



06 - 09 JUN 2022

PLENARY SESSION PRIORITIES

More Info: David Lundy +32 485 505 812, Sonja Giese +32 22 832 170, Lorelei Mihala +32 22 841 431 or Ciara Bottomley +32 22 843 631

www.left.eu

PRESS BRIEFING

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

**TUE 07 JUN
11:20 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)



Manon Aubry: Fit for 55

Debate: Tuesday, Vote: Wednesday

The few improvements brought by the 8 files of the Fit for 55 package are better than nothing, but they remain mostly based on market mechanisms and will not be sufficient at all to comply with the Paris agreement. The Left strongly regrets the absence of a real green and social new deal for Europe that it has been demanding since 2019. However, this first small step is even too much for the conservatives and industry lobbies that are actively trying to weaken even more the initial position of the Parliament. This is not acceptable! Our group will fight alongside NGOs and activists to increase the ambition of this climate package and develop its social dimension, in order to save the planet rather than corporate interests.



Martin Schirdewan: The war on Ukraine

Debate: Tuesday

EU sanctions must clearly target Putin and its power apparatus. The sanctions should not be imposed on residents in regions like East Germany. This is why we need state guarantees to help people in the regions of the EU most affected by the sanctions packages against Russia. A clear perspective is needed for these regions if we want to prevent deindustrialisation as in the Ruhrpott and to get independent on fossil fuels! The necessary funds can be financed from a windfall tax on energy, pharmaceutical and defence companies."



Silvia Modig: Fit for 55

Debate: Tuesday, Vote: Wednesday

Climate change is a fact and we are running out of time. The Fit for 55 package is the core of the European Green Deal. These are vital decisions about how we in the EU respond to the climate crisis in the years and decades to come. We need decisions that are socially just and right for the planet."





María Eugenia Rodríguez Palop: Global threats to abortion rights

Debate: Wednesday

When states ban abortion, they violate women's right to decide over their own body, put their lives at risk and exacerbate inequality and discrimination. The foreseeable limitation of abortion rights in the USA, as has happened in Poland, reminds us that we cannot let our guard down and that we must continue to weave networks of sisterhood to fight the backlash: "Stay out of our wombs: my body, my rights."



Manu Pineda: Foreign Security and Defence Policy after the Russian invasion of Ukraine

Debate: Tuesday

The EU should promote the resolution of conflicts through political agreements, in order to prevent conflicts and avoid the escalation of current ones. We believe that the EU should avoid fueling the arms spiral and work towards disarmament. We believe it is essential for the EU to cooperate with the UN to mitigate the side effects of conflict, such as energy and food shortages, and to protect refugees fleeing war, regardless of their passport.



Younous Omarjee: Islands and cohesion policy

Debate: Monday, Vote: Tuesday

A political front has been formed to ensure the emergence of a genuine European island policy, which has become urgent and a priority. The specificities of insularity must be taken into account by European regulations and be the subject of specific policies. Islands have other realities than continents. This European ambition for islands must be achieved by 2023. We have completed the urban agenda, we have completed the rural agenda, and now it is time for the islands. A Europe that is close to its citizens requires this and the European Commission cannot be deaf and blind to the concrete realities of the territories.



Luke Ming Flanagan: 60 years of the CAP

Debate: Monday

If we cannot learn from our mistakes, we are doomed to repeat them. As we reflect on 60 years of CAP we must accept that despite success in some aspects, the productivist paradigm of endlessly producing more food that has been a central characteristic of the policy has led us down a self-destructive path. Going forward, agriculture and food production must be reimagined, "Food security" must be replaced with "food sovereignty". Our food must become more than a commodity, exploited for the maximum financial gain, to become a basic human right with affordable quality food for all. Our food production must respect planetary boundaries within which it operates and protect and enhance the biodiversity upon which it depends. Only then will the reflection be worthwhile.