

# Ekiden 2024: combining joy of sport with solidarity

## Over 1,000 EU runners take part in relay marathon for a good cause

by Miriam Tessens, CEND

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Last Saturday, the 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the Ekiden relay marathon took place, and again a record number of EU runners took part. A total of 1,284 participants – 24% more than last year! – formed 214 teams. Each runner completed part of the marathon, not only for their own sportive pleasure but also to raise money to fight poverty and inequality.

At the Ekiden, each member of a six-person team runs between 5 and 10 kilometres to cover 42.195 km, the distance of a marathon.

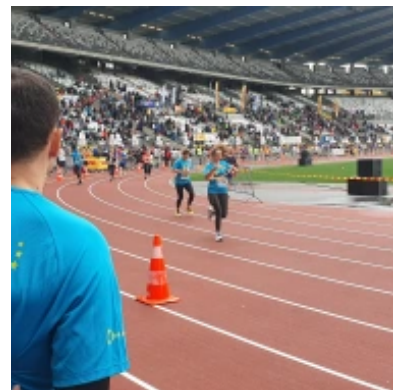
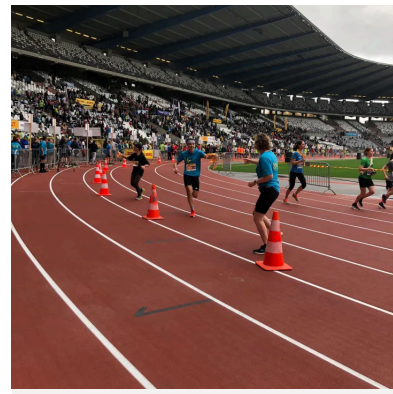
This year, the fastest EU team was once again – most fittingly – a team from the EU Institutions' running club CACE. DG ENV's team ENVictus came second, followed by the EACEA ERASMUS team. With its 19 teams, DG COMP continues to top the charts as the DG that provided the most teams.


The 214 EU teams came from all the EU institutions, executive and decentralised agencies, as well as the European Ombudsman, the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS), the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and the European Schools; altogether, they represented one quarter of all participating teams. In total, 56% of the EU runners were men, and 44% were women.

The EU teams all also showed their solidarity with underprivileged populations by supporting two charity organisations. The funds collected will go to a project selected by 'Give Eur-Hope' and another selected by 'eu can aid!'.


Relive the sportive day through the photo gallery below.

**Relive the 2024 Ekiden**







Brussels Ekiden 2024



Give Eur-Hope



Ekiden 2024 results - EU Teams



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