



The Week Ahead 23 - 29 January 2012

Agenda

Committee Week - Brussels

Credit rating Agencies. The Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee will hold a hearing on credit rating agencies with financial experts, including a representative of Fitch Ratings. It will focus on conflicts of interest and concentration, the way these agencies are financed, how sovereign debt should be rated and how competition among credit rating agencies can be enhanced (*Tuesday*).

Concordia accident. The Transport Committee will discuss maritime safety with Commissioner Siim Kallas in the wake of the tragic Costa Concordia cruise-liner accident (*Tuesday*).

Fiscal Union. Negotiations on the new fiscal union treaty will continue among the EU's finance ministers, the Commission and Mr Brok, Gualtieri and Verhofstadt, the three MEPs on the treaty drafting group (*Monday*).

Schulz/Orbán. Following the plenary debate on recent political developments in Hungary, EP President Schulz will have a bilateral meeting with Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orbán on Tuesday morning.

EP/Commission/European Council. President Schulz will have his first official meetings with his counterparts in the Commission and the European Council, Mr Barroso and Mr Van Rompuy (*Tuesday, Wednesday*).

Defective breast implants. The Environment Committee will discuss defective silicone gel breast implants and examine ways to address any shortcomings in the current legislation (*Tuesday*).

Cocoa/child labour. International Trade Committee MEPs will vote on the International Cocoa Agreement. This vote will be accompanied by a resolution calling for measures to combat all forms of child forced labour and trafficking (*Thursday*).

Cross border inheritances. The Legal Affairs committee will vote on a new law to make it easier to settle inheritances and avoid disputes over wills where the legal systems of more than one Member State are involved (*Thursday*).

President's Diary. On Tuesday afternoon, President Schulz will speak at the Holocaust Remembrance event taking place in the EP. On Thursday he will meet Rosen Plevneliev, President of Bulgaria, followed by a press point, and on Friday he will meet Karel Schwarzenberg, Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic.

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's Diary

Monday 23/01/2012 18:00-19:00 *Brussels*

- 18:00 Meeting with former EP President Jerzy BUZEK - President's Office, Paul-Henri Spaak building, 9th floor, Room B 11

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:45-19:00 *Brussels*

- 09:45 Meeting with Viktor ORBÁN, Prime Minister of Hungary - President's Office
- 13:00 Official visit to the European Commission: meeting with José Manuel BARROSO, President of the European Commission - Berlaymont
- 15:15 Closing speech at the hearing "Living Proof - the impact of effective aid" hosted by the Development Committee of the European Parliament in the presence of Bill GATES - Plenary Chamber
- 17:45 Speech at the Holocaust Remembrance event - Espace Yehudi Menuhin, Paul-Henri Spaak building

Wednesday 25/01/2012 11:00-16:00 *Brussels*

- 11:00 Attending the Royal New Year Reception hosted by King Albert II - The Royal Palace
- 15:00 Meeting with Herman VAN ROMPUY, President of the European Council - President's Office

Thursday 26/01/2012 10:30-11:30 *Brussels*

- 10:30 Meeting with Rosen PLEVELNIEV, President of Bulgaria, followed by a press point - President's Office

Friday 27/01/2012 15:00-16:00 *Brussels*

- 15:00 Meeting with Karel SCHWARZENBERG, Czech Foreign Minister - President's Office

Agenda

PRESS CONFERENCES

Basel II and revision of the Capital Requirements Directive (CRD 4)

Monday 23/01/2012 10:00-10:30 Brussels, Paul Henri Spaak building, Room 0A50

"Anna Politkovskaya"

Othmar KARAS (EPP, AT), Rapporteur

Briefing on the parliamentary agenda

Monday 23/01/2012 11:00-11:30 Brussels, Paul Henri Spaak building, Room 0A50

"Anna Politkovskaya"

The EU-Morocco trade agreement on agricultural products

Tuesday 24/01/2012 12:30-13:00 Brussels, Paul Henri Spaak building, Room 0A50

"Anna Politkovskaya"

Iratxe GARCÍA PÉREZ (S&D, ES)

