie-breaker.
3. **No climate conditions (block D, Article 4).** Fully met: the climate tag is at most 10% and there is no "do no significant harm" exclusion. Partly met (+1): a climate tag of at most 20%.

Wants (+2 each if fully met)

1. **Money for the nations (block C).** National envelopes get at least 40%. Partly met (+1): 20 to 39.5%.
2. **Jobs stay in Europe (Article 7(2)).** Beneficiaries commit to keep their production and jobs in the Union for at least ten years after the end of the action. Partly met (+1): the Commission's original Article 7(2) kept unchanged.
3. **A weaker Commission (Article 5).** The Board approves the work programmes. Partly met (+1): the Board's opinion is binding.

Pain points (-5 each if they happen)

1. **A new EU tax (block B).** Any amount in the line "new own resource". No partial.
2. **Immigration by the back door (new articles).** A talent initiative with visa facilitation for third-country nationals. Partly (-2): a talent initiative without the visa element.

Confidential (for you alone)

You prefer no deal to a centrist deal. But if the EPP offers you a real place in a majority to its right, with Buy European and without EU debt, a deal can bring you more than your no-deal score. Count carefully before you vote. Your existence in the room also changes the centre's calculation: the EPP can use you to put pressure on S&D and Renew, and you can use that too.

Who you need and who is in your way

- **Majority:** you need the EPP and ECR (375). Without the EPP, you have nothing but your no-deal score.
- **No debt:** Germany, the Netherlands (if cast) and ECR are allies. France, Spain, S&D and the Greens are in your way.
- **Buy European:** France is your unexpected ally in the Council. Poland, the Netherlands (if cast), Renew and the EPP are in your way.

- **No climate conditions:** ECR is an ally; the Greens, Spain, S&D and Germany are in your way.
- **National envelopes:** Italy, Poland and ECR are allies.

What you can give away

Earmarks for quantum, AI and HPC; a defence earmark; audit and transparency; a co-investment target of any size; reprogrammed money (it is not new debt).

If there is no deal

Your no-deal score is **+2**, the highest in the room. You prefer no deal to a centrist deal. Everyone at the table should know that, and you should decide whether to say it.

Scorecard: Patriots for Europe

For the peer scorer. Score the final text, or record the no-deal score if no act is adopted. Each item scores once, at the highest level reached.

Item	Fully met if	Partly met if	Points	Score
Need 1: no EU debt (block B)	both borrowing lines zero	no borrowing for grants, some loans (+1)	+3	
Need 2: Buy European (Art. 4 or new)	preference for European products in programme procurement	tie-breaker only (+1)	+3	
Need 3: no climate conditions (block D, Art. 4)	climate tag at most 10% and no significant-harm exclusion	climate tag at most 20% (+1)	+3	
Want 1: national envelopes (block C)	envelopes at least 40%	20 to 39.5% (+1)	+2	
Want 2: jobs stay in Europe (Art. 7(2))	production and jobs kept in the Union for ten years	original Art. 7(2) unchanged (+1)	+2	
Want 3: weaker Commission (Art. 5)	Board approves work programmes	Board opinion binding (+1)	+2	
Pain 1: new EU tax (block B)	any new own resource	no partial	-5	
Pain 2: immigration (new articles)	talent initiative with visa facilitation	talent initiative without visas (-2)	-5	
Total				
No-deal score			+2	