



# ESCAPE ROOM 3: MURDER IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT! Teacher's guide

## General information

- **Topics covered:** EU institutions and their role.
- **Age group:** 13+
- **Timing:** Between 30 minutes and 1 hour
- **ER function:** This escape room can be used as a “practical exercise” after a theoretical lesson on these topics in class.
- **Learning objectives:** At the end of this ER, the pupils will be able to know:
  - ✓ EU institutions’ logos and roles.
  - ✓ Some MEPs identity (with altered names), party/group and political position.
  - ✓ What a Spitzenkandidat is.
- **Note:** This escape game may be complex as it requires investigation and deductive skills based on a consequent amount of information scattered across various documents. Some hints or guidance may be required, and the documents need to be placed properly to ensure that they will be consulted in the correct order.

## Material

In order to implement this escape room, you will need the following material :

<input type="checkbox"/> An envelope with “Priority” symbols containing Annexes 1 and 2.	/
<input type="checkbox"/> A letter written by Guy Greenhofstadt about his suspicions.	<b>Annex 1</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> A set of 6 cards displaying information about 6 MEP suspects.	<b>Annex 2</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> A list of EU institutions with their logo and role.	<b>Annex 3</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> A newspaper article titled “Altercation at the European Parliament” (6 <sup>th</sup> May)	<b>Annex 4</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> A page of Greenhofstadt’s weekly agenda with 10 meetings on 8 <sup>th</sup> May.	<b>Annex 5</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> A laptop or tablet with the “Guy Greenhofstadt's laptop” Genially.	<b>Annex 6</b>

## Detailed scenario

**Introduction:** The pupils are stuck in a room. The teacher or Game Master tells them:

“You are all detectives who have been hired by the Renew group to investigate the death of one of their members, Guy Greenhofstadt, a member of the European Parliament who was murdered on 9<sup>th</sup> May, during Europe Day in the Hemicycle building in Brussels.

You are now in Greenhofstadt’s office, where you need to find clues and discover the culprit’s identity and motive before their henchmen come to erase all the evidence from the victim’s papers and computer. One fact you already know is that the criminal must be a part of an EU institution, as only official members have access to the location of the murder.

If you don’t find the evidence soon, the person responsible for this death will get away with it. You need to provide proof that the suspect was present that day and had a reason to commit this crime. Be observant and efficient!”

**Step 1:** Clearly visible on a desk, the pupils will find a “priority” envelope which contains 2 elements. First, a letter written by Guy Greenhofstadt, the victim, in which he explained that he suspected someone wanted to kill him and established a list of potential suspects before his death (See **Annex 1**). Secondly, a set of 6 cards, each displaying information about an MEP, their party, position and experience, along with a logo of the EU institution they’re a part of (See **Annex 2**). On each card, a letter is written in red, uppercase and bold, and when put together, the letters compose the word “EUROPE”.

**Note:** The names of the MEPs have been altered in order not to directly associate a real political figure with such a crime. They are recognizable enough, and the information on the cards corresponds to the real politicians.

**Step 2:** On the same desk, under the envelope, are a few other documents: a list of EU institutions with their logo and a short explanation of their role (See **Annex 3**), a newspaper article mentioning that an altercation occurred on 5<sup>th</sup> May between Guy Greenhofstadt and another MEP whose name is scribbled out (See **Annex 4**) and a page of a weekly agenda displaying various meetings the victim had between 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> May (See **Annex 5**).

The agenda shows that Greenhofstadt had a meeting with 4 of the potential suspects on the day of the murder: Iratxe, Margrethe, Ulf and Charles. That indicates that they were all present that day in the building and that the 2 other suspects are most likely innocent.

**Step 3:** There is a laptop, computer or tablet with the “Guy Greenhofstadt’s laptop” Genially on it, displaying various e-mails (See **Annex 6**). In order to unlock it, pupils must enter the password, which is “EUROPE” (all in capital letters). As a hint, the box in which the password should be typed says: “Find the 6 red clues”, referring to the 6 red letters on the suspect cards.

**Step 4:** By analysing the contents of the Genially, pupils should be able to reduce the number of suspects thanks to these hints:

- The logos of various EU institutions are present on the cards and e-mails.
- There are 2 suspicious e-mails:
  - One in which the person asks to meet earlier than planned to discuss something they don't like, with the logo of the European Parliament.
  - One in which the person apologises for the altercation, with the logo of the European Commission.
- According to the suspect cards:
  - 2 suspects are part of the European Parliament: Iratxe and Jordan.
  - 2 suspects are part of the European Commission: Margrethe and Ursula.
- Among the 4 suspects that had a meeting with the victim on 8<sup>th</sup> May are Iratxe Garcia Diaz and Margrethe Vorsteiner, the final suspects.

