The Week Ahead 25 – 31 October 2021

Committee meetings, Brussels

The financial impact of organised crime. The Budget Control Committee will adopt a report on the impact of organised crime on the EU’s own resources (the main sources of revenue for the EU budget) and on the misuse of funds. Estimates reveal that organised crime affects between 2.7% and 3.6% of total EU public procurement spending, while, according to Europol, 40 to 60 billion euro is lost each year through VAT fraud (Tuesday).

EU cybersecurity. Proposals to revise existing cybersecurity rules and strengthen EU security provisions will be voted on by the Industry and Energy Committee. The updated law would introduce more stringent supervisory measures and stricter enforcement requirements, including harmonised sanctions regimes across EU countries. It also includes proposals for national and EU levels to cooperate with each other on cyber crisis management (Thursday).

Legal migration. The Civil Liberties Committee will vote on a series of proposals for new legislation in the field of legal migration. Draft recommendations include setting up an admissions scheme for low- and medium-skilled workers from non-EU countries to enter and live in the EU, and an EU talent pool to allow third-country nationals to apply for work and employers to search for potential employees (Wednesday).

New Pact on Asylum and Migration. The Civil Liberties Committee will begin discussing the reform of the EU asylum system, with a presentation and a debate on the proposed amendments on asylum and migration management and asylum procedures. A press conference will take place at 14:30 (Tuesday).

EU digital rules. The Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee will further discuss how the Digital Services Act (DSA) and Digital Markets Act (DMA) proposals should be amended and improved. (Wednesday).

Misuse of EU agriculture funds in Slovakia. Members of the Budget Control Committee will discuss the follow-up to the investigation into a possible misuse of EU agriculture funds in Slovakia, with Slovakia’s Agriculture Minister Samuel Vlčan, the European Anti-Fraud Office OLAF and the Commission (Monday).
European Gender Equality Week. Parliament will hold the second European Gender Equality Week from 25 to 28 October, with a series of public hearings organised by several committees on topics related to gender equality. On Thursday, the Women’s Rights and Gender Equality Committee will adopt recommendations to achieve women’s equal access to work, including closing the gender pay gap and increased maternity and paternity leave.

EP Press service contacts
Monday 25 October 2021

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

13:45-14:00 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3E2

Joint meeting: Committee on Budgets / Committee on Budgetary Control

Vote

• The revision of the Financial Regulation in view of the entry into force of the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework (INI), Adoption of draft report - Rapporteurs Nils ŠUAKOVŠ (S&D, LV) and Monika HOHLMEIER (EPP, DE)

13:45-15:45 Brussels, József Antall, 5Q2

Committee on International Trade

Debates

• Presentation by the Commission of the legislative proposal on foreign subsidies distorting the internal market

13:45-15:45 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality

Jointly with the Committee on Foreign Affairs

• Gender Equality in EU Foreign and Security Policy: Exchange of views with Stella RONNER-GRUBACIC, EEAS Ambassador for Gender and Diversity

13:45-16:15 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Debates

• Fighting poverty and social exclusion (including through minimum income schemes) - Presentation of a study
• Romodrom key achievements in the field of social inclusion, Roma minority integration and homelessness - Exchange of views with Marie Gailovà (Romodrom Founder / Statutory Representative)
• SURE: One Year On - Presentation by the Commission

13:45-18:45 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Committee on Foreign Affairs

Jointly with the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality
• Gender Equality in EU Foreign and Security Policy: Exchange of views with Stella RONNER-GRUBACIC, EEAS Ambassador for Gender and Diversity (13.45-15.00)

Jointly with the Subcommittee on Security and Defence

• Exchange of views on the EU strategy for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific (17.15 – 18.45)

14:00-18:45 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3E-2

Committee on Budgetary Control

In association with Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL):

• Public hearing on "Capacity for proper expenditure controls of the increased budget of the MFF and NGEU"

• Follow-up on investigations of possible misuse of EU funds for agriculture in Slovakia - Exchange of views with representatives of the European Commission, OLAF and Slovakian Minister of Agriculture

• The OLAF experience: a paradigmatic case of mismanagement of European Funds - Exchange of views with Commission and OLAF representatives