The state of play of the House of European History

Wednesday 25/01/2012 10:30-11:00 Brussels, Paul Henri Spaak building, Room 0A50

"Anna Politkovskaya"

Hans-Gert PÖTTERING (EPP, DE), Miguel Angel MARTINEZ MARTINEZ (S&D, ES) and Prof. Włodzimierz BORODZIEJ, Chair of the Academic Committee of the House of European History

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)

Monday 23/01/2012 15:00-18:30 *Brussels, József Antall (JAN) building, room 2Q2*

- Elections of Chair and Vice Chairs

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:00-18:30 *Brussels, József Antall building (JAN) room 2Q2*
Votes (9:00-11:00)

- Vote on a resolution on the European integration process of Kosovo - rapporteur Ulrike LUNACEK (Greens/EFA, AT)
- Vote on a resolution on the European integration process on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - rapporteur Richard HOWITT (S&D, UK)
- Vote on the Participation of Morocco in Union Programmes -rapporteur Annemie NEYTS-UYTTEBROECK (ALDE, BE)
- Resolution on the 2011 progress report on Montenegro - consideration of a motion for a resolution, rapporteur Charles TANNOCK (ECR, UK)

11:00 - 17:00

- Debate on "**Arab Revolutions: one year later**", in the presence of national parliaments - see *Other events*
- Discussion with Villy SOVNDALI, Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs, on the Foreign Affairs Council of 23 January 2012 (**17.00 - 17.45**)
- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council - discussion with Nicolai WAMMEN, Danish Minister of European Affairs (**17.45 - 18.30**)

Committee on Development (DEVE)

Monday 23/01/2012 15:00-15:30 *Brussels, József Antall building (JAN) room 4Q1*

Tuesday 24/01/2012 14:00-17:00 *Brussels, Plenary Chamber*
14.10 - 15.30

- Living Proof - The impact of effective aid - discussion with Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Wednesday 25/01/2012 10:00-18:00 *Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room 1G2*

Committee on International Trade (INTA)

Agenda

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-17:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room 5G2

9.00 – 12.30

- Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs

15.00-17.30

- Presentation by Pia Olsen DYHR, Minister for Trade and Investment of Denmark, on the priorities of the Danish Presidency in the area of International Trade Policy

Thursday 26/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room 5G2

- Scheme of generalised tariff preferences - consideration of amendments by Christofer FJELLNER (EPP, SE)

Votes at 10.00

- Child labour in cocoa sector - vote on a resolution, by Vital MOREIRA (S&D, PT)
- European Union joining the International Cocoa Agreement 2010 (NLE) - vote on a recommendation, by Vital MOREIRA (S&D, PT)
- Opening an autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef (COD) -vote on a report- by Godelieve QUISTHOUDT-ROWOHL (EPP, DE)
- Agreement between the EU and Morocco concerning reciprocal liberalisation measures on agricultural products and fishery products (NLE) - vote on a recommendation by José BOVÉ (Greens/EFA, FR)

Committee on Budgets (BUDG)

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building, Plenary Chamber

- Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs

Wednesday 25/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building, Plenary Chamber

Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT)

Monday 23/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli building, room 3G-2

- Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli building, room 3G-2

Tuesday 24/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli building, room 3G-2

Discharge 2010: EU general budget, European Parliament (DEC) - Rapporteur: Bogusław LIBER-ADZKli (S&D) - discussion with the Vice-President of the European Parliament with primary responsibility for the budget, Gianni PITTELLA, the Secretary-General, Klaus WELLE and the Internal Auditor of the European Parliament, Robert GALVIN, with Louis GALEA, Member of the European Court of Auditors

Agenda

Thursday 26/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 6Q2

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON)

Monday 23/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room 1A002

- Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs (15.00-15.20)
- Public Hearing on Sovereign debt crisis in Europe: assessing the current European instruments and the challenges ahead (15.30-16.30)
- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council - discussion with Margrethe VESTAGER, President of the Council (ECOFIN), Danish Minister for Economic Affairs and the Interior (17.00-18.30)

