

Plenary sessions

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Newsletter

10-11 April 2024

Brussels plenary session

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<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/agenda/briefing/2024-04-10>

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Further information

[Draft agenda](#)

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[EP Multimedia Centre](#)

[Election Press Kit](#)

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Final vote on landmark migration and asylum pact

MEPs will discuss and vote on Wednesday on ten new bills updating the EU asylum and migration rules, emphasising cooperation and mandatory but flexible solidarity.

Plenary will wrap up this term's legislative work in the field of migration and asylum with a debate with the Belgian Council Presidency and the Commission on the outcome of negotiations over the [Migration and Asylum Pact](#). The already agreed texts aim to improve cooperation among European states and enhance the EU's response in case of crises.

The Pact encompasses [a new framework](#) for a comprehensive asylum and migration policy based on solidarity, fair responsibility sharing, and updated rules on criteria and mechanisms to determine the member state responsible for examining an application for international protection (formerly known as the Dublin rules). Member states will be able to choose between relocating asylum applicants to their territory, making financial contributions or providing operational and technical support to member states under migratory pressure.

There will be specific rules for [crisis situations](#), and the rules on [reception standards for asylum applicants](#) will be updated. The amended [qualification rules](#) will set uniform standards across the EU to recognise people applying for international protection, as well as their rights. There will be a [faster common procedure](#) –including provisions on inadmissible claims and more expedited returns- across the EU to grant and to withdraw international protection, following an initial [pre-entry screening](#) and registration of fingerprints and facial images in a common database ([Eurodac](#)). Finally, a new [EU framework for resettlement](#) will regulate the opportunities for refugees in third countries to come to the EU, based on member states' voluntary participation.

On Tuesday at 13.00, lead MEPs will brief journalists on the content of the reform (Anna Politkovskaya press conference room SPAAK 0A50).

Debate: Wednesday, 10 April

Vote: Wednesday, 10 April

Procedure: Key debate, Council and Commission statement, first reading agreements

Further information

[Asylum and migration: Civil Liberties Committee endorses a new legal framework \(14. 2. 2024\)](#)
[Latest Asylum Trends - EU Asylum Agency](#)
[Free photos, video and audio material](#)

King of the Belgians to address the European Parliament

On Wednesday at 12.30, King Philippe will deliver a speech to plenary, marking the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the EU.

This will be first time King Philippe will have addressed the European Parliament. One of his predecessors, King Baudouin, appeared before MEPs in 1987, during a plenary session in Strasbourg.

Further information

[Biography of King Philippe](#)

[Belgian Presidency of the Council of the EU](#)

[Multimedia centre](#)

Breakfast foods: MEPs set to adopt new rules to improve consumer information

The new rules aim to help consumers make informed and healthier decisions on products such as honey, fruit juice, jam and marmalades.

The so-called “breakfast directives”, [provisionally agreed](#) between Parliament and Council”, and on which MEPs will hold a final vote on Wednesday, will update rules on the composition, name, labelling and presentation of certain 'breakfast' foodstuffs.

In particular, the new rules will combat adulterated honey imports from non-EU countries through obligatory and clearly visible country of origin labelling, and will launch a process for a honey traceability system. There will also be clearer labelling on sugar content in fruit juices as well as for minimum fruit content in jams and marmalades.

Background

The revision of EU marketing standards for certain 'breakfast' directives was proposed by the [European Commission on 21 April 2023](#) to update current standards that are more than 20 years old.

Procedure: Ordinary legislative procedure, first reading agreement

Procedure code: [2023/0105\(COD\)](#)

Vote: Wednesday 10 April

Further information

[Procedure file](#)

[Infoclip: 'Breakfast directives' - clearer labelling of honey, fruit juice, jam](#)

[EU coordinated action “From the Hives” \(Honey 2021-2022\)](#)

[Revision of EU marketing standards for certain 'breakfast' directives](#)

[EP Multimedia Centre: Free photos, videos and audio material](#)

Reform of the electricity and gas market: final votes

The plans will reconfigure the electricity and gas markets to protect consumers from price shocks, and make the energy system more resilient and sustainable.