14:15-18:45 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 1G-3

Committee on Culture and Education

• European Year of Youth 2022 - exchange of views on the Commission proposal

• Exchange of views with the Commission on the Annual Work Programmes of the three MFF programmes

16.45 – 18.45

• The role of culture, education, media and sport in the fight against racism (INI) Rapporteur: Salima YENBOU (Greens/EFE, FR) - Exchange of views and presentation by the experts providing concomitant expertise

• Gender Equality Week - Exchange of views with the Commission on the promotion of gender equality in the EU funding programmes Erasmus+, Creative Europe and the European Solidarity Corps
Tuesday 26 October 2021

PRESS CONFERENCES

14:30-15:00 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050
Tomas TOBÉ (EPP, SV), rapporteur, on “the Asylum and Migration Management Regulation”, and Fabienne KELLER (Renew EUROPE, FR), rapporteur, on ”Regulation on common procedure for international protection in the EU”

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

09:00-15:45 Brussels, József Antall, 6Q2
Committee on International Trade

Debates

- Public hearing - International investment policy and investment protection reform
- Access of third-country goods and services to the Union's internal market in public procurement and procedures supporting negotiations on access of Union goods and services to the public procurement markets of third countries - Consideration of amendments - Rapporteur: Daniel CASPARY (EPP, DE)
- Amendment of Regulation (EU) 2019/216 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards Union tariff rate quota for high-quality beef from Paraguay - Exchange of views with Commission representatives - Rapporteur: Jordi CANAS (Renew, ES)
- Exchange of views on the EU-US Trade and Technology Council with Commission's Executive Vice-Presidents Margrethe VESTAGER and Valdis DOMBROVSKIS

Votes

- Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Union and Australia relating to the modification of concessions on all the tariff-rate quotas included in the EU Schedule CLXXV as a consequence of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union - Adoption of draft report- Rapporteur: Daniel CASPARY (EPP, DE)

09:00-16:15 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2
Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Vote

- Introduction of an European Social Security number with a personal labour card - Adoption of question for oral answer - Adoption of motion for a resolution further to a
debates

- Ageing Policies: Access to Services in Different Member States - Presentation of a study.
- A new EU strategic framework on health and safety at work post 2020 (including a better protection of workers from exposure to harmful substances, stress at work and repetitive motion injuries) - Consideration of draft report - Rapporteur: Marianne Vind (S&D, DK)

09:00-18:45 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3E-2

Committee on Budgetary Control

vote

- The impact of organised crime on own resources of the EU and on the misuse of EU funds with a particular focus on shared management from an auditing and control perspective (INI) - Adoption of draft report - Rapporteur: Tomáš Zdechovsky (EPP, CZ)
- Evaluation of preventive measures for avoiding corruption, irregular spending and misuse of EU and national funds in case of emergency funds and crisis-related spending areas (INI) - Adoption of draft report - Rapporteur: Michèle Rivasi (Greens/EFA, FR)
- Digitalisation of the European reporting, monitoring and audit - Adoption of draft report - Rapporteur: Maria Grapini (S&D, RO)

debates

- European Court of Auditor's Annual Report 2020 - Presentation of the Annual Report concerning financial year 2020, by the President of the Court, Klaus-Heiner Lehne - In the presence of Commissioner Johannes Hahn, responsible for Budget and Administration and reporting ECA Member Tony Murphy - Rapporteur: Olivier Chastel (Renew, BE)
- Gender Equality in the Discharge 2019 - Exchange of views - Rapporteur: Katalin Cseh (Renew, HU)
- Opening of remote voting procedure: second round - final vote
- European Commission's methodology for reporting and error rate, risk categorisation, and reservations - Exchange of views with Commission representatives
- Workshop on "The state of implementing procurement procedures in EU Agencies: enhancing transparency and assessing flexibility" - Presentation by Policy Department on Budgetary Affairs (PolDep D) - Rapporteur: Ramona Strugariu (Renew, RO)

09:00-18:45 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 1G-3

Committee on Culture and Education

9.00 – 12.00

- EU sports policy: assessment and possible ways forward (INI) - Rapporteur: Tomasz Frankowski (EPP, PL) - Adoption of draft report
• Public hearing on "Inclusion measures within the Erasmus+ Programme"

