

The Week Ahead 14 – 20 November 2016

Agenda

Committee and political group meetings, Brussels

2017 EU budget/MFF. MEPs and member states' finance ministers will try to strike a deal on the EU budget for 2017. MEPs will press for sufficient funds to tackle the migration crisis, relaunch economic growth, combat youth unemployment and boost research and infrastructure projects. Also on the table is the revision of the EU's seven-year budget, the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). If there is a deal, there will be a press point (details to be announced). *(Wednesday or Thursday)*

Taxation/Stiglitz. The Committee of Inquiry into Money Laundering, Tax Avoidance and Tax Evasion (PANA) will hold two hearings, one with Nobel Prize winner Joseph Stiglitz, in his capacity as former advisor to the Panama government, and another with representatives of European tax enforcement bodies, including EUROPOL, EUROJUST, the EU's Financial Intelligence Units and national prosecutors. *(Wednesday and Monday respectively)*

PANA chair Werner Langen will hold a press point with Mr Stiglitz at 12:30 on Wednesday.

Climate change/COP22. A twelve-strong delegation of MEPs will take part in UN climate talks (COP22) in Marrakesh. Following the European Parliament's ratification and the entry into force of the 2015 Paris agreement, these will focus on how to finance and share the efforts needed to keep climate warming well below 2 degrees compared to pre-industrial levels. *(Tuesday to Friday)*

Human rights inside and outside the EU. Foreign Affairs Committee MEPs will vote on the EU's 2015 report on the state of human rights and democracy in the world and subsequent policy decisions to be taken. The Civil Liberties Committee will approve the 2015 report on the respect of human rights in EU member states. *(Monday and Thursday)*

Plenary preparations. Political groups will prepare for the 21-24 November plenary session in Strasbourg, where **Commission Vice-president Dombrovskis** will present and discuss with MEPs the EU's annual growth survey and budgetary recommendations to member states. The agenda may include votes on new national emission caps for certain pollutants, updated rules for occupational pension schemes and financial assistance to Jordan. MEPs will debate the European Central Bank's annual report, with ECB President Mario Draghi. They will also draft recommendations on fighting VAT fraud, establishing a Defence Union and counteracting propaganda from Russia or Daesh.

President's agenda. EP President Martin Schulz will meet Denmark's foreign affairs minister Kristian Jensen and Italy's foreign affairs and international cooperation minister

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Paolo Gentiloni on Tuesday. Mr Schulz will meet Malta's Prime Minister Joseph Muscat and deliver the opening speech at the "Boris Nemtsov Forum" event in Brussels on Wednesday.

Conference on "Politicians in a communication storm". Journalists, bloggers and communications experts are invited to attend a conference on "Politicians in a communication storm, meeting millennials on digital territories", organised by the EP Media Directorate. EP Vice-Presidents responsible for information and communication policy, Mairead McGuinness and Sylvie Guillaume, will provide opening remarks. (*Tuesday and Wednesday*)

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 12 and 13 November

TOURNIER Emilie

Mobile: +32 473 55 74 66

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's Agenda

Tuesday 15/11/2016

Brussels

11:30 Meeting with Kristian Jensen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark - Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 9th floor, Salon Protocolaire A

12:30 Meeting with Paolo Gentiloni, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy - Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 9th floor, Grand Salon Protocolaire

The President's Agenda

Wednesday 16/11/2016

Brussels

9:10 Official welcome of Joseph Muscat, Prime Minister of Malta - Paul-Henri Spaak Building, protocol entrance

9:15 Meeting with Joseph Muscat, Prime Minister of Malta - Paul-Henri Spaak Building, 9th floor, Grand Salon Protocolaire

11:00 Opening speech at the presentation of the 9th edition of "European Parliament" by Richard Corbett, Francis Jacobs and Darren Neville - European Parliament library

14:00 Opening speech at the event: "The Boris Nemtsov Forum" - József Antall building, 4th floor, room Q1

PRESS CONFERENCES

“Mobilisations against precariousness and in favor of a worthy agreement in the field of Contact Center Spanish”

Tuesday 15/11/2016 13:00-13:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050

Miguel URBÁN CRESPO, (GUE/NGL, ES) and Santiago ALONSO

Press point: “Press statement of the newly-elected presidency of the EPP Group”

Wednesday 16/11/2016 12:30-12:45 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Pre-session briefing

Friday 18/11/2016 11:00-11:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Committee on Foreign Affairs

Monday 14/11/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

- Public hearing on the "EU foreign policy in the Sahel region" (see *Public hearings*)

Voting

- Annual Report on human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter 2015 - 2016/2219(INI) - Rapporteur Josef WEIDENHOLZER (S&D, AT) - Adoption of amendments

End of voting

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Monday 14/11/2016 15:00-17:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C50

- Hearing on "EU Resettlement Framework" (15.00 - 17.00) - see *Public hearings*

Committee of Inquiry into Emission Measurements in the Automotive Sector

Monday 14/11/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q1

- Hearing of Mr Karl FALKENBERG, former Director-General of DG ENV, European Commission
- Hearing of Mr Daniel CALLEJA y CRESPO, former Director-General of DG GROW, European Commission

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

Monday 14/11/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2

- "Anti-money laundering and tax evasion: Who assures compliance with the rules and enforces them?" - See *Public Hearings*