The reform aims to enhance the stability, affordability, and sustainability of the EU electricity market. Consumers and small businesses will be protected against volatile prices by mandated access to various contract types and the banning of unilateral contract term changes.

The reform of the gas market will promote renewable and low-carbon gases like hydrogen to decarbonise the gas sector and secure energy supply, while addressing climate change and the impact of geopolitical tensions. MEPs have also empowered member states to limit gas imports from Russia and Belarus to counteract Russia's war against Ukraine, supporting the EU's stance on banning Russian energy imports.

Procedure Code: 2021/0424(COD); 2021/0425(COD); 2023/0077A(COD)

Procedure: Ordinary legislative procedure, first reading agreement

Debate: Thursday 11 April 2024

Vote: Thursday 11 April 2024

Further information

[Report on the proposal for a regulation on the internal markets for renewable and natural gases and for hydrogen \(recast\)](#)

[Report on the proposal for a directive on common rules for the internal markets in renewable and natural gases and in hydrogen \(recast\)](#)

[Report on the proposal for a regulation to improve the Union's electricity market design](#)

[Procedure file](#)

[Press release on trilogue agreement: gas package \(08.12.2023\)](#)

[Press release on trilogue agreement: electricity market design \(14.12.2023\)](#)

[Procedure file](#)

[EP research briefing: Recast EU regulation on gas and hydrogen networks](#)

[EP research briefing: Improving the design of the EU electricity market](#)

[Free photos, video and audio material](#)

Parliament to adopt position on EU pharmaceutical reform

On Wednesday, MEPs will debate and vote on their proposals to revamp the EU's pharmaceutical legislation.

Parliament will adopt its position on a [proposed revision](#) of the pharmaceutical legislation covering medicinal products for human use, based on two reports [prepared by the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee](#). Work on both files, including negotiations with the Council, will be undertaken by the next European Parliament after the elections in June.

MEPs want to improve access to medicines, promote innovation to address unmet medical needs, particularly for medicines developed to treat rare diseases and novel antimicrobials, and strengthen requirements for assessing environmental risks throughout the entire life cycle of medicines.

Background

The “[pharmaceutical package](#)” tabled by the European Commission in April 2023 includes a new [directive](#) and a new [regulation](#), with the aim of making medicines more available, accessible and affordable, while supporting the competitiveness and attractiveness of the EU pharmaceutical industry, alongside higher environmental standards.

Procedure code: 2023/0132(COD) - directive; 2023/0131(COD) - regulation

Procedure: Ordinary legislative procedure, first reading

Debate: Wednesday, 10 April

Votes: Wednesday, 10 April

Further information

[Procedure file \(directive\)](#)

[Procedure file \(regulation\)](#)

[Rapporteur for the directive, Pernille Weiss \(EPP, DK\)](#)

[Rapporteur for the regulation Tiemo Wölken \(S&D, DE\)](#)

[Legislative train - Revision of the EU pharmaceutical legislation](#)

[EP Research: Revision of the EU pharmaceutical legislation \(June 2023\)](#)

[Free photos, videos and audio material](#)

Combatting child sexual abuse online: vote on extending the current rules

On Wednesday, MEPs will decide whether to prolong until 2026 an exemption to EU privacy rules that allow internet platforms to detect online content depicting sexual abuse of minors.

A derogation from the EU's e-privacy rules currently allows for the detection of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) online, but it is due to expire in August 2024. To ensure current measures remain in application until Parliament and Council agree on [new permanent rules](#), their negotiators decided to extend the current derogation until 3 April 2026. Plenary is set to give its final approval to the temporary extension on Wednesday.

Background

The Parliament set its [position](#) on draft new legislation to combat and prevent the online abuse of children, but member states have not yet adopted their negotiating mandate, hence an extension is needed to prevent a legal vacuum when the current setup lapses.

