

The Week Ahead 25 – 31 January 2016

Political group and committee meetings, Brussels

Danish law on asylum and refugees. A controversial draft law, proposed by the Danish government, which would empower the authorities to seize valuable assets from refugees in order to pay for their stay when applying for asylum in Denmark, will be debated at the Civil Liberties Committee. *(Monday)*

Trade secrets. An informal Parliament/Council deal on new rules to help businesses obtain legal redress against the theft or misuse of their trade secrets is up for a vote in the Legal Affairs Committee. MEPs sought in the talks to ensure that freedom of expression and information are protected and that the new rules will not restrict the work of journalists. *(Thursday)*

Port services. New rules to improve the quality and efficiency of services provided to sea port users, such as shipping companies, will be voted by the Transport Committee. The committee will set out its position on measures proposed by the Commission for market access to port services and to improve the transparency of port infrastructure and port service charges and public funding of ports. *(Monday)*

Fight against fraud. Proposals on how to improve checks on EU spending and claw back EU funds lost through fraud or irregular spending will be voted by the Budgetary Control Committee, in a resolution based on the Commission's 2014 annual report on the performance of the member states and the Commission itself in stepping up the fight against fraudulent use of EU funds. *(Thursday)*

Serbia and Kosovo. Progress made in 2015 by Serbia on its path to EU membership and by Kosovo on state-building reforms will be assessed in two resolutions to be voted by the Foreign Affairs Committee. *(Thursday)*

ECB annual report. European Central Bank activities in 2014 will be assessed in a resolution to be voted by the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee, including its monetary policy and its role in the Troika programme. *(Monday)*

Plenary preparations. Political groups will prepare for the 1- 4 February plenary session in Strasbourg. Amongst other topics, MEPs will prepare for debates with Commission President Juncker on the upcoming EU summit and with ECB President Draghi on the European Central Bank's annual report. Groups will get ready for votes on EP recommendations to EU negotiators on the world trade in services (TISA) deal and on establishing an EU platform to prevent and track undeclared work.

President's agenda. EP President Martin Schulz will meet the President of the House of Representatives of Cyprus Yiannakis Omirou, followed by press point, on Tuesday. Mr



Agenda

Schulz will meet UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandin, deliver a keynote speech at the Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony, taking place in the EP premises, and meet Turkish intellectuals Osman Kavala and Ahmet Insel, on Wednesday. On Thursday, he will open the exposition “Après la Shoah: Rescapés, réfugiés, survivants (1944-1947)” at Mémorial de la Shoah, in Paris.

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*)

Press seminar on terrorism. Parliament's press service is holding a seminar on the EU's response to terrorism. Discussion will focus on the European Agenda on Security, including the proposal for directives to combat terrorism, set up the EU system on passenger name records (PNR), on Europol, firearms control, a high common level of network information security (NIS) and data protection. (*Tuesday and Wednesday*)

EP Press Service contact during the weekend:

Janez VOUK

+32 475 78 48 56

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's diary

Tuesday 26/01/2016

Brussels

11:00 Meeting with Yiannakis Omirou, President of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus, followed by press point - Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 9th floor, Grand Salon Protocolaire

13:30 Meeting with Georges Dassis, President of European Economic and Social Committee – Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 9th floor, President's office

The President's diary

Wednesday 27/01/2016

Brussels

10:00 Meeting with Filippo Grandi, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees – Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 9th floor, President's office

12:50 Keynote speech at the Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony - Yehudi Menuhin space

16:30 Meeting with Osman Kavala and Ahmet Insel, Turkish intellectuals, civil society - Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 9th floor, Salon Protocolaire A

The President's diary

Thursday 28/01/2016

Brussels/ Paris

11:00 Conference of Presidents

14:00 Keynote speech "Technological totalitarianism, politics and democracy" at the CPDP Computer Privacy and Data Protection Congress - Les Halles de Schaerbeek, Rue Royale-Sainte-Marie 22

18:00 Opening of the exposition "Après la Shoah: Rescapés, réfugiés, survivants (1944-1947)" - Mémorial de la shoah, rue Geoffroy-l'Asnier 17

PRESS CONFERENCES

"Long term effects on farm animals from the ingestion of a genetically modified plant"

Tuesday 26/01/2016 14:30-15:00 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050*

Michèle RIVASI (Greens/EFA, FR) and Gilles-Eric SERALINI

"Danish draft asylum law"

Monday 25/01/2016 16:30-17:00 *Strasbourg, Louise Weiss, 0A050*

Ulla TØRNÆS (ALDE, DK), Kristian JENSEN, Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Inger STØJBERG, Danish Minister for Immigration, Integration and Housing

Press point - Martin SCHULZ, European Parliament President, and Yiannakis OMIROU, President of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus

Tuesday 26/01/2016 11:30-11:45 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 9th floor*

