



07 - 10 OCT 2024

PLENARY SESSION PRIORITIES

More Info: Sonja Giese +32 474 943 908 or Shanna Ennadi +33 609 55 77 39

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PRESS BRIEFING

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

TUE 08 OCT
11:30 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.

with **Manon Aubry** (France Insoumise, France), **Martin Schirdewan**, (Die Linke, Germany) & **Ilaria Salis** (Sinistra Italiana, Italy)



**Assessing Conflicts of Interest in the EU Commission:
A Persistently Faulty Process**

Manon Aubry:

"The process for examining the conflicts of interest of future European Commissioners by the JURI committee is a complete joke. Ridiculously short deadlines, mostly empty declarations, no investigative powers to check that candidates have declared all their financial assets... The procedure is deeply flawed, we might as well let the commissioners assess themselves! Our group remains uncompromising on the issue of transparency and will continue to fight for the creation of a true independent ethical body and for more powers granted to the European Parliament.



**Presentation of the programme of activities of the Hungarian
Presidency**

Debate: Wednesday 09 october

Martin Schirdewan:

"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.



Ilaria Salis:

"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!



The reintroduction of internal border controls in a number of Member States and its impact on the Schengen Area

Debate: Monday 7 October

Estrella Galán:

"In the late 1980s we tore down the Berlin Wall, and today internal borders are again being erected to detain and reject migrants and refugees. Under a perverse narrative linking migration and security, not only the Schengen area is threatened, but also our values, our coexistence and respect for international law and the right to asylum. Europe must choose whether it wants to go back to the walls or opt for the bridge of solidarity and cohesion.



Escalation of violence in the Middle East and the situation in Lebanon

Debate: Tuesday 8 October

Marc Botenga:

"Israel invaded Lebanon, bombed Syria and Yemen, and continues its genocide in Gaza. All with full support from the EU. Giving Israel a blank cheque is a recipe for escalation. We need sanctions now.



Ensuring sustainable, decent and affordable housing in Europe

Debate: Wednesday 9 October

Isa Serra:

"We cannot continue talking about the housing problem without pointing out the foreign investment funds that invest millions of euros in buying houses for speculation and that drive families out of their neighborhoods. Nor can we fail to point out the functioning of a capitalist market that puts the benefit of a few above a right that should be guaranteed, such as the right to housing. An EU that does not understand that this is the main problem of Europeans has no project.



Left MEPs nominate Journalists in Palestine for Sakharov Prize

Rima Hassan:

"In 2023, 70% of journalists killed worldwide were Palestinian. Through the nomination of Palestinian journalists for the Sakharov Prize, we wish to pay tribute to those who, often at the risk of their lives, courageously commit themselves to the service of truth in order to document the genocide in Gaza or the colonisation of the West Bank carried out by Israel.