• Implementation of inclusion measures within Erasmus+ 2014-2020 (INI) - Rapporteur: Laurence FARRENG (Renew, FR) - Exchange of views

• Exchange of views with Vice-President Jourova on the state of media freedom

09:00-19:00 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Committee on Foreign Affairs

Vote

• Cooperation on fight against organised crime in the Western Balkans (INI), adoption of amendments - Rapporteur Lukas MANDL (EPP, AT) - vote on draft report will take place in the afternoon

Jointly with the Committee on Development

• Exchange of views on the situation in Chad

Debates

• Exchange of views on the recent developments in Montenegro (10.45-12.00)

Afternoon

• Exchange of views on the situation in Belarus with Dirk Schuebel, Head of EU Delegation to Belarus

14:00-17:15 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q1

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

• Public Hearing on the consequences of the pandemic on women and how the recovery can be designed to protect women and promote gender equality: Promotion of gender equality, equal opportunities for all and the mainstreaming of those objectives in the RRF/NRPs

16:45-18:45 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C050

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Votes (16.45 – 17.45)

• Legal migration policy and law (2020/2255(INL)) - consideration and adoption of amendments. Rapporteur: Abir AL-SAHLANI (Renew, SV)

Debates

• Common procedure for international protection in the Union (***I 2016/0224(COD)) - consideration of draft report. Rapporteur: Fabienne KELLER (Renew, FR). (17.20 – 17.50)
• Implementation of the new architecture for EU information systems for borders, migration and security - exchange of views with the European Commission (DG HOME). (17.50 – 18.45)
Wednesday 27 October 2021

PRESS CONFERENCES

10:00-10:30
“Launch of the Progressive Society report “the Great Shift” - game-changing policy proposals to transform a broken world into sustainable well-being"
Iratxe GARCÍA PÉREZ, (ES), S&D Chair, Eric ANDRIEU (S&D, FR), and Poul Nyrup Rasmussen

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

09:00-15:45 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3G3
Subcommittee on Human Rights
In association with the Delegation for relations with the Mashreq countries
- Exchange of views on detention conditions and treatment of human rights defenders in Egypt and follow up to the European Parliament resolution of 18 December 2020 on the deteriorating situation of human rights in Egypt, in particular the case of the activists of the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (10.30 – 12.00)

In association with the Delegation for relations with the Maghreb countries
- Exchange of views on the follow up to the EP resolution of 26 November 2020 on the deteriorating situation of human rights in Algeria, in particular the case of journalist Khaled DRÄRENI (13.45 – 14.30)

09:00-15:45 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 1G3
Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality
- Conference on the Future of Europe side event: Building an inclusive economy for women in the green and digital transformation (9.15 – 10.45)

Debate
- “Education and employment of women in science, technology and the digital economy, including AI and its influence on gender equality” by Policy Department C - Presentation of the study (10.45 – 11.30)

Hearing
• Enhancing gender equality through common European action on care (13.45 – 15.45) Draft agenda and further information

09:00-18:45 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q1

Subcommittee on Security and Defence

Debates

• Exchange of views on the Strategic Compass: Partnership dimension with Alison WESTON, Head of Division, Partnerships and Task Force NATO, European External Action Service (EEAS)
• Implementation of the common security and defence policy - annual report 2021 (INI), Consideration of draft report - Rapporteur Nathalie LOISEAU (Renew, FR)
• In association with the Delegation for relations with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly - Lessons Learned from Afghanistan: exchange of views with Dr John MANZA, NATO Assistant Secretary General for Operations
• Challenges and prospects for multilateral Weapons of Mass Destruction arms control and disarmament regimes (INI), consideration of amendments - Rapporteur Sven MIKSER (S&D, EE)
• Public Hearing - Security in the Eastern Partnership area: the impact of Russian military doctrine, force posture and capability development (13.45 – 15.00) draft programme and further information
• Private Military and Security Companies: the increasing role of the Wagner Group in Africa - exchange of views with Sergey SUKHANKIN, Senior Fellow at Jamestown Foundation (Washington DC) and Member of North American and Arctic Defence and Security Network (Canada), (15.00 – 16.15)

(16.45 – 18.45)