"Presentation of the delegation to the Basque Country"

Thursday 28/01/2016 09:30-10:00 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050*

Gabriele ZIMMER (DE) GUE/NGL President, Lidia SENRA RODRÍGUEZ (GUE/NGL, ES) and Josep María TERRICABRAS (GUE/NGL, ES)

"Colombian peace process"

Thursday 28/01/2016 14:00-14:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050*

Richard HOWITT (S&D, UK)

Pre-session briefing

Friday 29/01/2016 11:00-11:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050*

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Subcommittee on Human Rights

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 5E-2

- Discussion on the human rights situation in Georgia
- Discussion with the EEAS on the EU's priorities for the upcoming 31st Session of the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC)

17.30 – 18.30 in ASP 1E-2

- Jointly with the Subcommittee on Security and Defence: Children in armed conflicts: challenges for international action. Discussion with Leila ZERROUGUI, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, United Nations

Subcommittee on Security and Defence

Monday 25/01/2016 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 1E-2

- *In association with the Delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee:* General security situation in Ukraine – EUAM – which role for the EU? - Discussion with Kenneth DEANE, Director of the EU Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability, EEAS and Liubov NEPOP, Acting Head of the Mission of Ukraine to the EU. *Jointly with the Subcommittee on Human Rights*

Committee on Budgets

Wednesday 27/01/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 5G-3

- Preparation of the post-electoral revision of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020: Parliament's input ahead of the Commission's proposal - Co- rapporteurs: Jan OLBRYCHT (EPP, PL), Isabelle THOMAS (S&D, FR) - Discussion with Commission representatives - Monitoring group

Committee on Budgetary Control

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 1A002

- Discharge 2014: EU general budget - European Commission (DEC) - Rapporteur: Martina DLABAJOVA (ALDE, CZ) - Discussion with the Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for Budget and Human Resources, Kristalina GEORGIEVA, in the presence of the Members of the European Court of auditors responsible, Lazaros S. LAZAROU and Kevin CARDIFF
- Discharge 2014: EU general budget - European Parliament (DEC) - Rapporteur: Markus PIEPER (EPP, DE) - Discussion with the Vice-Presidents of the European Parliament with responsibility for the budget, David-Maria SASSOLI (S&D, IT) and Rainer WIELAND (EPP, DE), the Secretary-General, Klaus WELLE and the Internal Auditor of the European Parliament, Robert GALVIN, in the presence of the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, Baudilio Tomé MUGURUZA

Committee on Budgetary Control

Thursday 28/01/2016 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 1A002

Electronic vote

Annual Report 2014 on the Protection of the EU's Financial Interests - Fight against fraud (INI) - Rapporteur: Benedek JAVOR (Greens/EFA, HU) - Adoption of draft report

European Investment Bank (EIB) - Annual Report 2014 (INI) - Rapporteur: Georgi PIRINSKI (S&D, BG) - Adoption of draft report

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-19:00 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2

- Virtual currencies - Public hearing. (*See Public hearings*) (15.00-16.25)
- Economic Dialogue and discussion with Harris GEORGIADIS, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Cyprus. (16.25-17.50)

Votes (17.50-19.00)

- Activities and supervision of institutions for occupational retirement provision (recast) (COD) - Vote on a report by Brian HAYES (EPP, IE)
- Banking Union - Annual Report 2015 (INI) - Vote on a report by Roberto GUALTIERI (S&D, IT)
- European Central Bank Annual report for 2014 (INI) - Vote on a report by Notis MARIAS (ECR, EL)

End of votes

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Thursday 28/01/2016 09:00-12:30 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q1

- Public Hearing with Elke KÖNIG, Chairperson of the Single Resolution Board (SRB) - *See public hearings* (09.00-10.30)

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q1

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Tuesday 26/01/2016 14:00-15:00 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2

Extraordinary meeting

- Discussion with Minister Pier Carlo PADOAN and presentation of the Minister's proposal for a European Unemployment insurance scheme

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Thursday 28/01/2016 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C050

- BEREC opinion on Review of the Telecoms Framework and other ongoing activities, Presentation by Wilhelm ESCHWEILER, Chair of BEREC
- Commission Communication on the FP7 ex-post evaluation report, Presentation by Carlos MOEDAS, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- Presentation of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) special report 'Improving the security of energy supply by developing the internal energy market: more efforts needed', Discussion with Phil Wynn OWEN, Member of the ECA
- Study on 'Space Market uptake', Presentation by Laura DELPONTE, Centre for Industrial Studies (CSIL)

Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3E-2

- Presentation of the priorities of the Dutch Presidency with Mr Henk KAMP, Minister of Economic Affairs

Votes

- Single Market governance within the European Semester 2016 - Adoption of draft report - Rapporteur: Catherine STIHLER (S&D, UK)

End of votes

Committee on Regional Development

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-17:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 1G2

