



04 -07 OCT 2021

PLENARY SESSION PRIORITIES

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PRESS BRIEFING

European Parliament,
Daphne Caruana
Galizia room - LOW
N-1/201

**TUE 05 OCT
09:30 CET**

PRESS BRIEFING

Journalists are welcome to question the Co-presidents of The Left in the European Parliament on issues they are covering. Physical & remote participation possible. See @Left_EU on Twitter for more details.

Manon Aubry (France Insoumise, France) and **Martin Schirdewan** (Die Linke, Germany)



Manon Aubry – Energy poverty

Debate : Wednesday

The exponential rise of energy prices is threatening low income households all over Europe. The European Commission and its absurd competition rules are directly responsible for this. Immediate action must be taken ! Prices need to be blocked and the EU must allow member states to implement emergency measures such as decreasing VAT for essential goods. Von der Leyen also has to learn from the Commission’s mistakes in the long run. Energy shouldn’t be run by market rules: we need public producers and distributors to make energy affordable for all European citizens.



Martin Schirdewan - Banking Union

Debate: Wednesday Vote: Thursday

The banking union project is at risk of missing its target. Even in times of Covid-19 crisis, it is not effective regulation that is keeping banks afloat but government support for the economy. Investment and commercial banking must finally be split up. Instead of megabanks and gambling houses, we need regionally anchored institutions that can be safely resolved in case of financial collapse. No gambling at the expense of taxpayers



Elena Kountoura - Partner violence & custody rights

Debate : Monday Vote : Tuesday

With this report, the European Parliament sends a clear message on the bold and decisive steps needed in the EU for eliminating and preventing gender based violence. We have managed to adopt a progressive report, which represents a step towards a place where perpetrators are no longer rewarded and where women and children who are victims of intimate partner violence can start counting on a protective system that is fair and stands on their side. The protection of women and children from violence and the best interests of the child must be paramount, and should always take precedence over other criteria when establishing the arrangements for custody allocation, access and visitation rights.





Manuel Bompard - Energy poverty

Debate : Wednesday

The rise in gas prices is staggering, energy poverty will explode. An emergency measure is needed: freezing prices. We also propose free access to the first quantities, progressive pricing, ending competition to privilege a public energy pole. Finally, we need to massively accelerate the renovation of buildings to put an end to the "thermal strainers".



Elena Kountoura - Road safety

Debate : Monday Vote : Tuesday

Even one life lost on the road is a life too much. That's why we have adopted "Vision Zero", which requires strong political will, enhanced governance and sufficient funds. My report further calls for specific ambitious and life-saving measures for safer vehicles, safer infrastructure, safer road use, including lowering speeds, especially a default limit of 30 km/h in cities and a modal shift.



Cornelia Ernst - Artificial intelligence in criminal law and its use by police

Debate: Monday Vote : Tuesday

In light of the new proposal by the Commission on regulating Artificial Intelligence, this report from the Civil Liberties Committee is very important. It takes a very critical stance against the expansion of biometric surveillance. It makes clear that mass surveillance and use of biometric data by law enforcement agencies are a threat to fundamental rights and lays out the important issue of how racism is perpetuated through AI technology.



Marisa Matias - Future of EU-US relations

Debate: Tuesday: Vote : Wednesday

EU-US relations need to be reshaped and there are good motives to do so, namely the fight against climate change and the defence of human rights. But emphasising the EU approach on a military basis and in a commercial fight is not the way. The parliament lost a good opportunity.