

The Week Ahead 06 – 12 March 2017

Committee and political group meetings, Brussels

Reform of the EU asylum system. Proposals to reform the Dublin system, which determines the member state responsible for processing an asylum application, will be presented and debated for the first time in the Civil Liberties Committee. The talks will include possible changes to ensure more solidarity and sharing of responsibility among EU countries in tackling the migration and asylum crisis. *(Thursday)*

On Tuesday at 11.00, lead MEP Cecilia Wikström will hold a press conference to outline her main proposals ahead of the committee debate.

Taxation/EP inquiry. The Special Committee on Money Laundering, Tax avoidance and Tax Evasion (PANA) will finalise its hearings on the roles of bankers, lawyers and accountants in the secret offshore financial vehicles. Journalists from the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists will also attend. *(Monday)*

Rule of law in Poland. Civil Liberties MEPs will also debate the ongoing probe, launched by the Commission, into respect for the rule of law in Poland, with Commission First Vice-President Frans Timmermans. *(Thursday)*

International Women's Day. MEPs and national MPs will gather for a meeting on women's economic empowerment. Parliament's President Antonio Tajani, Gender Equality Commissioner Vera Jourová, Alia El-Yassir, UN Women Deputy Director for Europe and Central Asia and activist Vandana Shiva, among several other guests, will join this event organised by the Women's Rights Committee. *(Wednesday and Thursday)*

A seminar for journalists on "Women's Economic Empowerment", with leading MEPs and key media players, will look at gender equality in political and economic decision-making, the pension gap and the challenges and obstacles to achieving a work-life balance. French physicist Hélène Langevin-Joliot and British True and Fair Foundation founder Gina Miller are among the guest speakers. *(Tuesday and Wednesday)*

Plenary preparations. Political groups will prepare for debates and final votes on firearms and on blood minerals, and discuss various aspects of the circular economy and waste, prior to votes on four legislative proposals. They will also prepare votes on resolutions to overcome obstacles to EU citizens' right to free movement, EU external actions to address the refugee and migrant crisis, and the fundamental rights implications of big data. Lastly, they will prepare votes on new rules for money market funds and long-term shareholders' engagement as well as on corporate governance.

Agenda

President's agenda. EP President Antonio Tajani will meet Finland's Minister of Foreign Affairs Timo Soini and Austrian Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz, on Monday. Mr Tajani will meet Belgium's Prime Minister Charles Michel, on Wednesday. On Thursday, he will meet Estonia's Prime Minister Jüri Ratas.

Pre-session press briefing. The EP Press Service will hold a press briefing with the EP's political group spokespersons at 11.00 on Friday. (*Anna Politkovskaya room, press centre, Brussels*)

EP Press Service contact 4 and 5 March

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Monday 06/03/2017

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's agenda

16:00 Meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Finland Mr. Timo Soini

Salon A

17:00 Meeting with Austrian Foreign Minister Mr. Sebastian Kurz

Salon A

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

16:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C-050

Committee on Budgets

- Guidelines for the 2018 Budget - Section III (BUD) - Vote on a draft report - Rapporteur: Siegfried Mureşan (EPP, RO)

15:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Committee of Inquiry to investigate alleged contraventions and maladministration in the application of Union law in relation to money laundering, tax avoidance and tax evasion

- The role of lawyers, accountants and bankers in Panama Papers (Part III) - See Public Hearings

PUBLIC HEARINGS

15:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

The role of lawyers, accountants and bankers in Panama Papers

The Special Committee on Money Laundering, Tax avoidance and Tax Evasion (PANA) will finalise its series of hearings on the roles of bankers, lawyers and accountants in the setting-up of secret offshore financial vehicles. Journalists from the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists will also join.

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Tuesday 07/03/2017

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's agenda

12:30 Brief appearance at "Presentation of the Inspiring Girls Project" organized by MEP Becerra - Distribution Centre Area 3D

13:00 Meeting President Tajani/ First Vice-President of European Commission Timmermans - President's office

14:00 Meeting with representatives of CEC (Conference of Protestant Churches) - Salon A

18:40 Invitation to Thematic museums: Opportunities for Tourism and Growth organized by Ms. Elissavet Vozemberg - PHS 7C050

PRESS CONFERENCES

11:00-11:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050*

The presentation of the draft report on the reform of the Dublin system

Cecilia WIKSTRÖM (ALDE, SV), rapporteur

SPECIAL EVENTS

13:45-18:00 *Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 5E2*

Seminar on women's economic empowerment: let's act together

Seminar for journalists - Tuesday afternoon, 7 March and Wednesday morning, 8 March

Ahead of International Women's Day (*Wednesday, 8 March*) and the Interparliamentary committee meeting scheduled for 8-9 March on "Women's economic empowerment: let's act together" Parliament's Press Service is organising a seminar for journalists on the same subject. The aim of this networking event is to generate a debate between key media actors and leading MEPs and invited experts.

The interparliamentary meeting starts at **15.00** on Wednesday and continues on Thursday morning.

