



03 - 05 OCT 2023

PLENARY SESSION PRIORITIES

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PRESS BRIEFING

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

TUE 03 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)



Manon Aubry - Ban glyphosate to protect Europeans' health

Debate: Wednesday

Just a few days after Von der Leyen's SOTEU announcements on EU environmental policy, we learn that the Commission has proposed to renew glyphosate for another 10 years. This pesticide is classified as a probable carcinogen by the WHO, and numerous studies have demonstrated its neurotoxicity and its effects on fertility and foetal development. It has a terrible impact on biodiversity, on our soils, and contaminates all our waterways. But instead of protecting our health and environment, the Commission prefers to spoil Bayer Monsanto - which deploys massive lobbying resources every year. The member states must take a stand against this re-authorisation, including France, whose ministers have been playing a double game from the outset. Our lives should never take second place to the economic interests of a handful of industrial companies!



Martin Schirdewan - Decent housing for all

Debate: Wednesday

While tenants sink deeper and deeper into the housing crisis and real estate companies make profits out of their misery, the European Union looks on dreamily. Instead of playing into the pockets of those who speculate with housing, we must protect those who want to live in it for a long time. That means taking action against the rent explosion. Housing is a human right, not a speculative good.



Anja Hazekamp - No to Hoekstra for climate

Vote: Thursday

To appoint a former Shell employee as EU commissioner for climate in the heat of the global climate and biodiversity crises is inconceivable. Moreover, Hoekstra's track record on environment policies is questionable. We need someone with a deep green heart who passionately advocates for the continuation of all ambitious Green Deal measures.



Marc Botenga - Rising precariousness in Europe

Debate: Monday

In Europe, one in three parents sometimes cannot meet their children's most basic needs. When day after day, nearly a third of Europeans have to skip meals, banks and multinationals are making record excess profits. This is Ursula von der Leyen's true legacy. And despite this crisis, the European Commission wants a return to austerity. No way!



Anja Hazekamp - Ban toxic glyphosate!

Debate: Wednesday

Despite all the scientific literature on the links between the massive spraying of RoundUp and the decline in biodiversity, the rising costs of the production of clean drinking water and the high and rising incidences of cancer and Parkinson's disease, the Commission is proposing to keep glyphosate on the market for another 10 years. We reject this toxic proposal and request an immediate glyphosate ban in the interest of public health, animals and the environment.



Nikolaj Villumsen - Protection of workers from asbestos

Debate: Monday, Vote: Tuesday

Almost two decades after the EU banned asbestos, the silent killer still claims 90,000 deaths every year. The Left has ensured significant improvements in workers protection from asbestos. This is especially urgent as the EU moves to renovate millions of buildings. The green transition must be socially just and protect the lives of the workers at the forefront of it.



Stelios Kouloglou - European Media Freedom Act

Debate: Tuesday, Vote: Tuesday

The European Media Freedom Act is a milestone when it comes to protecting media pluralism in the EU. With this Act we are aiming to create a more balanced environment for all media service providers and content creators across the EU. Furthermore, we are safeguarding their independent functioning as well as solidifying already existing rights by clarifying existing rights and obligations.



Clare Daly - Full ban on journalists' surveillance

Debate: Tuesday, Vote: Tuesday

The Media Freedom Act is the first time the EU will regulate the use of spyware, & using this legislation to empower states, private entities & others to deploy spyware against journalists of all people would be a staggering move by the Parliament. I will table a series of amendments to ban its use against journalists – this should be a first step towards banning the sale & use of spyware in the EU altogether. This military grade secret surveillance software allows whoever deploys it to see into every single aspect of your life. Nobody should be subject to it, under any circumstances. Repression of investigative journalists under the guise of 'national security' is increasing in the EU, & states have already shown they are more than happy to spy on journalists without the slightest concern for freedom of the press or protection of sources. They can't be trusted with this technology, a full ban is the only option.