



02 - 05 MAY 2022

PLENARY SESSION PRIORITIES

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PRESS BRIEFING

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

TUE 03 MAY
09:30 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.

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



Martin Schirdewan: This is Europe - Debate with Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi

Tuesday

For almost a decade, Mario Draghi was the face of austerity in Europe. As Italy's prime minister, "Super Mario" suddenly seems transformed, demanding more money from the EU for public investment. To be sure, this is the right thing to do. But the question is who will benefit from the public money in the end? After all, investment programs must not mean that costs are socialised while profits are to be privatized.



Marisa Matias: Europe's Energy Autonomy - Question time with EU Commission

Tuesday

"Diversifying gas purchases will only keep us locked into dirty fossil fuels, and shifting EU payouts from Putin to the bin Salman family is hardly heartening. There is only one solution to achieve energy independence and sovereignty: a fair energy system based on renewables and under public control. However, this requires the political will to admit that people's interests come before big business profits."



Luke "Ming" Flanagan: Discharge 2020

Debate & Vote: Wednesday

"The whole discharge procedure aims to ensure that EU funds, ordinary people's hard earned money, are spent efficiently in the best interests of those within the EU. We fight for total transparency, and we won't compromise on the total accountability from any institution and body including and in particular the European Court of Auditors, which should be a model with respect of the implementation of union budget and the highest ethical standards."





Pernando Barrena - Artificial intelligence in a digital age

Debate & Vote: Tuesday

"Our group does not support the report. It has no strong message on the environmental impact of uncontrolled or unlimited development of AI (raw material, CO2 emissions, energy consumption). The worst part is the one concerning law enforcement and defence, where it calls for closer cooperation with NATO in the cyber defence field and calls on NATO allies to regulate the military use of AI".



Clare Daly - Strengthening Europol's mandate

Debate: Tuesday, Vote: Wednesday

I will be voting against both the Europol and SIS II regulation due to its disturbing data access expansion to the powerful but opaque European police agency. The legalisation of retaining large datasets of people unrelated to crime, in disregard to the EDPS's decision, is a breach of EU citizens' privacy rights, and paves the way for dangerous predictive policing practices.

World Press Freedom Day

Tuesday, May 3rd

World Press Freedom Day, is about more than just protecting press freedom. It's about remembering all those who died in search of the truth, standing up for our right to information, our right to know. Today, as we celebrate freedom of the press and freedom of expression, let us pay tribute to the people and organisations that protect and promote the essence of democracy: truth.