



11-14 SEPT 2023

PLENARY SESSION PRIORITIES

More Info: David Lundy +32 485 505 812, Sonja Giese +32 474 943 908, Lorelei Mihala +32 477 990 457 or Ciara Bottomley +32 460 760 333

www.left.eu

PRESS BRIEFING

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

**TUE 12 SEPT
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)

In memory of President Salvador Allende.

Monday, September 11 marks the 50th anniversary of the coup d'etat and assassination of President Salvador Allende in Chile. It was a shameful attack on democracy supported by right-wing and neoliberal forces. The violence and repression that followed marked the darkest chapter in Chilean history. This anniversary is a reminder that we must always stand up to anti-democratic forces in the name of social justice.



Martin Schirdewan – State of the European Union

Debate Wednesday

In recent years, Commission President von der Leyen promised Europeans the sun and the moon. However, the Commission has delivered little in the way of real solutions to real problems. Food prices continue to rise, and more and more people struggle to pay at the supermarket. The years under President von der Leyen saw fat gains for large corporations. For the people of the EU, on the other hand, there is less money in their wallets and more questions than answers to the current social crises.



Kateřina Konečná – Consumer credits

Debate Monday, vote Tuesday

I believe the legislation that I prepared as rapporteur will substantially protect consumers in the field of consumer credit. And for the first time in history, we managed to enforce the guarantee of the right to be forgotten for cancer patients in EU legislation. No consumer should be exposed to dangerous financial products or their advertising. This especially applies in the troubled times of the current crisis.



Cornelia Ernst - EU-Tunisia migration deal

Debate Tuesday

We clearly oppose this deal. It is well documented that Tunisia is abandoning refugees and asylum seekers in the desert, leaving them to die. Against this background, it should be unthinkable to make the country "the next gatekeeper of Europe". Dirty Deals externalising the EU's responsibility for migration are part of the problem not the solution.



Helmut Scholz - Transparency and integrity

Debate Monday; vote Tuesday

In response to Qatargate, the Constitutional Affairs committee was tasked with revising the Parliament's Rules of Procedure on the basis of the 14-point-plan adopted by the Plenary earlier this year. Against the resistance of the right-wing, which voted against the report, we were able to successfully push for an obligatory declaration of MEP assets, a more rigorous publication of meetings with lobby representatives and a reform of the Advisory Committee through the inclusion of external experts. We now need to defend this in the plenary.



Giorgos Georgiou - Türkiye

Debate Tuesday, vote Wednesday

Parliament's report on Türkiye's poor and deteriorating record on human rights and rule of law is a reaffirmation of the strict accession standards set by the EU vis-à-vis all candidates for EU membership. Nevertheless, The Left remains deeply concerned about the tolerance exhibited towards Ankara's continuing provocative and illegal activities, and its hypocritical praise as a factor of stability. The military invasion in Syria, the continuing occupation of Cyprus and its illegal activities at Varosha and Pyla as well as the ferocious persecution of progressive Turkish Cypriots and Kurds are only some of those examples. The Parliament should rather adopt a strong stance by requesting an arms embargo and the immediate reversal of all illegal activities against EU member states and third countries. Any possible modification of the current relationship between EU-Turkey, that would alter its obligations towards member states, is objectionable.



Sira Rego - Renewable energy directive

Debate Monday, vote Tuesday

The proposal for a new directive on renewable energies is a good opportunity to strengthen Europe's efforts in the fight against climate change and decarbonisation. Increasing the production of green energy up to 42,5% of the total will become mandatory, states will be compelled to have a coherent infrastructure plan when it comes to respecting the environment and rural population, and it also explicitly protects the Natura 2000 network.



Dimitrios Papadimoulis - Budget for the European Council 2024

Debate Wednesday

We reject the absurd and unjustified cuts proposed by the Council. At a time of multiple crises requiring more funds, the Council's position for horizontal cuts on various policies and programmes is simply incomprehensible. We will demand more funds for the 2024 EU budget to address peoples' needs and the social and economic consequences of the challenges we face.