



22 - 25 NOV 2021

PLENARY SESSION PRIORITIES

More Info: David Lundy +32 485 505 812, Coline Laloy +32 497 914 449, Sonja Giese +32 22 832 170 or Ziyad Lunat +32 499 632 314

www.left.eu

PRESS BRIEFING

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

TUE 23 NOV
11:00 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 - Common Agricultural Policy

Debate: Tuesday

COP26 just ended a week ago and the EU is already betraying its climate commitments. Private lobbies have once again watered down the Parliament's ambitions on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) despite the incredible mobilisation of young activists all over Europe. This CAP will go against the objectives of the European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork Strategy and maintain agribusiness as usual. This is a dramatic missed opportunity: climate, farmers, nature and animals cannot wait six more years before a radical transformation of our food production system!



Helmut Scholz - WTO Ministerial Conference

Debate: Tuesday Vote: Wednesday

The WTO is at risk of completely losing its legitimacy if the Ministerial Conference in Geneva fails again to respond to the needs of the world's population. We need to provide access to medical treatment. When patents stand in the way of survival, then it is high time to clear the path. The vast majority of WTO member states stand behind the demand for a patent waiver on COVID-19 vaccines and treatments.

We need to end hunger. This conference has a moral obligation to adopt the Food Package proposed by Secretary General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala. We need to safeguard special and differentiated treatment for developing countries, and thereby strengthen the resilience of poorer economies. We need to finally deliver WTO commitments to support sustainable development and to join the fight to prevent the climate catastrophe.





Kostas Arvanitis - Humanitarian crisis & illegal pushbacks at EU borders

Debate: Tuesday

The ongoing crisis at the EU's external borders is the result of an outrageous collusion between the European leadership and local EU governments. Europe refuses to assume any responsibility and, instead of offering substantial aid, keeps turning a blind eye to policies that violate human rights. This irresponsible carousel of hypocrisy, that victimizes refugees and immigrants as well as people in the arrival countries, must end here and now!



Cornelia Ernst - Police violence against Romani people

Debate: Tuesday

What Roma communities experience daily is unacceptable and illegal: ethnic profiling, police harassment and violence, torture in police custody and murder by police officers. I want to be clear, the problem is structural racism in law enforcement. The EU as a whole must condemn these illegal practices and show solidarity with Roma communities. The EU must finally act to not only fight symptoms, but to tackle the root cause: institutional racism.



María Eugenia Rodríguez Palop - Violence Against Women

Debate: Thursday

The first obstacle to combating all forms of violence against women is the lack of comprehensive and comparable data at the European level.

There is a need for common recognition and criminalisation of these crimes and their penalties, as demanded by the European Parliament in September - calling for the inclusion of gender-based violence as a crime under Article 83 of Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

The second major obstacle is the pressure that ultra-conservative governments are exerting against women's rights, dragging the EU into intolerable backsliding.

Banning abortion or denying the existence of male violence are attacks on democracy itself and on the rule of law, as the European Parliament has also recently recognised.



Luke 'Ming' Flanagan - Common Agricultural Policy

Debate & vote: Tuesday

Member states have been given the tools to deliver on the CAP and can no longer claim to be constrained by "Brussels". Could we and should we have set the minimum benchmarks higher? We could have and we should have! However, I intend to support the deal and the important new concepts within it and continue to work at the national level to ensure that the minimum targets are not only met but surpassed.