• Exchange of views with Kris PEETERS, Vice-President and Member of the Management Committee of the European Investment Bank (EIB)
• Gender and disarmament: engaging women in disarmament and arms control - Exchange of views with Izumi NAKAMITSU, UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

09:00-18:45 Brussels, József Antall, 6Q1

Committee on Development

Votes

• Adoption of Opinion - Rapporteur: György HÖLVÉNYI (EPP, HU) - Adoption of Opinion - Rapporteur: György HÖLVÉNYI (EPP, HU)

Debates

• Addressing hunger and malnutrition in developing countries - Exchange of views with Gerda Verburg, Coordinator of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement and UN Assistant Secretary General and with Celine Mias, EU Representative & Head of Office of CARE International on behalf of Generation Nutrition (In association with the Delegation to the ACPEU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (DACP) and the Delegation for relations with the PanAfrican Parliament (DPAP))
• Gender dimension in humanitarian crises and responses - Exchange of views with the European Commission and NGOs (2nd edition of the Gender equality week edition of the Gender equality week)
• The situation in Haiti Access to water in developing countries - Exchange of views with the European Commission and the EEAS
• Access to water in developing countries - Exchange of views with experts

09:00-18:45 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q-2

Subcommittee on Tax Matters
• Public hearing on "A European Withholding Tax framework" - See separate draft programme

11.15 – 12.00
• A European Withholding Tax framework (INI) - Rapporteur: Pedro MARQUES (S&D, PT) - Consideration of draft report

27 October 2021, 16.45 – 18.45 - Room: Altiero Spinelli (3G-3)
• Exchange of views with Members of the Finance Committee of the Slovenian national parliament on the implementation at EU level of the OECD agreement on tax base erosion and profit shifting, including the introduction of a potential EU digital levy

09:00-18:45 Brussels, József Antall, 6Q2

Committee on Legal Affairs
Debate (16.45 – 17.45)
• Gender balance among non-executive directors of companies listed on stock exchanges (Women on Boards) - exchange of views with invited experts in the framework of Gender Equality Week

09:00-18:45 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3E-2

Committee on Constitutional Affairs
Debates (9:00 – 11:30)
• European Gender Equality Week in the European Parliament - statements by the Chair and by Gwendoline DELBOS CORFIELD, AFCO permanent representative to the Gender Mainstreaming Network
• Parliament’s right of initiative (2020/2132(INI)) - Exchange of views on amendments. Rapporteur: Paulo RANGEL (EPP, PT)

Public hearing (11.30 – 12.00 and 16.45 – 17.45)
• "The Role of a European Electoral Authority". Opening remarks by Chair Antonio TAJANI and presentation by invited expert: Ph.D., D.Litt. Magdalena BAINCZYK, University Professor at Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University and Chief Analyst at Institute for Western Affairs, Poznan. The programme continues in the afternoon with presentations by invited experts: Luciano BARDI, Professor (political science and international relations), European University Institute, Florence, and Dr. Georg THIEL, Federal Returning Officer and President of the Federal Statistics Office (German Federal Republic), Wiesbaden. Exchange of views with Members and closing remarks by Chair Antonio Tajani (see draft programme)
Debate (17:45 – 18:45)

• Study on " Financing of political structures in EU Member States - How funding is provided to national political parties, their foundations and parliamentary political groups, and how the use of funds is controlled". Presentation of a study requested by the Directorate-General for Internal Policies in cooperation with Political Structures Financing Unit, Directorate-General for Finance, and commissioned by the Policy Department for Budgetary Affairs, by: Mr Quentin REED, Prague/Czechia and Mr Tommy KRIEGER, Centre for European Economic Policy (ZEW), Mannheim/Germany. Exchange of views with Members.

09:15-18:45 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

Debates

• Exchange of views with the Commission on the amendment of Regulation (EU) 2017/746 on in vitro diagnostic medical devices
• Exchange of views with the Commission on the ongoing preparations and implementation of the Regulation (EU) 2017/745 on medical devices (including guidelines)
• Exchange of views with the Commission on the Communication on the Strategy for Financing the Transition to a Sustainable Economy - with Members of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs invited
• EU4Health - outcome of the consultations of the EU4Health Steering Group and the impact of the European Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) on the EU4Health Programme
• Exchange of views with Commissioner Sinkevičius and Commissioner Wojciechowski - presentation of the EU Forest Strategy

10:00-11:00 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C050

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Vote

• Legal migration policy and law (2020/2255(INL)) - Adoption of draft report. Rapporteur: Abir AL-SAHLANI (Renew, SV).