Procedure: Ordinary legislative procedure, first reading agreement

Vote: Wednesday 10 April

Further information

[Profile of the rapporteur: Birgit Sippel \(S&D, Germany\)](#)

[Procedure file](#)

[European Commission implementation report on a temporary derogation for the purpose of combating online child sexual abuse \(19.12.2023\)](#)

Final vote on new EU rules to improve urban wastewater treatment

A new law updating EU rules for the collection, treatment and discharge of urban wastewater will be put to a final vote by MEPs on Wednesday.

The legislation, [provisionally agreed with the Council](#), aims to better protect the environment and human health through improved water management and wastewater treatment standards. The measures will strengthen the monitoring of various chemical pollutants (including so-called “forever chemicals” or PFAS), pathogens (such as the SARS-CoV-2 virus and its variants, poliovirus, influenza viruses, and emerging pathogens) and antimicrobial resistance. Producers of pharmaceuticals and cosmetics and EU countries will be required to finance the costs of additional water treatment to remove micro-pollutants from urban wastewater.

The legislation is one of the key initiatives under the [EU’s zero pollution action plan](#) for air, water and soil.

Procedure: Ordinary legislative procedure, first reading agreement

Procedure code: 2022/0345(COD)

Vote: Wednesday 10 April

Further information

[Provisional agreement](#)

[Procedure file](#)

[Rapporteur Nils Torvalds \(Renew, FI\)](#)

[Legislative train](#)

[EP Research Service: Urban wastewater treatment - Updating EU rules](#)

[Free photos, videos and audio material](#)

Methane: MEPs set to adopt new law to reduce emissions from energy sector

Parliament will vote on Wednesday on new rules to reduce emissions from methane in the energy sector to reach the EU's climate goals and improve air quality.

The deal between Parliament and the Council on reducing methane emissions in the energy sector is the first piece of EU legislation aimed specifically at cutting methane emissions.

It covers direct methane emissions from sources such as the oil, fossil gas and coal sectors, and from biomethane once it is injected into the gas network. Since 80% of oil and gas consumed in the EU is imported, importers of oil, fossil gas and coal will have to demonstrate that they meet similar requirements by 1 January 2027.

Background

Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas and air pollutant and it is responsible for approximately a third of current global warming. The energy sector is responsible for 19% of all EU methane emissions, according to the European Environment Agency, making it the third largest contributing sector after agriculture (53%) and waste (26%).

Procedure Code: [2021/0423\(COD\)](#)

Procedure: *ordinary legislative procedure, first reading agreement*

Vote: *Wednesday 10 April*

Further information

[EP press release: "Fit for 55: Deal to boost methane emission reductions from the energy sector" \(15.11.2023\)](#)

[EP Research briefing: Reducing methane emissions in the energy sector](#)

[Procedure file](#)

[EP Multimedia Centre: Free photos, videos and audio material](#)

Carbon removals: MEPs set to approve new EU certification scheme

The law will set up an EU certification framework for carbon removals to boost their uptake and help achieve EU climate neutrality by 2050.

MEPs will vote on Wednesday on the [provisional political agreement](#) between Parliament and Council on a new certification framework to boost high-quality carbon removals and improve the EU's capacity to quantify, monitor and verify such activities in order to counter greenwashing.

The new law covers different types of carbon removals, namely permanent carbon storage, notably through industrial technologies, carbon storage in long-lasting products as well as carbon farming that will enable farmers to be paid to remove carbon.

Background

In April 2023, Parliament adopted a resolution on [sustainable carbon cycles](#) stating that while the EU must always prioritise swift and predictable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, carbon removals must play a growing role in achieving EU climate neutrality by 2050 to balance out emissions that cannot be eliminated.