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room 1A002

- Public Hearing on Credit Rating Agencies (09.00-11.00)
- Access to the activity of credit institutions and prudential supervision of credit institutions and investment firms (amending Directive 2002/87/EC) (COD) - Presentation of draft report by Othmar KARAS (EPP, AT) (11.00-12.30)
- Prudential requirements for credit institutions and investment firms - Part I (COD) - Presentation of draft report by Othmar KARAS (PPE, AT)
- Public Hearing on the Market Abuse Directive (15.00-16.30)
- Public Hearing on Sovereign debt crisis in Europe: assessing the current European instruments - addressing the challenges ahead (17.30-18.30)

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL)

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 2Q2

- Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs (9.00-9.30)
- Presentation of the Council Presidency's Programme(9.30-11.00)
Discussion with Danish Ministers:
Ms. Mette FREDERIKSEN - Minister for Employment
Ms. Karen HAEKKERUP - Minister for Social Affairs and Integration
- Presentation of the 2012 Work Programme of the following agencies (15.00-16.30):
 - The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work
 - The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training
 - The European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions
 - The European Training Foundation

Thursday 26/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 2Q2

- Employment and social aspects in the Annual Growth Survey 2012 (INI) - Vote on a report by Marije CORNELISSEN (Greens/EFA, NL) (9.30-10.00)
- European Social Fund and repeal of Regulation (COD) - Discussion with the participation of European social partners and non-governmental organisations (10.00-11.30)
- Discussion with the candidates for the EP experts at the ETF Governing Board (11.30-12.00)

Agenda

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI)

Monday 23/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 4Q2

- Election of the Chair and Vice Chairs (15.00-15.45)

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 4Q2

- Defective silicone gel breast implants made by French company PIP - Discussion with Commission representatives on the oral question Linda MCAVAN (S&D, UK)
- Presentation of the Council Presidency's programme - Discussion with Mette GJERSKOV, Danish Minister for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries
- Presentation of the Council Presidency's programme - Discussion with Martin LIDEGAARD, Danish Minister for Climate, Energy and Building

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 4Q2

- Presentation of the Council Presidency's programme - Discussion with Ida AUKEN, Danish Minister for the Environment

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)

Monday 23/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 6Q2

- Election of the chair and vice chairs (15.00-15.45)

JOINT DEBATE ON THE HORIZON 2020 PACKAGE (16.30-18.30)

- Establishment of Horizon 2020 - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (COD) - Statement by the Commission.
- Rules for the participation and dissemination in "Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)" (COD) - Statement by the Commission.
- Specific Programme Implementing Horizon 2020 - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) (CNS) - Statement by the Commission.
- Amendment of Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 establishing the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (COD) - Statement by the Commission.
- Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT): the contribution of the EIT to a more innovative Europe (COD) - Statement by the Commission.
- Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2014-2018) complementing Horizon 2020 – The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (COD) - Statement by the Commission.

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:30-18:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 6Q2

- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council - discussion with Morten ØSTERGAARD, Danish Minister for Research, Innovation and Higher Education, Presidency-in-office of the Council of the European Union (11.30-12.30)
- Mini-hearing on Energy policy cooperation & External energy relations (15.00-17.30)

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 6Q2

- Electronic vote on Radio spectrum policy (COD) - Rapport by Gunnar HÖKMARK (EPP, SE) - Adoption of draft recommendation for second reading (10.00)

Agenda

- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council - discussion with Martin LIDEGAARD, Danish Minister for Climate, Energy and Building, Presidency-in-Office of the Council of the European Union (11.00-11.45)
- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council - discussion with Ole SOHN, Danish Minister for Business and Growth, Presidency-in-Office of the Council of the European Union (11.45-12.30)

Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO)

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 4Q1

- A corporate governance framework for European companies (INI) - vote on report by Constance Le Grip (PPE) (10.15-10.30)

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 4Q1

- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council - discussion with Ole Sohn, Danish Minister of Business and Growth (09.00-09.50)

Voting time (09.50-10.40)

- Credit agreements relating to residential property (COD) - vote on report by Kurt LECHNER (EPP, DE)
- Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB) (CNS) - vote on report by Olle SCHMIDT (ALDE, SE)
- EU Citizenship Report 2010: Dismantling the obstacles to EU citizens' rights (INI) - vote on report by Louis GRECH (S&D, MT)
- Public hearing - Access to a basic payment account - Rapport by Evelyne GEBHARDT (S&D, DE) (16.00-18.30)

Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN)

Monday 23/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room 3E2

- Election of Chairs and Vice-Chairs
- Discussion with Polish minister Slawomir NOWAK on transport
- Discussion with Polish minister Katarzyna SOBIERAJSKA on tourism

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room 3E2

- Discussion with Siim KALLAS, Commissioner for Transport, on maritime safety (following the Concordia accident)
- Discussion with European Commission on airports package
- Priorities of the Danish presidency of the Council - discussion with Henrik Dam KRISTENSEN, Minister for Transport and Ole SOHN, Minister for Business and Growth

Committee on Regional Development (REGI)

Agenda

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room A3G-3

- Election of Chairs and Vice-Chairs (9.00-9.30)
- Priorities of the Danish presidency of the Council - discussion with Nicolai WAMMEN, Minister for European Affairs
- Discussion with Johannes HAHN, Commissioner on Regional Policy on the Post 2013 EU Cohesion Package

Thursday 26/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room A3G-3

- Discussion with Horst REICHENBACH, Head of the European Commission Task Force for Greece, on the interpretation of the Cohesion Policy in Greece

Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI)

Monday 23/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak (PHS) building, room 3C050

- Election of Chairs and Vice-Chairs (15.00 – 15.30)
- Direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the CAP (COD) - Discussion of report by Luis Manuel CAPOULAS SANTOS (S&D, PT)
- Common organisation of the markets in agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation) (COD) - Discussion of report by Michel DANTIN (EPP, FR)

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak (PHS) building, room 3C050

- Discussion with Marek SAWICKI, Polish Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, former President in office of the Council on the results of the Polish Presidency (10.00)
- Priorities of the Danish presidency of the Council - discussion with Mette GJERSKOV, Danish Minister for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries(15.00)
- Discussion with Luc GUYAU, Independent Chairman of the Council of FAO on food security

Committee on Fisheries (PECH)

Tuesday 24/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak (PHS) building, room 5B001

- Election of Chairs and Vice-Chairs

Votes

- Protocol agreed between the European Union and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau setting out fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the two parties currently in force (NLE) - vote on report by Carl HAGLUND (ALDE, FI)

Agenda

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak (PHS) building, room 3C050

- Priorities of the Danish presidency of the Council - discussion with Mette GJERSKOV, Danish Minister for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries (9.00 - 10.00)
- The reform of the Common Fisheries Policy - Overarching Communication (INI) - consideration of working document by Nikolaos SALAVRAKOS (EFD, GR)
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (COD) - discussion on report by Alain CADEC (EPP, FR)
- The small scale and artisanal fisheries and the CFP reform (INI) - discussion on report by João FERREIRA (GUE/NGL, PT)
- Public hearing on "the Common Organisation of the Markets in fishery and aquaculture products (FAPs) in the context of the CFP reform" (See *Public Hearings*) (15.00-18.30)

Thursday 26/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak (PHS) building, room 3C050

- Discussion with a Commission representative on fisheries agreements with third countries and negotiations underway (9.00-10.00)

Committee on Culture and Education (CULT)

Monday 23/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room 1G-3

- Election of Chairs and Vice-Chairs

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room 1G-3

- The contribution of the European institutions to the consolidation and progress of the Bologna process (INI) - vote on draft report by Luigi BERLINGUER (S&D, IT)
- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council: discussion with Christine ANTORINI, Minister for Children and Education and Uffe ELBÆK, Minister of Culture

Committee on Legal Affairs (JURI)

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-18:00 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room 5B1

- Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs
- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council: discussion with Morten BØDSKOV, Minister for Justice and Ole SOHN, Minister for Business and Growth (14.30-16.00)

Thursday 26/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room 5B1

Votes (10.00-10.30)

- Judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters: international succession and creation of a European Certificate of Succession (COD) - vote on report by Kurt LECHNER (EPP, DE)
- Company law and corporate governance: interconnection of central, commercial and company registers (COD) - vote on report by Kurt LECHNER (EPP, DE)
- Corporate governance framework for European companies (INI) - vote on report by Sebastian Valentin BODU (EPP, RO)