**Step 5:** Once the pupils select those 2 names in the Genially, they are shown a newspaper article describing what a Spitzenkandidat is and mentioning that two figures are battling to be the Renew lead candidate, Guy Greenhofstadt and another whose name is scribbled out. After having identified the last 2 suspects and by analysing their cards more closely, they should see that Margrethe Vorsteiner is also a part of the Renew group.

**Final step:** Once they identify her as the culprit, the Game Master or teacher asks them to explain the evidence they have and the reason why she killed Greenhofstadt.

They should point out the agenda proving that Margrethe was present that day to meet with the victim, the logo on her card matching the e-mail in which she apologises for the severe altercation they had, meaning she already had shown aggression towards the victim, and the fact that she had a motive because the victim was an obstacle on her way to becoming the Renew Spitzenkandidat and possibly the president of the European Commission.

If they are able to explain the evidence and mention the motive or be guided towards it, the game ends as the Game Master or teacher says:

“Congratulations, you have found the criminal! Thanks to your help and the evidence you've gathered, the authorities will be able to arrest and condemn her, and the victim's family will receive justice! Good job! You can now leave the room.”

## Tips and tricks

### MATERIAL

- ✓ Here is an example of what the envelope containing Annexes 1 and 2 could look like to make sure it is the first element that pupils interact with, considering it gives them vital information to start their investigation.



## IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ As all of the steps occur around a small number of elements to interact with, you will not need a big room to implement this escape room. You may use only **one side or corner of a classroom** with a desk for the documents and screen.
- ✓ For the same reasons as above and considering that the steps must be followed in a specific order and cannot be done simultaneously, it may be best to play this escape room with a **small group of students** to avoid crowding or scattering their focus.
- ✓ If an hour passes and the students have not yet found the identity of the murderer, and if you don't wish to end the activity in a failure, you may decide to either give them **more time** or **provide hints** to help guide them.
- ✓ The post-scriptum of the Annex 1 letter mentions shapes (triangle, circle and square) and has been included as a false trail but can be used to create an **additional step** or riddle using those shapes as a hint or clue to find more information.

## Annexes

The following pages show the visuals of each document. You can click the links below to download and print them.

<b>Annex 1</b>	Step 1: Letter by Guy Greenhofstadt	Download <a href="#">here</a>
<b>Annex 2</b>	Step 1: Set of 6 suspect cards	Download <a href="#">here</a>
<b>Annex 3</b>	Step 2: List of EU institutions	Download <a href="#">here</a>
<b>Annex 4</b>	Step 2: Article "Altercation at the European Parliament"	Download <a href="#">here</a>
<b>Annex 5</b>	Step 2: Weekly agenda page	Download <a href="#">here</a>
<b>Annex 6</b>	Step 3: "Guy Greenhofstadt's laptop" (interactive Genially)	Download <a href="#">here</a>

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## ANNEX 2

## ANNEX 1

**renew europe.**

**Renew group in the European Parliament**

To Whom It May Concern,

If you are reading this letter, it means that I am dead. I have felt for some time that someone wants to harm me.

Over the past few months, I have been looking at people who might have a grudge against me. I made a list of 6 people and made cards with information about each of them, which you can find here.

I don't want to warn the security services of the Parliament because I am not sure of ill intent and don't want to create panic.

Whatever happens to me, please, remember me as a strong supporter of the European project!

Best regards,  
**Guy Greenhofstadt**



PS: During the institutional triangle negotiation, some MEP circles sat in the square offices of the European Council.



**Iratxe Garcia Diaz**



**Gender:** F  
**Nationality:** Spanish

**Position**  
President of the S&D group (since 2019) in the European Parliament

**Political party/group**  
PSOE - S&D (left)

**Experience**  
Elected in European Parliament (2004)  
Chair of Women's Rights and Gender Equality committee (2014-2017)



**Jordan Bureau**



**Gender:** M  
**Nationality:** French

**Position**  
Vice-president of the I&D group in the European Parliament

**Political party/group**  
RN - I&D groUp (far-right)

**Experience**  
President of the National Rally  
Elected in European Parliament (2019)



 <b>Charles Griset</b>	 <b>Ulf Krimson</b>	 <b>Margrethe Vorsteiner</b>	 <b>Ursula Von der Schulz</b>
<b>Gender:</b> M <b>Nationality:</b> Belgian	<b>Gender:</b> M <b>Nationality:</b> Swedish	<b>Gender:</b> F <b>Nationality:</b> Danish	<b>Gender:</b> F <b>Nationality:</b> German
<b>Position</b> President of the European Council	<b>Position</b> President of the Council of European Union for 6 months (2023)	<b>Position</b> Executive Vice-President for Digital Age in the European Commission	<b>Position</b> President of the European Commission (2019-2024)
<b>Political party/group</b> MR - Renew (centre-right)	<b>Political party/group</b> Moderata samlingspartiet - EPP (right)	<b>Political party/group</b> Radikale Venstre-Renew (centre-right)	<b>Political party/group</b> CDU - EPP (right)
<b>Experience</b> Belgian Prime Minister (2014-2019) President of the Reformist Movement in 2019	<b>Experience</b> Prime Minister of Sweden Leader of Moderate Party since 2017 (centre-right)	<b>Experience</b> Deputy Prime Minister of Denmark (2011-2014) Competition commissioner (2014-2019)	<b>Experience</b> German Federal Minister (2005-2019) Deputy leader of the Christian Democratic Union (2010-2019)