Procedure: Ordinary legislative procedure, first reading agreement

Procedure code: [2022/0394\(COD\)](#)

Vote: Wednesday 10 April

Further information

[Procedure file](#)

[EP Research: "EU certification framework for carbon removals" \(15.11.2023\)](#)

[EP Multimedia Centre: free photos, videos and audio material](#)

New measures to reduce CO₂ emissions from trucks and buses

On Wednesday, MEPs are set to adopt new EU rules to strengthen CO₂ emission reduction targets for new heavy-duty vehicles, such as trucks, buses, and trailers.

The legislation, [provisionally agreed with the Council](#), sets CO₂ emissions reduction targets for large trucks and buses (45% for the period 2030-2034, 65% for 2035-2039 and 90% as of 2040). By 2030, new urban buses will need to reduce their emissions by 90% and become zero-emission vehicles by 2035. Emissions reduction targets are also set for trailers (7.5%) and semi-trailers (10%), starting from 2030.

Heavy-duty vehicles are responsible for more than 25% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from road transport in the EU and account for over 6% of total EU GHG emissions. Reducing these emissions is a crucial contribution to the EU's objectives of achieving climate neutrality by 2050 and lowering demand for imported fossil fuels.

Procedure code: 2023/0042(COD)

Procedure: Ordinary legislative procedure, first reading agreement

Vote: Wednesday, 10 April

Further information

[Provisional agreement](#)

[Procedure file](#)

[Rapporteur Bas Eickhout \(Greens/EFA, NL\)](#)

[Legislative train](#)

[EP Research: CO₂ emission performance standards and reporting obligations for new heavy-duty vehicles \(November 2023\)](#)

[Free photos, videos and audio material](#)

Parliament set to adopt its position on new Soil Monitoring Law

On Wednesday, MEPs will adopt their position on proposed rules to improve the health of European soils in line with the EU zero pollution ambition.

The [report, prepared by the Environment Committee](#), underlines the need for a harmonised definition of soil health as well as a comprehensive and coherent monitoring framework to foster sustainable soil management and remediate contaminated sites. MEPs are requesting concrete targets to improve the ecological status of soil in the EU to achieve healthy soils by 2050. They also support the requirement to draw up a public list of contaminated and potentially contaminated sites.

The first reading vote on Parliament's position is scheduled for Wednesday, leaving the file for the next European Parliament, which will be elected between 6 and 9 June.

Background

Around 60-70% of European soils are estimated to be in an unhealthy state due to issues such as urban expansion, low land recycling rates, intensification of agriculture, and climate change.

Procedure Code: [2023/0232\(COD\)](#)

Procedure: ordinary legislative procedure, first reading

Vote: Wednesday 10 April

Further information

[Procedure file](#)

[EP Research: "Soil monitoring and resilience directive" \(January 2024\)](#)

[EP press: "MEPs call for EU common legal framework for the protection of soil" \(28.04.2021\)](#)

[Free photos, videos and audio material](#)

Parliament to discuss the outcome of Russia's presidential election

On Wednesday, MEPs will discuss the Russian regime's latest stage-managed presidential election, which saw Vladimir Putin strengthen his grip on power.

With his illegal war in Ukraine raging on, and in the absence of any credible democratic opposition, incumbent Russian President Vladimir Putin officially secured 88.48% of the vote. The ballot took place in a highly restrictive environment featuring a ruthless crackdown on dissent, and not long after one of Russia's most prominent oppositional voices, Alexei Navalny, [died under mysterious circumstances](#) in an Arctic prison colony.

The EU has also [strongly condemned and refused to recognise](#) the illegal holding of these so-called elections in the territories of Ukraine temporarily occupied by Russia.

Debate: Wednesday 10 April

Procedure: Statement by the Commission

Further information

[EP Multimedia Centre: free photos, video and audio material](#)

Making the right to abortion an EU fundamental right

The right to abortion should be included in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, MEPs are set to say in a resolution to be put to a vote on Thursday.

With sexual and reproductive health rights being rolled back in several EU member states, MEPs want to enshrine the right to abortion in the [EU Charter of Fundamental Rights](#) - a [demand they have made several times](#). France became the first country to enshrine the right to abortion in its constitution on 4 March. In a [debate in plenary on 14 March](#), MEPs urged member states guarantee women's access to safe and legal abortion.

