From the very start, we’ve been concerned that bigger enterprises like ‘MidCaps’ would be included in the definition - taking away the resources from and the advantages that had been established for micro and small enterprises. That’s why I think this new definition for SMEs is totally useless as it doesn’t address the root of the problem and, if anything, does more harm to businesses that are in genuine need.

Debate: Tuesday

We are against the militarisation of the EU. We reject any attempt to support the arms industry that will launch new conflicts. This agreement will only bring about catastrophic consequences for the people. Our alternative proposal is to invest in peace and promote disarmament, the demobilisation of troops, the end of military interventions and the dissolution of NATO.

Debate: Monday; Vote Tuesday

The NGOs that are helping refugees in Hungary and those rescuing lives in the Mediterranean Sea or assisting people in the mountains are heroes - not criminals. These people are doing what the EU and its member states should be doing. To persecute solidarity is totally unworthy of our democracies and marks the start of a very dangerous, slippery slope.

Debate: Tuesday; Vote: Thursday

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Debate: Tuesday
The situation in Turkey and the EU agreements in place remain unfavourable. The purpose of the draft amendment is to allow the schooling of refugee children to continue. However, no negotiation had taken place between the Parliament and the Council on the financing. We are here to advise them! It is of course necessary to continue to provide funding for educating children, but the EU must also stop using neighbouring countries as guardians of this ‘Fortress Europe’. Turkey must respect democracy and human rights.

Vote: Wednesday

Social and solidarity-based enterprises are part of the social economy. They provide employment for more than 14 million people in the EU. They are typically engaged in the delivery of social services and work integration services for disadvantaged groups in the labour market. We must give more visibility to social enterprises. If we want to live in a truly Social EU, promotion of this sector is crucial.

Vote: Thursday

Through ETIAS - a ‘travel authorisation’ - applicants will have to provide information that is not even necessary for a visa, like education, profession etc. Worse still, they are going to implement a profiling tool to determine so-called ‘migratory risks’. FRONTEX and Europol will also play their part in the ETIAS and all of these proposals are unacceptable.

Debate: Wednesday

For two-and-a-half years, the Council has allegedly been working on the Parliament’s proposal to reform European electoral law. Yet, they will only be introduced for the 2024 elections. Furthermore, the Parliament’s proposals were already quite weak - but the Council has managed to reduce them to virtually nothing. Compelling arguments for enforcing the Spitzenkandidaten, to ensure gender equality and transparency during the nomination of candidates, as well as to harmonise the electoral processes across the 28 member states were simply ignored. We will reject this proposal.

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Vote: Thursday

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