Contacts in the European Parliament

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Wednesday 08/03/2017

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's agenda

14:00 Meeting with Prime Minister Charles Michel - Grand Salon Protocolaire

15:00 Welcome speech "International womens day" - JAN 2Q2

18:30 Meeting with Michaëlle Jean, Secretary General of OIF (Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie auprès UE) - President's office

PRESS CONFERENCES

10:00-10:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050*

Open the ECB black box

Fabio DE MASI (GUE/NGL, DE) and Yanis VAROUFAKIS

11:00-11:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050*

Abolishing prostitution using the 'Nordic Model'

Malin BJÖRK (GUE/NGL, SV), Mary HONEYBALL (S&D, UK), Simon HÄGGSTRÖM, Rachel MORAN, and Raphaëlle RÉMY-LELEU

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

15:00-17:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C-50*

Committee on Budgets

- Joint meeting with Foreign Affairs and Development committees

15:00-21:00 *Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2*

Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

- Inter-parliamentary meeting celebrating International Women's Day - see *Special Events*

SPECIAL EVENTS

09:30-12:15 *Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 5E2*

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15:00-21:00 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Interparliamentary meeting: Women's economic empowerment: Let's act together

Interparliamentary meeting celebrating International Women's Day 2017

Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee and National Parliaments

8-9 March 2017

On the occasion of International Women's Day (*Wednesday, 8 March*), the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality is holding an interparliamentary committee meeting dealing with the economic empowerment of women. The event starts at **15.00** on Wednesday and continues on Thursday morning.

European Parliament President Antonio TAJANI (EPP, IT), Věra JOUROVÁ, European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality and Alia EI-YASSIR, UN Women Deputy Director at Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia will welcome national gender equality leaders and members of parliaments from Europe and beyond. The debates and workshops are set to focus on women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, women in political and economic decision-making, and work-life balance. From a global perspective, the issues of freedom from violence as a pre-condition for empowerment and the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals will also be discussed.

Keynote speeches will be made by the following special guests:

- Vandana SHIVA, author, activist, pioneer, scientific advisor and mother
- Michaëlle JEAN, Secretary-General of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie
- Lamyā Haji BASHAR, Yazidi human rights activist, Sakharov Prize laureate 2016
- Hauwa IBRAHIM, Nigerian human rights lawyer, Sakharov Prize laureate 2005

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Thursday 09/03/2017

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's agenda

08:25 Official welcome of Prime Minister of Estonia Mr Jüri Ratas - PHS Protocol entrance

08:30 Meeting with Prime Minister of Estonia H.E. Mr Jüri Ratas - Grand Salon Protocolaire

09:00 Conference of Presidents - PHS 06B01

12:30 Summit EPP - Académie Royale de Belgique - Rue Ducale 1

15:30 European Council

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

09:00-12:30 *Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 5G-3*

Subcommittee on Human Rights

9.00 – 10.00

Jointly with the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (in room: JAN 2Q2)

- Discussion on the occasion of International Women's Day

09:00-12:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 4B001*

Subcommittee on Security and Defence

With the Council and Commission and EEAS

- Private Security Companies - 2016/2238(INI) - Rapporteur: Hilde VAUTMANS (ALDE, BE) - Consideration of draft report

09:00-12:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 1A002*

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

- Discussion with Commission and member of the European Single Supervisory Mechanism (yet unidentified) on equivalence. This follows the distribution of the Commission's internal paper on the subject against the background of Brexit.

09:00-12:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C050*

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

Votes

- Conservation of fishery resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures - Adoption of draft opinion - Rapporteur: Claudiu Ciprian TĂNĂSESCU (S&D, RO)
- Participation of the Union in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) jointly undertaken by several Member States - Adoption of draft opinion - Rapporteur: Francesc GAMBÚS (EPP, ES)

Agenda

- Palm oil and deforestation of rainforests - Adoption of draft report - Rapporteur: Kateřina KONEČNÁ (GUE/NGL, CZ)

End of votes

- Discussion with M. Karmenu VELLA, commissaire chargé de l'environnement, des affaires maritimes et de la pêche, dans le cadre du dialogue structuré

09:00-15:30 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q1

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

- Criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or a stateless person. Recast (COD), rapporteur Cecilia WIKSTRÖM (ALDE, SE) - discussion on draft report **(09.00-10.30)**
- Qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection and content of the protection granted (COD), rapporteur Tanja FAJON (S&D, SI) - discussion on draft report **(10.30-11.15)**
- Refugees/migrants issue in Greece: state of play and future scenarios - discussion with Ioannis MOUZALES, Alternate Minister of Migration Policy of Greece **(11.15-12.00)**

VOTES (12.25-12.30)

Possibly

- Third countries whose nationals are subject to or exempt from a visa requirement: Ukraine (COD), rapporteur Mariya GABRIEL (EPP, BG) - vote on the text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations
- Uniform format for residence permits or third country nationals (COD), rapporteur Jussi HALLA-AHO (ECR, FI) - vote on draft report and vote on the opening of interinstitutional negotiations and on the composition of the negotiating team

end of votes

09:00-12:30 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

- Inter-parliamentary meeting celebrating International Women's Day - see *Special Events*

SPECIAL EVENTS

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Interparliamentary meeting: Women's economic empowerment: Let's act together

Interparliamentary meeting celebrating International Women's Day 2017

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