Healthcare, including sexual and reproductive health, falls under national powers. Changing the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights to include abortion would require unanimous agreement from all member states.

Procedure Code: 2024/2655(RSP)

Procedure: Commission statement with resolution

Debate: Thursday 14 March

Vote: Thursday 11 April

Further information

[Draft resolution on the Inclusion of the right to abortion in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights](#)

[Steps of the procedure](#)

[Free photos, video and audio material](#)

Rule of law in Hungary: Parliament to discuss latest developments

MEPs will quiz Council and Commission representatives on the premature release of frozen EU funds, the lack of progress in the Article 7 procedure, and other threats to EU values.

In a debate on Wednesday, MEPs will discuss the President's decision (based on a recommendation of the Committee on legal Affairs) [to ask the Court of Justice of the EU](#) to clarify the Commission's role in and margins of discretion around the [unfreezing of EU cohesion funds for Hungary](#). They will also look into the continuing threat to EU values, institutions, and funds posed by the Hungarian government, including the lack of progress on the [Article 7\(1\) procedure initiated by Parliament](#) in 2018. Last January, MEPs asked the European Council to determine whether Hungary has committed "serious and persistent breaches of [EU values](#)" under the [more direct Article 7\(2\) procedure](#).

MEPs are likely to raise the upcoming Hungarian Presidency of the Council of EU (in the second half of 2024), Hungary's repeated abuse of the right of veto and blackmail in the European Council, and the Commission's launch of an [infringement procedure concerning the country's "sovereignty law"](#).

Procedure code: 2024/2683(RSP)

Debate: Wednesday, 10 April

Procedure: Council and Commission statements, without resolution

Further information

[The Hungarian government threatens EU values, institutions, and funds, MEPs say \(18.01.2024\)](#)

[Procedure file](#)

[MEPs: Hungary can no longer be considered a full democracy \(15.09.2022\)](#)

[Factsheets on the EU: The protection of Article 2 TEU values in the EU](#)

[Free photos, video and audio material \(rule of law in Hungary\)](#)

Rule of law and media freedom in Slovakia

On Thursday, Parliament will quiz the Council and the Commission about how they intend to address the controversial reform proposals made by Robert Fico's government.

MEPs are expected to reiterate concerns about the Slovak government's plans for criminal code reform and changes in the functioning of the country's public-service media. MEPs say the ongoing reform, which led to the dissolution of Slovakia's Special Prosecutor's Office on 20 March and reduces penalties and limitation periods for financial crimes, [threatens Slovakia's ability to fight corruption and protect the EU budget](#). They are also likely to stress that the plans for the public broadcaster will have to be assessed in light of the EU's recently-adopted [Media Freedom Act](#). The proposed Act on Slovak Television and Radio is facing widespread criticism for giving the government direct control over public media, and curtailing their independence.

Background

MEPs already expressed their concerns about the rule of law situation in Slovakia in their [January 2024 plenary resolution](#). Controversial government reforms were also addressed during the [debate in February with the Commission](#) in the [Committee on Budgetary Control](#) and threats to media freedom in the country were also mentioned during the [plenary debate](#) in March.

Procedure: Council and Commission statements

Debate: Thursday, 11 April 2024

Further information

[Parliament calls for action against the erosion of EU values in member states \(28.02.2024\)](#)

[Factsheets on the EU: The protection of Article 2 TEU values in the EU](#)

[Democracy, Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights Monitoring Group \(DRFMG\): Slovakia](#)

[European Commission: 2023 rule of law report](#)

[Free photos, video and audio material \(rule of law\)](#)

[Free photos, video and audio material \(press freedom\)](#)

Vote on “Parliament 2024” reform

MEPs will vote on reform proposals to improve its working methods and institutional role on Wednesday.