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

Wednesday 16/11/2016 11:00-12:30 Brussels, József Antall, 6Q2

- Discussion with Professor Joseph E. STIGLITZ, Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Thursday 17/11/2016 09:00-12:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3C050

VOTES (09.00-11.00)

- Agreement on operational and strategic cooperation between Georgia and the European Police Office (Europol) (CNS), rapporteur Claude MORAES (S&D, UK) - vote on draft report
- Agreement on operational and strategic cooperation between Ukraine and Europol (CNS), rapporteur Mariya GABRIEL (EPP, BG) - vote on draft report

Agenda

- The situation of fundamental rights in the European Union in 2015 (INI), rapporteur József NAGY (EPP, SK) - vote on draft report
- New psychoactive substances: information exchange, early warning system and risk assessment procedure (COD), rapporteur Michal BONI (EPP, PL) - vote on draft report

end of votes

- Frontex - European Border and Coast Guard Agency - presentation of the Frontex Multiannual Programming 2017-2019 by Fabrice LEGGERI, Executive Director and presentation of the implementation of the new European Border and Coast Guard Regulation **(11.30-12.30)**

PUBLIC HEARINGS

EU foreign policy in the Sahel region

Monday 14/11/2016 15:00-16:30 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Foreign Affairs committee Members will hold a hearing on **EU Foreign Policy in the Sahel region** (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger) with Mr Angel LOSADA, EU Special Representative for the Sahel and Mr Paul MELLY, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House.

The Sahel region faces a number of pressing challenges such as irregular migration, extreme poverty, frequent food crises, high population growth rates, etc. Under the ‘[Emergency Trust Fund for Africa](#)’ established at the Valletta Summit, projects, worth about €530 million, are being funded in Sahel.

Opening remarks by Mr Elmar BROK (EPP, DE), Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and further introduction to the topic by Ms Linda McAVAN (S&D, UK), Chair of the Committee on Development.

Hearing on "EU Resettlement Framework"

Monday 14/11/2016 15:00-17:00 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C50

Organised by the **Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs**, this hearing takes place in the framework of the proposed Regulation establishing a Union Resettlement Framework. The proposed regulation is intended, as stated by the Commission, to provide for a permanent framework with a unified procedure for resettlement across the EU meaning the admission of third-country nationals and stateless persons to the territory of the Member States with a view to granting them international protection.

Contacts

Rikke ULDALL

Press Officer

Telephone number: (+32) 2 28 42976 (BXL)

Telephone number: (+33) 3 881 72033 (STR)

Mobile number: (+32) 498 98 32 57

Email: libe-press@europarl.europa.eu

Twitter: EP_Justice

“Anti-money laundering and tax evasion: Who assures compliance with the rules and enforces them?”

Monday 14/11/2016 15:00-18:30 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2

The purpose of this hearing is to understand which actions have been taken by law enforcement bodies to react to the revelations made by the Panama Papers, to better understand the roles of different authorities in enforcing EU legislation in the area of anti-money laundering and the fight against tax fraud and to hear about the challenges they might be facing in their work.

Contacts

Hyun-Sung KHANG

Press Service

Telephone number: +32 2 28 34710 (BXL)

Email: hyun-sung.khang@europarl.europa.eu

Email: econ-press@europarl.europa.eu

Twitter: [EP_Economics](https://twitter.com/EP_Economics)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Conference: "Politicians in a communication storm, meeting millennials on digital territories"

Tuesday 15/11/2016 12:30-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, P7C050

The EP Media Directorate organises a conference on "Politicians in a communication storm, meeting millennials on digital territories", bringing together journalists, bloggers and communications experts.

Topics discussed will range from how the use of platforms such as Twitter and Facebook affected the outcome of the US presidential elections and Brexit to the peace process in Colombia. Specialists will also discuss how fake myths and conspiracy theories are being shared online and query whether established media, political groups and public institutions are seen as a reliable source of information.

EP Vice-Presidents responsible for Information and Communication Policy, Mairead McGuinness (EPP, Ireland) and Sylvie Guillaume (S&D, France) will provide opening remarks.

For details, see the programme below:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/pdf/conferences/PROGRAMME_mail_1516112016.pdf

Conference: "Politicians in a communication storm, meeting millennials on digital territories"

Wednesday 16/11/2016 09:00-14:00 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, P3C050

The EP Media Directorate organises a conference on "Politicians in a communication storm, meeting millennials on digital territories", bringing together journalists, bloggers and communications experts.

Topics discussed will range from how the use of platforms such as Twitter and Facebook affected the outcome of the US presidential elections and Brexit to the peace process in Colombia. Specialists will also discuss how fake myths and conspiracy theories are being shared online and query whether established media, political groups and public institutions are seen as a reliable source of information.

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The European vision and strategy for the space

Wednesday 16/11/2016 14:30-17:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C050

The European vision and strategy for the space is the topic of the 2016 Annual Lecture of the Science and Technology Options Assessment Panel of the European Parliament (STOA), organised in partnership with the European Space Agency (ESA), on November 16 from 14.30 to 17.00 in Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak building, room PHS 3C050. Among the speakers will be two astronauts Thomas Pesquet, ESA Astronaut of French nationality (video), who will be leaving in space the following day, and Reinhold Ewald, ESA Astronaut of German nationality as well as representatives of the European Space Agency, the European industry, the European Commission.