Agenda

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE)

Monday 23/01/2012 17:15-17:45 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 4Q1

- Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room 1A2

- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council - discussion with Morten BØDSKOV, Minister for Justice **(09.00-10.30)**
- European Asylum Support Office: Work Programme 2012 - presentation by Dr. Robert K. VISSER, Executive Director **(11.40-12.30)**
- European Commission Work Programme 2012 and the current situation of the dossiers in the area of Home Affairs - presentation by Cecilia MALMSTRÖM, Commissioner for Home Affairs **(15.00-16.00)**

Thursday 26/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room 1A2

- Border control: common rules on temporary reintroduction of border control at internal borders in exceptional circumstances (amendment of Regulation (EC) No 562/2006, Schengen Borders Code) (COD) - Rapporteur Renate WEBER (ALDE, RO) - discussion

Votes (10.30-11.30)

- EU/Iceland/Norway agreement: mutual assistance in criminal matters (NLE) - final confirmation vote on report by Claude MORAES (S&D, UK)
- Green Paper on the right to family reunification of third-country nationals living in the EU - vote on oral question (*to be confirmed*)
- Intra-corporate transfer: conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals (COD) - orientation vote on report by Salvatore IACOLINO (EPP, IT)

11.30-12.30

- FRONTEX Work Programme 2012 - presentation by Ilkka LAITINEN, Frontex Executive Director

Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO)

Wednesday 25/01/2012 15:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli building (ASP), room 3E2

- Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs
- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council - discussion with Nicolai WAMMEN, Minister for European Affairs **(16.00-17.30)**

Thursday 26/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli building (ASP), room 3E2

- Draft international agreement on a strengthened economic union - discussion with Parliament's working group **(09.00-10.00)**

Agenda

Votes (10.00-10.30)

- Amendment of the Act concerning the election of Members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage (INI) - vote on report by Andrew DUFF (ALDE, UK)
- Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union to the Czech Republic - amendment of Protocol (NLE) - vote on report by Andrew DUFF (ALDE, UK)
- Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union to the Czech Republic - amendment of Protocol - consent to not convene a Convention (NLE) - vote on report by Andrew DUFF (ALDE, UK)

Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM)

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:30-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli building (ASP), room 3G2

- Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs (9.30-10.00)
- Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the Council: discussion with Manu SAREEN, Minister for Gender Equality and Ecclesiastical Affairs and Minister for Nordic Cooperation and Mette FREDERIKSEN, Minister of Employment (15.00-16.45)

Votes (16.45-18.30)

- Women in political decision making- quality and equality (INI) - vote on report by Sirpa PIETIKÄINEN (EPP, FI)

Thursday 26/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli building (ASP), room 3G2

- Workshop on "The EU Multi-Annual Financial Framework 2014-2020 from a gender equality perspective" - see *Other Events*

Committee on Petitions (PETI)

Monday 23/01/2012 16:30-17:00 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 4Q1

- Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs

Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI)

**Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) room A1G-3
9.00 – 9.30**

- Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs

9.00 - 11.30

- Presentation by the Commission of the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)

15.00 - 18.30

Agenda

In association with the Delegation to the EU-Mexico Joint Parliamentary Committee, the Delegation for relations with the countries of Central America and the Delegation for relations with the countries of the Andean Community

- Hearing on Inter-American Human Rights Mechanism association with the Delegation for relations with the Maghreb countries and the Arab Maghreb Union

In association with the Delegation for relations with the Maghreb countries and the Arab Maghreb Union

- Discussion on the Human Rights situation in Algeria

Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE)

Wednesday 25/01/2012 09:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli (ASP) building, room A3E2

09.00 - 9.30

- Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs

9h30 - 11h00

- Activation of the EU Operations Centre, state of play - discussion with Walter STEVENS, Director, CMPD (Crisis Management and Planning Directorate)
- Discussion on Activities of the EU Military Staff with Lieutenant General Ton van OSCH, Director General, EUMS

15.00 - 18.30 In camera

Jointly with the Committee on Foreign Affairs

- Discussion with Alexander Rondos, newly appointed EU Special Representative for the Horn of Africa
- Discussion on European Union's Internal Security Strategy (INI)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public hearing on the instruments to deal with the sovereign debt crisis

Monday 23/01/2012 15:30-16:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room 1A002

MEPs will discuss with policy players and academics the best ways forward for the EU bailout funds, the European Financial and Stability Fund (EFSF) and the European Stability Mechanism (ESM).