The “[Parliament 2024](#)” [report](#) implements the recommendations endorsed by the Conference of Presidents (President Metsola and heads of political groups) in December 2023. These reforms will ensure that the Parliament functions better as a co-legislator, an arm of the budgetary authority and discharge authority, while increasing its democratic oversight and powers to hold the other institutions, notably the Commission, more accountable. They also include improvements related to plenary sessions and Parliament’s approach to external relations.

Procedure code: 2024/2000(REG)

Vote: Wednesday 10 April

Procedure: amendments to Parliament’s rules of procedure

Further information

[Rule 237: Amendment of the Rules of Procedure](#)

[Procedure file \(Parliament 2024\)](#)

[Free photos, video and audio material](#)

Parliament to debate Chinese police activity in Europe

In a debate with the Council and Commission on Wednesday, MEPs will assess the extent of Chinese law enforcement activities in Europe.

The debate comes in the aftermath of the Hungarian interior ministry recently having reached an agreement with Chinese authorities on allowing Chinese police officers to accompany their Hungarian colleagues on joint patrols in several locations across Hungary. Non-governmental organisations have also previously reported on a large number of “unofficial Chinese police stations” in several EU member states, with critics worrying that such outposts are being used by China to harass and suppress dissenting Chinese abroad.

Debate: Wednesday 10 April

Procedure: Statement by the Council and the Commission

Further information

[EP Multimedia Centre: free photos, video and audio material](#)

Discharge: MEPs to vote on whether to sign off EU budget for 2022

The Budgetary Control Committee recommends that Parliament grant discharge to the Commission, all executive agencies and the development funds, but not to Council.

More than 95% of the EU's expenditure is managed by the European Commission. While the [draft text](#) generally approves the EU's expenditure, it criticises the high error rate in the 2022 spending and the record-high outstanding commitments (450 billion euro, largely due to the NextGenerationEU package).

MEPs also regret the “political contradiction” in disbursing the previously suspended funds to Hungary in exchange for its endorsement of aid for Ukraine, and warns against “watering down” the Green Deal.

The draft text also calls on the EU to ensure that its external aid reaches civilians in conflict zones and is not used to finance, for example, entities connected to Hamas, while at the same time regretting that EU-funded projects in the West Bank have been destroyed and confiscated by Israel (101 projects in 2022 with a value of EUR 337 019).

Council

As has been the case every year since 2009, MEPs recommend that the discharge to the Council be postponed, regretting the Council's “malpractice of non-cooperation with the Parliament” that makes it impossible for Parliament to make an informed discharge decision.

Background

The annual discharge is a crucial part of Parliament's budgetary oversight role. Its purpose is to hold the EU institutions accountable for spending the EU budget according to EU rules, principles of sound financial management and the EU's political priorities. In their scrutiny process, MEPs take into account the [annual report published by the EU Court of Auditors](#).

Parliament can decide to grant, postpone or reject the discharge for each EU institution and body.

Procedure code: [2023/2129\(DEC\)](#) (Commission discharge)

Procedure: Discharge procedure

Debate: Wednesday 10 April

Vote: Thursday 11 April

Further information

[Budgetary Control Committee approves Commission's spending for 2022 \(05.03.2024\)](#)

[Budgetary Control Committee asks to postpone 2022 discharge to Council \(22.02.2024\)](#)

[Draft discharge report on the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022 – Commission](#)

[Rapporteur for 2022 Discharge to Commission Isabel García Muñoz](#)

[2022 Discharge procedure documents](#)

[Infographic: key figures for EU 2022 budget](#)

MEPs set to endorse new rules to boost maritime safety

Tougher rules on shipping pollution, faster maritime accident investigation and broader ships safety inspections are some of the steps taken to reinforce maritime safety.

On Wednesday, MEPs will hold a final vote on the [Maritime safety package](#) informally agreed with the Council in February. A collective package of four laws aims to modernise and reinforce the EU's maritime rules on safety and pollution prevention.

