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 & Martin Schirdewan: War in Ukraine

Putin's invasion of Ukraine is a criminal act. The Russian Federation must immediately terminate all military activities in Ukraine and unconditionally withdraw its forces. We stand with the Ukrainian people who are enduring a nightmare of massive proportions.

We must end this war by ramping up pressure for peace. Today Europe should be taking the lead in redoubling all diplomatic efforts in the United Nations and in the OSCE to bring the conflict to a halt.

We call on the EU and the Member States to ensure humanitarian corridors enabling legal and safe entry routes for people fleeing the conflict, use all available resources to promote negotiations and de-escalation and support the Ukrainian people. We stand in solidarity with thousands of Russians who have taken the streets asking for peace. Their voice joins the call of millions of people across the world asking for an immediate ceasefire and a stop to a mad arms race, which will take the world to the brink of a global war.
Malin Björk: The Rule of Law and the consequences of the ECJ ruling
Vote: Wednesday
We are now done with waiting for the Commission to act against Rule of Law breaches in the EU. We have seen enough of the atrocious consequences that come from allowing the erosion of democracy and fundamental rights. We expect an immediate implementation of the conditionality mechanism, and want to see it enlarged to an EU mechanism for democracy and fundamental rights, as proposed by the EP in October 2020.

Petros Kokkalis: Regional economic accounts for agriculture (AGRI)
Vote: Tuesday
The vote in plenary concludes the legislative procedure for the amendment of the REAA, with LEFT MEP Petros Kokkalis as rapporteur. The regional economic accounts for agriculture are now formalised and their quality is guaranteed. Starting in 2023, the new rules allow for a more effective CAP implementation and ensure broad dissemination of data and support for the National Statistical Authorities.

On 8 of March, the International Women’s Day reminds us that feminism is the driving force for human rights, democracy and for peace.

The Left is carrying forward a heritage begun by feminists who fought for anti-fascism, workers’ rights, political participation and reproductive and sexual rights.