- Joint REGI-COTER Public Hearing on the Implementation of the EU Urban Agenda: "Towards the Pact of Amsterdam" - see *Public Hearings*

Committee on Foreign Affairs

Thursday 28/01/2016 09:00-12:30 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Start of voting

- 2015 Report on Serbia (2015/2892(RSP)) - Rapporteur: David McALLISTER (EPP, DE) - Adoption
- 2015 Report on Kosovo (2015/2893(RSP)) - Rapporteur: Ulrike LUNACEK (Verts/ALE, AT) - Adoption

End of votes

11.00 - 12:30

- Public hearing: The Colombian peace process (*see Public hearings*)

Committee on Development

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 5G-2

- The European Development Fund and the Development Cooperation Instrument - Discussion with Neven MIMICA, European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development (**15.15 – 16.45**)
- The EU in a changing global environment - a more connected, contested and complex world (2015/2272(INI)) - Rapporteur for the opinion: Brian HAYES (EPP, IE) - Consideration of draft opinion

Committee on International Trade

Monday 25/01/2016 14:30-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 4B001

- Presentation by Lilianne PLOUMEN, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, representing the President-in-Office of the Council, on the priorities of the Dutch Presidency in the area of International Trade Policy

Start of voting

- Introduction of emergency autonomous trade measures for the Republic of Tunisia (2015/0218(COD)) - Rapporteur: Marielle DE SARNEZ (ALDE, FR) - Adoption of draft report

Agenda

- Opening of negotiations for an EU-Tunisia Free Trade Agreement (2015/2791(RSP)) - Rapporteur: Marielle DE SARNEZ (ALDE, FR) - Adoption of motion for a resolution
- Opening of FTA negotiations with Australia and New Zealand (2015/2932(RSP)) - Adoption of motion for a resolution

End of voting

Committee on Transport and Tourism

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C050

- Market access to port services and financial transparency of ports (COD) - vote on a draft regulation by Knut Fleckenstein (S&D, DE)
- Conclusions of the Luxembourg presidency of the Council - discussion with François BAUSCH, Minister for Infrastructure and Sustainable Development
- Priorities of the Dutch presidency of the Council - discussion with Melanie SCHULZ VAN HAEGEN, Dutch Minister for Infrastructure and Environment

Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3G3

- Technological solutions to sustainable agriculture in the EU (INI) - vote on a draft resolution by Anthea McIntyre (ECR, UK)

Committee on Culture and Education

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 1G3

- Learning EU at school (INI) - vote on a draft resolution by Damian Drăghici (S&D, RO)
- Priorities of the Dutch presidency of the Council - discussion with Jet BUSSEMAKER, Dutch Minister of Education, Culture and Science, and Martin VAN RIJN, State Secretary for Health, Welfare and Sport

Committee on Legal Affairs

Thursday 28/01/2016 09:30-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 5B001

VOTES

- Protection of undisclosed know-how and business information (trade secrets) against their unlawful acquisition, use and disclosure (COD), rapporteur Constance LE GRIP (EPP, FR) - vote on the text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations
- Accession of Austria and Malta to the Hague Convention of 15 November 1965 on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters (NLE), rapporteur Viktor USPASKICH (ALDE, LT) - vote on draft report

End of votes

- Hearing on a Law of Administrative Procedure of the European Union (**09.30-12.30**) - see *Public Hearings*
- Discussion with Frans TIMMERMANS, first Vice-President of the European Commission, within the framework of the inter-institutional dialogue (**15.00-16.00**)
- Discussion with Emily O'REILLY, European Ombudsman, on the Ombudsman's inquiry Case 1011/2015/TN (**16.00-16.30**) (*to be confirmed*)

(In camera 17.15-18.00)

- Request for the waiver of the parliamentary immunity of Robert Jarosław IWASZKIEWICZ (EFDD, PL) (IMM) - rapporteur Kostas CHRYSOGONOS (GUE/NGL, EL) - vote on two draft reports (*to be confirmed*)
- Request for the waiver of the parliamentary immunity of Florian PHILIPPOT (ENF, FR), rapporteur Laura FERRARA (EFDD, IT) - vote on draft report (*to be confirmed*)

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall, 6Q2

- Danish draft law on asylum seekers - discussion with the Danish authorities (following the Plenary decision of 20 January 2016) **(15.00-16.20)**
- Accession of Croatia to the Conventions on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests (NLE), rapporteur Tomáš ZDECHOVSKY (EPP, CZ) - vote on draft report **(16.20-16.25)**
- EU Agency for Fundamental Rights - report on surveillance by intelligence services: fundamental rights safeguards and remedies and chairing the network of Justice and Home Affairs Agencies in 2016 - discussion with Michael O'FLAHERTY, Director of the Fundamental Rights Agency **(16.25-17.40)**
- Progress report in the EU's 2013-2020 Drugs Strategy and 2013-2016 Action Plan on Drugs - discussion with the Commission **(17.40-18.10)**
- European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) - discussion with the the EMCDDA Director Alexis GOOSDEEL of the EMCDDA's strategy and work programme for 2016-18 and the work programme for 2016 **(18.10-18.45)**

Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

Thursday 28/01/2016 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 5E-2

VOTES

- The situation of women refugees and asylum seekers in the EU (INI), rapporteur Mary HONEYBALL (S&D, UK) - vote on a draft report
- Women domestic workers and carers in the EU (INI), rapporteur Kostadinka KUNEVA (GUE/NGL, EL) - vote on a draft report

End of votes

- Priorities of the Netherlands Presidency of the Council of the EU - discussion with Jet BUSSEMAKER, Minister for Education, Culture and Science **(11.00-11.45)**

Committee on Petitions

Thursday 28/01/2016 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, P4B001

VOTES (10.00-10.15)

- Annual Report on the activities of the European Ombudsman in 2014, rapporteur Soledad CABEZÓN RUIZ (S&D, ES) - vote on draft report
- Marrakesh Treaty ratification - vote on a motion for a resolution based on petitions received, notably Petition 924/2011 (RSP), rapporteur Cecilia WIKSTRÖM (ALDE, SE)
- Guidelines of the Committee on Petitions - vote

Agenda

end of votes

- Workshop on the impact of the economic crisis on access to healthcare and medicines **(10.15-12.30)** - see *Special events*

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Virtual currencies

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-16:25 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON) will hold a public hearing on Virtual currencies in order to prepare its upcoming own-initiative (INI) report (rapporteur: Jakob von WEIZSAECKER, S&D/DE). Panellists will include representatives from the European Commission (DG FISMA) and the OECD, academia and stakeholders from the private sector. The hearing will be webstreamed on the ECON committee website.

Implementation of the EU Urban Agenda: "Towards the Pact of Amsterdam"

Monday 25/01/2016 15:00-17:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 1G2

The Committee on Regional Development organises a joint hearing with the Committee of the Regions. The hearing will be chaired by REGI chair Ms Iskra Mihaylova and the Committee of Regions COTER chair Mr Raffaele Cataneo. The debate will focus on the overview of the discussion on the EU Urban Agenda with the participation of MEPs and invited experts.

Contact

Κριστίνα-Αντιγόνη ΕΛΕΦΤΕΡΙΕ

BXL: (+32) 2 28 32798

STR: (+33) 3 881 74651

PORT: (+32) 498 98 32 83

EMAIL: regi-press@europarl.europa.eu

TWITTER: EP_Regional

Public Hearing with Elke König

Thursday 28/01/2016 09:00-10:30 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q1

Members of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee will quiz Ms Elke KÖNIG, the Chairperson of the Single Resolution Board (SRB), about the resilience of the European banking sector and the first year of operation of the SRB.

Contact

Ron KORVER

BXL: (+32) 2 28 44659

STR: (+33) 3 881 74903

PORT: (+32) 498 98 35 88

EMAIL: econ-press@europarl.europa.eu

TWITTER: EP_Economics

Law of Administrative Procedure of the European Union

Thursday 28/01/2016 09:30-12:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 5B001

Organised by the **Legal Affairs Committee**, the purpose of this hearing is to present a draft Regulation on the Administrative Procedure of the EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, drawn up by the Working Group on Administrative Law (chaired by Heidi HAUTALA (Greens/EFA, FI)). Experts, stakeholders and high-ranking officials from the institutions will participate.

The Colombian Peace Process

Agenda

Thursday 28/01/2016 11:00-12:30 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

MEPs will hear overview on the current state of negotiations by Sergio JARAMILLO, High Commissioner for Peace and Government Negotiator and Iván MARQUEZ, FARC Head Negotiator, via live link.

Eamon GILMORE, EU Special Envoy for the Peace Process in Colombia and Roddy BRETT, Professor in the School of International Relations and Co-Director of the Masters Programme in Peace and Conflict Studies, University of St. Andrews will then discuss the role for the EU in supporting the Colombian peace process.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Workshop on the impact of the economic crisis on access to healthcare and medicines

Thursday 28/01/2016 10:15-12:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 4B1

Organised by the **Petitions Committee**, this workshop will examine citizens' concerns related to access to healthcare and medicines during the economic crisis. Experts from academia and practitioners in the field will make presentations on different aspects of problems caused by the budget cuts in the healthcare industry in the EU Member States and the worrying situation with the access to healthcare for people living in the EU.

Contact

Niina SALORANTA

BXL: (+32) 2 28 31834

STR: (+33) 3 881 73472

PORT: (+32) 473 84 03 65

EMAIL: peti-press@europarl.europa.eu