MEPs [managed](#) to extend the existing ban on the discharge of oil spills by ships to cover sewage, garbage and residues from scrubbers. They also [ensured](#) the faster and more efficient investigation of maritime accidents to better learn from them and prevent them in the future. MEPs also [updated](#) the rules governing how flag and port states check if vessels are seaworthy. The environmental performance of ships and social conditions of the crew will also now be part of these safety inspections.

Procedure Code: 2023/0172 (COD), 2023/0165 (COD), 2023/0164 (COD),

Vote: Wednesday, 10 April

Procedure: co-decision, 1st reading

Further information

[Procedure file \(flag State requirements\)](#)

[Procedure file \(port State control\)](#)

[Procedure file \(investigation of maritime accidents\)](#)

[Procedure file \(ship-source pollution\)](#)

[EP Research Service briefing on the revision of the directive on ship-source pollution \(December 2023\)](#)

[EP Research Service briefing on flag state requirements \(January 2024\)](#)

[EP Research Service briefing on port state control \(January 2024\)](#)

[EP Research Service briefing on investigation of maritime accidents \(February 2024\)](#)

Parliament to back EU system to compare carbon footprint in transport sector

On Wednesday, MEPs will suggest ways to avoid greenwashing in the transport sector by introducing a single and free of charge way to calculate greenhouse gas emissions.

Currently the EU does not have a unified system to measure greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the transport sector and companies use different ways to calculate their carbon footprint. This may mislead consumers when choosing transport services based on their environmental performance and create conditions for greenwashing, which MEPs want to prevent.

MEPs support the proposal to count GHG emissions stemming from the use of a vehicle, but call on the Commission to table, within two years from the entry into force of these new rules, a broader method, which would calculate the GHG emissions coming from producing, maintaining and disposing vehicles, i.e. its life-cycle.

This draft bill, on which MEPs are set to close the first reading position and pass it on for the next Parliament to follow up, is part of a [package of proposals for greening EU freight transport](#).

Procedure Code: 2023/0266 (COD)

Procedure: co-decision, 1st reading

Vote: Wednesday, 10 April

Further information

[Press release after the committee vote \(07.12.2023\)](#)

[Draft EU rules on accounting of greenhouse gas emissions of transport services](#)

[EP co-rapporteur Barbara Thaler \(EPP, AU\)](#)

[EP co-rapporteur Pascal Canfin \(Renew, FR\)](#)

[Procedure file](#)

[EP Research Service briefing on measuring emissions from transport services \(March 2024\)](#)

International Roma Day: supporting minority culture, language and history

On Thursday, MEPs will discuss the EU's role in protecting the Roma language and culture, following a statement by President Roberta Metsola.

To mark International Roma Day (8 April), MEPs will evaluate the EU's support for the preservation of the Romani language and its numerous local dialects. The Roma are Europe's largest ethnic minority, yet they suffer from [structural antigypsyism](#), including [discrimination and segregation](#) at schools. They are also disproportionately affected by [threats to their fundamental freedoms, equality and dignity](#).

According to a [report by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency](#) that collected data from 10 European countries, Roma people are at higher risk of poverty, with 22% of them living in households without running water, while less than half of Roma children attend preschool education.

Debate: Thursday, 11 April

Further information

[Parliament calls for action against the erosion of EU values in member states \(28.02.2024\)](#)
[Press release: "Commission launches new 10-year plan to support Roma in the EU" \(7.10.2020\)](#)
[European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights \(FRA\) - Roma survey 2024](#)
[Free photos, video and audio material](#)

Other topics on the agenda

Other topics on the agenda

- Transfer pricing, *Peter-Hansen*, vote Wednesday
- Delay in sector specific standards, *Voss*, vote Wednesday
- New Regulation on Construction Products, *Doleschal*, vote Wednesday
- Mercury: dental amalgam and other mercury-added products subject to manufacturing, import and export restrictions, *Mortler*, vote Wednesday
- Handling of heavy goods vehicles at border crossing point, *resolution*, vote Wednesday