The key speech will be made by Klaus REGLING, CEO of the EFSF.

Tuesday 24/01/2012 17:30-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room 1A002

MEPs will discuss with policy players and academics the best ways forward for the EU bailout funds, the European Financial and Stability Fund (EFSF) and the European Stability Mechanism (ESM).

The key speech will be made by Klaus REGLING, CEO of the EFSF

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Public hearing on credit rating agencies

Tuesday 24/01/2012 09:00-11:00 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room 1A002

In the presence of, among others, Fitch representative Susan LAUNI and the Director of the EU's financial markets watchdog Verena ROSS. MEPs will discuss the main issues currently on the table with regard to clamping down and improving the transparency of credit rating agencies. The hearing will address issues of conflict of interest, increasing competition between credit rating agencies, reducing the use of such agencies and increasing the transparency the agencies use to arrive at their conclusions. The question of how sovereign debt should be rated will also figure prominently.

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Public hearing on the market abuse Directive

Tuesday 24/01/2012 15:00-16:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room 1A002

With new rules being drafted on market abuse in the financial services industry, MEPs will hear from industry representatives and expert groups advising the European Commission. The main topics will be the scope and definitions for the new legislation, the level at which disclosure obligations should be set, including for SMEs, and the way sanctions and enforcement systems should be designed.

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"The Common Organisation of the Markets in fishery and aquaculture products (FAPs) in the context of the CFP reform"

Wednesday 25/01/2012 12:30-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building (PHS), room P3C050

The Fisheries Committee will hold a hearing on Wednesday (starting at 15.00) with representatives of governments, fishermen organisations, NGOs and scholars on how to improve production and placing of fishery and aquaculture products on the EU market through advanced role of professional organisations and how to modernise marketing and labelling rules in order to increase quality of these products and provide better information to their consumers.

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Citizens' rights to have a basic payment account

Wednesday 25/01/2012 16:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall building (JAN), room 4Q1

- Access to essential payment services is not guaranteed for all citizens in the EU. The hearing will focus on the obstacles that consumers face when trying to open and use a basic payment account. (Rapporteur: Evelyne Gebhardt (S&D, DE))

Contact :

Agenda

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OTHER EVENTS

Arab Revolution: one year later

Tuesday 24/01/2012 11:00-12:30 Brussels, József Antall (JAN) building, room 2Q2

The **Foreign Affairs Committee** holds a debate with national parliaments of the EU Member States on "The Arab revolutions: one year later", chaired by Gabriele ALBERTINI (EPP, IT) outgoing foreign affairs committee chair, and moderated by Pier Antonio PANZERI (S&D, IT) and José Ignacio SALAFRANCA SÁNCHEZ-NEYRA (EPP, ES), co-chairs of Parliament's monitoring group on the situation in the southern Mediterranean. Speakers include Bernardino LEÓN, EU Special Representative for the Southern Mediterranean Region; Ambassador William B. TAYLOR, US Special Coordinator for Middle East Transition, Stefan FÜLE, Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Commissioner and Pierre VIMONT, Secretary General of EEAS.

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Workshop on "The Multi-annual Financial Framework 2014-2020 from a Gender Equality Perspective"

Thursday 26/01/2012 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli building (ASP), room 3G2

Organised by the **Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality**, during this workshop experts from Fondazione Giacomo Brodolini will present their assessment of the instruments for the next European Multi-annual Financial Framework (2014-2020), proposed by the European Commission, from a gender perspective. Aside from a general approach of gender budgeting, their analysis will also include areas such as economic independence, education, health and well-being, environment, fundamental rights and external relations. The presentations will be followed by a question and answer session with MEPs and representatives from non-governmental organisations.