## ANNEX 3

Logo	Institution	Role
	<b>European Parliament</b>	Directly-elected EU body with legislative, supervisory, and budgetary responsibilities
	<b>European Commission</b>	Proposes and enforces legislation, implements policies and the EU budget
	<b>European Council</b>	Defines the general political direction and priorities of the European Union
	<b>Council of the European Union</b>	Voice of EU member governments, adopts EU laws and coordinates EU policies
	<b>European Central Bank</b>	Manages the euro, keeps prices stable and conducts EU economic & monetary policy
	<b>European Court of Justice</b>	Ensures EU law is applied the same in every EU country and institution
	<b>European Court of Auditors</b>	Checks EU funds are used correctly, helps improve EU financial management

## ANNEX 4

EuroMedia

# EUROPEAN MIRROR

06 May, 2022

2.50 euros

## ALTERCATION AT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



Yesterday, an event took place in the European Parliament that should be remembered: a severe altercation between two MEPs broke out at the end of the debate on the adoption of the new text on animal violence.

Never before has the Parliament been the object of such violence, especially from such high-level personalities. Indeed, the altercation took place between Guy Greenhofstadt and ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

We still do not know, at this stage, the reason for this altercation as the concerned have refused to speak on it.

EuroMedia Group

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## ANNEX 5

Day	Meetings	Remarks
Monday 5th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group meeting - 10am</li> <li>• Plenary session - 12am</li> <li>• Justice Committee - 5pm</li> </ul>	
Tuesday 6th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WWF lobby meeting - 9am</li> <li>• Dinner with Iratxe - 12am</li> <li>• Council trilogue meeting - 2pm</li> <li>• Group meeting - 4pm</li> <li>• Civil rights Committee - 6pm</li> </ul>	
Wednesday 7th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plenary session - 9am</li> <li>• Dinner with Jordan - 1pm</li> <li>• Plenary session - 2pm</li> <li>• Free evening</li> </ul>	
Thursday 8th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with Frédérique - 9am</li> <li>• Meeting with Iratxe - 10am</li> <li>• Meeting with Margrethe - 11am</li> <li>• Meeting with Ulf - 2pm</li> <li>• Meeting with Saskia - 3pm</li> <li>• Meeting with Philippe - 5pm</li> <li>• Meeting with Charles - 6pm</li> <li>• Meeting with Miguel - 7pm</li> <li>• Dinner with Alexander and Thomas - 8pm</li> </ul>	Prepare the plenary vote and Renew Congress (10th May)
Friday 9th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plenary session vote - 9am</li> </ul>	all day



EU@school

## ANNEX 6



**Guy Greenhofstadt - Renew MEP**

**10** **Unlock here**



**This laptop is locked.**



Find the 6 red clues >



**TRY AGAIN!**

FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: INTEREST RATE

Dear Mr. Greenhofstadt,

We have received your request to change the key interest rates. As you know only too well, our institution is independent and sovereign in its choices.

I apologise for this. I remain at your disposal for any further questions.

Best,

[REDACTED]



FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: MEETING?

Hi Guy !

I would like to come to our meeting earlier to prepare the plenary session.

There is something that bothers me and I don't like it, I would like to see you to discuss it before the plenary.

Do you think that's possible for you?

Best,

[REDACTED]



FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: TRILOGUE

Hi Guy !

As you know, we have a trilogue tomorrow, so I am sending you this email to make sure that everything was ready on your side?

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to come back to me!

Best,

[REDACTED]



FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: APOLOGY

Hello, Guy !

I would like to sincerely apologise for my behaviour earlier. I don't know what came over me. It is unworthy of my position.

I got upset over ridiculous things and I hope that this will not have any impact on our future work.

Best,

[REDACTED]



FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ACTION FOR FAILURE

Dear Mr. Greenhofstadt,

We have received your request for an action for failure to act against the European Commission regarding its role in the Polish and Hungarian cases.

We will keep you informed about any further procedure.

Best,

[REDACTED]



FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: MEETING SCHEDULE

Hi Guy !

I would like to ask if it is possible for you to come earlier to the meeting tomorrow. Indeed, Frédérique has to leave due to the ENVI committee.

I'm waiting for your answer. If this is impossible for you, we will find another solution!

Best,

[REDACTED]





Who are the 2 final suspects ?



Click here or a hint



Margrethe Vorsteiner

Charles Griset

Ursula Von der Schulz

Jordan Bureau

Iratxe Garcia Diaz

Ulf Krimson



Well done!



If you've only found one suspect, click here!



If you've already found the 2 suspects, click here!



