



16 - 19 SEP 2024

PLENARY SESSION PRIORITIES

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PRESS BRIEFING

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

TUE 17 SEP
13:00 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.

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



Manon Aubry - New European Commission

Ursula von der Leyen will finally unveil the new European Commission during the next plenary session. Yet again, this process suffers from a huge lack of transparency and the risk is high that the start of this Commission will be tarnished by conflicts of interests. The Left will exert the greatest scrutiny to ensure that future Commissioners are only committed to serving European citizens and not the interests of the lobbies. We will also refuse our support to any candidate who does not share or do not clearly commit to uphold our values of social justice, anti-racism, feminism and our objectives of ecological transformation



Martin Schirdewan - Programme of the Hungarian Presidency

Orbán is blackmailing the EU, and the Commission is allowing it. We have consistently opposed handing the EU Council Presidency to Orbán, advocating instead for the next EU country. While leading the EU, he continues to undermine democracy in Hungary by discriminating against minorities, controlling the media, and dismantling the rule of law. A clear strategy against the far-right is crucial to protect democracy, freedom, and security in Europe.



Catarina Martins - New European Commission

A right-wing commission with no gender balance but a lot of revolving doors and other conflicts of interests, rolling out the red carpet for the far right. The list of wrong things is endless. See for instances the Portuguese candidate, Maria Luís Albuquerque, a former minister of finance, who governed for the financial interests and after leaving the government went to work for the same that were benefiting from her former decisions. She was involved in several contracts that ruined the public services and had direct responsibility in the privatisation of TAP, that is now being under criminal investigation. One of the many candidates not suitable for office that parliament should veto.



Ilaria Salis - Programme of the Hungarian Presidency

The Europe we fight for, the one for which antifascists and ordinary people fought and defeated Nazifascism, is radically opposed to what the years of Orbán's "illiberal democracy" have demonstrated: walls for migrants, the creation of an economic oligarchy, the trampling of the rule of law, setbacks in minority rights, the reduction of freedom of expression, and the persecution of the opposition. No pasaran!



Jussi Saramo - Presentation of Draghi's report on the Future of European competitiveness

Debate: Tuesday

The green transition requires substantial investments. Draghi's suggestion of collective debt is to be considered, but the investments must be well-planned. We cannot take out loans simply to boost capitalist monopolies, where profits become private and losses are borne by the public. We need fair solutions to ensure a swift and just ecological transition that creates jobs and well-being for people, not just for the private sector.



Anja Hazekamp - Outcome of the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of EU Agriculture

Debate: Monday

The Strategic dialogue recognizes that we need action to achieve that the agricultural sector operates within planetary boundaries. It is however upsetting that Von der Leyen has further delayed important animal welfare measures announced in 2020, while over 300 million animals are still suffering in cages and billions of animals suffer due to outdated and insufficient legislation not being enforced.

It has now been reconfirmed that we need a revision of the EU's animal welfare legislation and a phase-out of cages. But we will not accept another delay, animals have waited long enough. The time for change is now, indeed.



Pasquale Tridico - The historic CJEU ruling on the Apple state aid case and its consequences

Debate: Thursday

The European Court of Justice's decision on the tax rulings granted by Ireland to Apple is historic. The tax advantages provided to multinationals are effectively considered tax avoidance. This practice is incompatible with the internal market and drains valuable resources from public funds needed for education, health, poverty alleviation, and support for industrial sectors in crisis. We now expect the future European Commission to propose legislation that bans all forms of tax avoidance and competitive advantages for tech giants and large corporations within the European Union.