13:45-18:45 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2

Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

Debates

• Contestable and fair markets in the digital sector (Digital Markets Act) - Consideration of compromise amendments - Rapporteur: Andreas SCHWAB (EPP, DE)
• Single Market For Digital Services (Digital Services Act) and amending Directive 2000/31/EC - Consideration of compromise amendments - Rapporteur: Christel SCHALDEMOSE (S&D, DA)
Thursday 28 October 2021

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

09:00-12:00 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3G3

Subcommittee on Human Rights

- Workshop "Envisioning International Justice: what role for the International Criminal Court?" (09.00 – 11.00) draft programme and further information

Debate

- Exchange of views with Francisco MALTES TELLO, President of Central Unitaria de Trabajadores (Colombia) (11.00 – 12.00)

09:00-12:00 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q1

Subcommittee on Security and Defence

Debate

- The EEAS’s Climate Change and Defence Roadmap (INI), Consideration of draft report - Rapporteur Thomas WAITZ (Greens/EFA, AT) (11.15 – 12.00)

09:00-12:00 Brussels, József Antall, 6Q2

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs/Committee on Legal Affairs

Vote

- Disclosure of income tax information by certain undertakings and branches - Adoption of draft recommendation for second reading - Rapporteurs: Evelyn REGNER (S&D, AT), Ibán GARCIA DEL BLANCO (S&D, ES)

09:00-12:00 Brussels, József Antall, 6Q2

Committee on Legal Affairs

Votes

- Disclosure of income tax information by certain undertakings and branches (**II 2016/0107(COD) 09722/1/2021) - Adoption of draft recommendation for second reading. Rapporteurs: Evelyn REGNER (S&D, AT) and Ibán GARCIA DEL BLANCO (S&D, ES). (Public Country-by-Country reporting) jointly with ECON.

- Authorising the Member States to accept, in the interest of the European Union, the accession of Tunisia, Pakistan, Jamaica, Bolivia and Philippines to the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. Adoption of draft reports
Debates

- Protection of the rights of the child in civil, administrative and family law proceedings (2021/0260(INI)). Rapporteur: Adrián VAZQUEZ LAZARA (Renew, ES) - Consideration of draft report.
- A statute for European cross-border associations and non-profit organisations (2020/2026(INL)). Rapporteur: Sergey LAGODINSKY (Greens/ALE, DE) - Consideration of amendments.

09:15-10:45 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs/Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety/Committee on Budgetary Control

Debate

- Exchange of views with the European Court of Auditors on the Special Report 22/2021: Sustainable finance: More consistent EU action needed to redirect finance towards sustainable investment

09:30-12:30 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2

Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

Debates

- Public hearing - Dual quality of goods in the Single Market

10:00-15:45 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 3C050

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Vote

- Contestable and fair markets in the digital sector (Digital Markets Act) - Adoption of draft report - Rapporteur for the opinion: Carlos ZORRINHO (S&D, PT)
- Measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union, repealing Directive - Adoption of a draft report - Rapporteur: Bart GROOTHUIS (Renew, NL)

Debates

- Exchange of views with Mr Jean-Eric Paquet, Director-General for Research and Innovation, on gender equality issues
- Presentation of the study on Europe’s Digital Decade and Autonomy
- A New Industrial Strategy for Europe

13:45-18:45 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 1G3

Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality
Hearing jointly with the EP Delegation for relations with Afghanistan

- Afghan Women as Peace Builders and Community Leaders (13.45 – 15.45) draft programme and further information

16.45-18.45

Voting will be open from 16.45 to 17.45

- Equality between women and men in the European Union in 2018-2020 (INI), Adoption of draft report - Rapporteur Sandr PEREIRA (The Left, PT)

Debates

- European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) - Presentation by Carlien SCHEELE, Director of EIGE, on the Gender Equality Index 2021
- COVID-19 and its economic impact on women and women’s poverty" by Policy Department C - Presentation of the study