The Week Ahead 03 – 09 February 2020

Committee and political group meetings, Brussels

Coronavirus. In their annual debate with the Executive Director of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) Andrea Ammon, MEPs of the Committee on Environment and Public Health are likely to discuss the recent Coronavirus outbreak and the measures to be taken to protect public health (Monday).

EBC/Lagarde. The Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee will hold a hearing with European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde, ahead of its vote on the 2019 ECB annual report. MEPs may raise the issues of monetary policy in a slowing economy and amid trade tensions, crypto assets and the strategies used by the ECB to implement environmental principles, such as buying green bonds (Thursday).

European Public Prosecutor. EU Chief Prosecutor Laura Codruţa Kövesi will present the state of play on establishing the European Public Prosecutor’s Office, expected to be up and running by the end of this year, to the Civil Liberties Committee (Thursday).

Plenary preparations. Political groups will draft their input on the Commission’s negotiation mandate on the future relationship with the UK and prepare for their first plenary debate with Christine Lagarde as new President of the European Central Bank. MEPs will get ready to vote on the EU-Vietnam trade deal, the reopening of prosecution charges against the Czech Prime Minister on misuse of EU funds and illegal trade in pet animals. They will also look into topics to be debated the following week, such as the humanitarian situation of refugees at EU borders, the EU Gender Equality Strategy and the fight against antisemitism, racism and hatred across Europe.

President’s diary. EP President David Sassoli will be in Albania on Monday and Tuesday, where he will meet Prime Minister Edi Rama, followed by a press point, President Ilir Meta, Parliament’s Speaker Gramoz Ruci and Tirana Mayor Erion Veliaj. Mr Sassoli will also address the Albanian Parliament. Still on Tuesday but in Brussels, he will meet Italy’s Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte. On Wednesday, President Sassoli will meet Apostolic Vicariate of Anatolia Bishop Paolo Bizzeti, Portugal’s Prime Minister Antonio Costa as well as actor and environmental activist Mark Ruffalo.

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 contacts
THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

VISIT TO ALBANIA:
Meeting with Prime Minister, Mr Edi Rama, followed by a Press Point
Meeting with the Speaker, Mr Gramoz Ruci
Address to the Albanian Parliament plenary session
Discussion with University students
Meeting with the President of the Republic, Mr Ilir Meta
THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

VISIT TO ALBANIA:
Meeting with Tirana Mayor, Mr Erion Veliaj

BRUSSELS:
19:00 Meeting with Prime Minister of Italy, Mr Giuseppe Conte

PRESS CONFERENCES

11:00-11:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050
“Stability and Growth pact - the Left alternative
Martin SCHIRDEWAN (DE), and Manon AUBRY (FR), GUE/NGL Co-Chairs
THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

09:30 Meeting with the Apostolic Vicariate of Anatolia, Bishop Paolo Bizzeti
10:00 Meeting with the Prime Minister of the Portuguese Republic, Mr Antonio Costa
11:00 Meeting with the Mayor of Ventontene, Mr Gerardo Santomauro that will give the key of the city to President Sassoli
11:30 Meeting with think tank *Barcelona Futur*
15:15 Meeting with actor and environmental activist Mark Ruffalo

PRESS CONFERENCES

14:30-15:00 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050
“Submission of the Minority SafePack ECI and its follow up in the European Parliament”
Loránt VINCZE (EPP, RO), Hans Heinrich HANSEN, Kelemen HUNOR, and Valentin INZKO
Thursday 06/02/2020

THE PRESIDENT’S DIARY

10:00 Conference of Presidents of the European Parliament
12:15 Meeting with Council of Europe Secretary General, Ms Pejcinovic Buric
16:00 Meeting with the Associazione taliana dislessici

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

09:00-12:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C050
Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
  • Monetary Dialogue with Christine LAGARDE, President of the European Central Bank (09.00-11.00)

09:00-10:00 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2
Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
  Debate in association with the Committee on Budgetary Control
  • Establishment of the European Public Prosecutor Office -presentation of the state of play by Laura CODRUŢA KÖVESI, EU Chief Prosecutor (10.00-11.30)
THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

10:00 Opening of the conference “Nuovo Bilancio Pluriennale Comunitario” (Roma, Tempio di Adriano, Piazza di Pietra)

PRESS CONFERENCES

11:00-11:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050
Pre-session briefing