



PLENARY SESSION PRIORITIES

20-23 OCTOBER 2014



NEW COMMISSION President GABI ZIMMER GERMANY

In a complicated marathon of hearings MEPs evaluated very critically the proposed candidates and their performances. The result is more than sobering. On the one hand, Juncker has introduced only minimal corrections, on the other hand the grand coalition of Conservatives and Social Democrats did a disservice to parliamentary democracy. The price of this party deal, pushing through the strongly-criticised candidates, is clearly too high. Thus, citizens will not be convinced by this form of European democracy.

Debate: Wednesday; Vote: Wednesday



EUROPEAN SEMESTER MARISA MATIAS PORTUGAL

These recommendations show that those responsible for keeping the Eurozone together have learnt nothing from the results of the disastrous policies that brought us here and threatened the integrity of the Eurozone. Their principle is 'when something doesn't work consistently for years, try longer and harder'. We will continue advocating that for different results, we will have to bet on growth and employment as the only means for sustainable fiscal consolidation. This requires protecting people's income and using public investment to kick-start the economy.

Debate: Tuesday; Vote: Wednesday



DISCHARGE RINA RONJA KARI DENMARK

I am astonished that the Council once again fails to answer questions from the Parliament. The fact that the discharge has been denied for several years, and that the Council shows no effort to agree with the Parliament, reveals a lack of respect for voters. They should be ashamed of the missing discharge and not just ignore it!

Debate: Wednesday; Vote: Thursday



KOBANE SABINE LÖSING GERMANY

NATO members such as the US, Turkey, as well as Qatar and Saudi Arabia have contributed significantly to the buildup and strengthening of IS. The situation has worsened in particular in the cities of Kobanê and Rojava despite increased US airstrikes which, as of 16/10, have killed 6 people from the Kurdish YPG forces. We demand that Turkey closes its border for IS fighters and stops any structural and financial support for IS. We further call to open the border for refugees and humanitarian aid in particular for the beleaguered city of Kobanê. We call for a stop of arms exports into the region including to Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Debate: Wednesday



MOS MAIORUM CORNELIA ERNST GERMANY

The Mos Maiorum police operation is essentially a mass sweep against irregular migrants who enjoy borderless travel within Europe. There is a high risk that police will use ethnic profiling to find migrants based on the colour of their skin. Thus, Mos Maiorum, which is not subject to accountability or scrutiny from the EP or national parliaments, violates the fundamental rights to equality and freedom from discrimination and above all seriously undermines the Schengen area, which is supposed to be free of border controls, regardless of whether or not travellers are actually entitled to free movement.

Debate: Wednesday



EBOLA KATEŘINA KONEČNÁ CZECH REPUBLIC

There are evermore cases of Ebola in EU member states, like Spain or Poland. Due to strong underestimation of hygiene practices, failure of local health care and sanitation services and incapability of developed countries around the world to respond adequately to this threat, this unprecedented Ebola outbreak has become a global threat. We are reaping what we sow. Health care systems on the African continent are very weak. To avoid disastrous consequences, the EU must provide every possible human and material resource to affected areas. Instead of our shallow resolutions, developing countries are in urgent need of isolation units, hospital beds, basic medical equipment and most importantly, doctors. Yesterday was already too late!

Debate: Monday

PRESS BRIEFING

GUE/NGL President **Gabi Zimmer**
on new College of Commissioners
14:30 Tuesday
Press Room LOW N-1/201

PRESS TEAM

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