



17-20 JAN 2021

PLENARY SESSION PRIORITIES

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[www.left.eu](http://www.left.eu)

**PRESS BRIEFING**

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

**TUE 18 JAN**  
**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)



**Sira Rego - Election of the President of Parliament**

**Debate and Vote - Tuesday**

In Europe, we have two opposite models confronting each other when it comes to rethinking our societies in the face of the historical challenges ahead of us. We already know the reactionary model: fear, hate and violence with the aim of turning the rights of everyone into the privilege of a few. But there is an alternative to move towards a more social, more ecological and more feminist Europe. Let us build together a new consensus that places the common good and human rights at its center.

**SIRA REGO MEP - About our candidate**

Born in València in 1973 to a Palestinian father and a Spanish mother, Rego spent three years of her childhood in Palestine.

She was first elected as an MEP in 2019, having previously worked at a cooperative in projects related to food sovereignty, and as a local councillor in Rivas Vaciamadrid overseeing files on housing, sustainability, mobility and the environment.

Sira has been involved in politics since the age of 20, when she joined the student movement, and is a longstanding activist in the feminist movement.

In the European Parliament, she sits on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, the Delegation for relations with the countries of Central America, the Delegation to the EU-UK Parliamentary Partnership Assembly and the Committee for Petitions.





## Manon Aubry - Macron and the French Presidency

**Debate: Wednesday**

Emmanuel Macron could and should have postponed the French Presidency instead of using it as a mere communication tool for his campaign. France is missing a unique opportunity to push for a progressive European agenda... for electoral reasons. Macron's proposals are timeworn neoliberal recipes based on market rules and competition. Our group will support a radical alternative to tackle climate change and rising inequalities: we've got to break with austerity and competition rules that have been suspended since the beginning of the pandemic and might come back in the next few months.



## Martin Schirdewan - Digital Services Act

**Debate: Wednesday**

The DSA must clean up the internet and make it safe for users. This opportunity risks being missed. The loopholes that will allow platforms to hide behind the protection of trade secrets must be closed. The ban on personalized advertising for minors is not enough. I will continue to fight for a full ban on collecting personal data to end unscrupulous business practices.



## Dimitrios Papadimoulis - Election of Vice-Presidents of Parliament

**Vote: Tuesday, Wednesday**

In June 2019, 61% of the MEPs entrusted me to continue being a Vice President. My political group, The Left, honors me by unanimously proposing me again, for the second time during this parliamentary period as a candidate. My aim and intention is to continue working as Vice President, serving this institution and the people, respecting and promoting the founding ideas and principles of democracy, participation, transparency and accountability.