

## The Week Ahead 18 – 24 November 2019

### Committee and political groups meetings, Brussels

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**Hearings of Commissioner-candidates.** The Conference of Presidents (EP President and the leaders of the political groups) is scheduled to hold an exchange of views with the three executive vice presidents-elect (Valdis Dombrovskis, Margrethe Vestager and Frans Timmermans) and decide on the outcome of the hearings process (*Thursday*).

**Migrants/Libya.** The Civil Liberties Committee and the Human Rights sub-committee will assess conditions for asylum-seekers in Libya against the backdrop of the situation in the country, including how armed groups may be linked to organised crime and the conditions in detention centres. Guests include representatives of the European External Action Service (EEAS), Commission, UNHCR, IOM, Médecins sans Frontières as well as International Rescue Committee (IRC) President David Miliband (*Thursday*).

**Rule of Law/Hungary.** The Finnish Presidency of the EU Council will report to the Civil Liberties Committee on the latest discussion in Council on the Article 7(1) procedure against Hungary to determine whether there is a clear risk of a serious breach of the EU's common values. This is the first substantial discussion on the subject in the current legislative term (*Thursday*).

**Eurozone.** Eurogroup President Mário Centeno will discuss recent developments in the Euro area with the Economy and Monetary Affairs Committee, with topics such as the economic slowdown as well as completing the Banking Union, including the setup of the European deposit insurance scheme, likely to be raised by MEPs (*Monday*).

**ACP-EU Assembly.** Members of the European Parliament and parliamentarians of 78 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries will meet in Kigali, Rwanda, for the 38th ACP-EU Assembly. Climate change and food security, migration, sustainable growth and the post-Cotonou agreement are set to be the focus of the event (*Sunday 17 to Thursday*).

**Convention on the Rights of the Child.** Parliament is organising a high-level conference to mark the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as to discuss progress made over the past three decades and reflect on the challenges that children and youth face today. It will be opened by Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians, Parliament President David Sassoli as well as Spanish singer and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador David Bisbal. (*Wednesday*).

**Plenary preparations.** Political groups will prepare for the 25-28 November session in Strasbourg, where MEPs are set to elect the new European Commission, following the presentation by Ursula von der Leyen of the College of Commissioners and their programme. They will discuss the upcoming 12-13 December EU summit and the U.N. Climate Change Conference COP25 in Madrid. MEPs are also set to vote on the EU's 2020 budget. The sitting finally includes the award of the EP's LUX film Prize and a solemn sitting with Oleg Sentsov, 2018 Sakharov Prize Laureate, recently released from prison.

# Agenda

**President's diary.** EP President David Sassoli will meet the President of the Commission of EU Bishops' Conferences Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich and the President of the Conference of European Churches Rev. Christian Krieger, on Tuesday. President Sassoli will meet Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians, on 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 contacts](#)

## THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

### The President's agenda

**Monday 18/11/2019**

17:30 Speech at the presentation of the book "*Europe as a Project – Being Protagonist of our Future*", Pontifical Gregorian University of Rome

### The President's agenda

**Tuesday 19/11/2019**

17:40 Meeting with Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich, President of the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the EU and Rev. Christian Krieger, President of Conference of European Churches

### The President's agenda

**Wednesday 20/11/2019**

13:55 Meeting with Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians, (arrival Spaak Protocol entry)

14:30 Opening of the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

### The President's agenda

**Friday 22/11/2019**

18:00 Speech at the Conference "Europe: Challenges and prospects for the next few years", Genoa

### The President's agenda

**Saturday 23/11/2019**

12:00 Festival of the newspaper "Il Foglio", Palazzo Vecchio, Florence

15:00 Conference on "Humility, disinterest, beatitude: Christianity as a style for a new humanism" organized by the Tuscan Episcopal Conference, Theological Faculty of Central Italy in Florence

## PRESS CONFERENCES

### Pre-session briefing

Friday 22/11/2019 11:00-11:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050*

## PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

### Subcommittee on Human Rights

**Thursday 21/11/2019 11:30-13:00 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 4B001**

- Exchange of views with Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, United Nations

### Committee on Budgetary Control

**Monday 18/11/2019 15:00-19:00 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q-1**

- 2018 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Commission (DEC) - Rapporteur:Monika HOHLMEIER (PPE, DE) - Exchange of views with Acting Secretary General of the European Commission , Ilze JUHANSONE in the presence of the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, Pietro RUSSO
- Closure of the accounts for European Asylum Support Office (EASO) for the financial year 2017 (RSP) - Rapporteur:Petri SARVAMAA (EPP, FI) - Consideration of the motion for decision on closure of accounts
- 2018 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Parliament (DEC) - Rapporteur:Maria GRAPINI (S&D, RO) - Exchange of views with the Vice-President of the European Parliament with responsibility for the budget, Pedro SILVA PEREIRA, the Secretary-General, Klaus WELLE and the Internal Auditor of the European Parliament, Robert GALVIN, in the presence of the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, Pietro RUSSO

### Committee on Budgetary Control

**Tuesday 19/11/2019 11:00-18:00 Luxembourg, Robert Schuman, L6-A100**

Extraordinary meeting of the budgetary control committee with the European court of auditors

### Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

**Monday 18/11/2019 15:00-16:30 Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2**

#### Debates

- Economic Dialogue and exchange of views with Mário CENTENO, President of the Eurogroup

### Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

**Monday 18/11/2019 14:30-18:30 Brussels, József Antall, 6Q2**

#### Joint AGRI-ENVI-DEVE meeting

- Exchange of views with Ms Maria Helena Semedo, FAO Deputy Director-General Climate and Natural Resources, following the 2019 World Food Day

#### Public Hearing

- “The sustainability of European agriculture regarding the potential impact on the market of the Mercosur agreement”

# Agenda

Effects of the EU-Mercosur trade deal on the sustainability of European agriculture will be up for a debate in the Agriculture Committee on Monday afternoon. MEPs will quiz farmers' representatives and NGOs on potential general and sector-specific risks of the deal and on its possible environmental, social and economic impacts.

## Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

**Thursday 21/11/2019 09:00-17:30 Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2**

**Joint debate with the Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI) and the Delegation for relations with Maghreb countries (DMAG) (09.00-11.30)**

- The situation of migrants in Libya against the backdrop of the general situation in the country - presentations by the European External Action Service (EEAS) and by representatives of DG HOME/DG NEAR, European Commission
- The situation of migrants in detention centres in Libya and of migrants returned by the Libyan coastguard – possible solutions? - presentations by the following:
  1. Anabelle Roig Granjon, Senior External Relations Officer, Global Issues Unit, Regional Representation for EU Affairs, UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)
  2. Ola Henrikson, Regional Director for the EEA, EU and NATO, International Office for Migration (IOM)
  3. Ellen Van Der Velden, Senior Operational Advisor on Libya, former Head of Mission in Libya, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)
  4. Imogen Sudbery, Director of Policy and Advocacy Europe/Head of IRC Brussels, International Rescue Committee (IRC)

### Debates

- EUNAVOR MED Operation Sophia mandate extension until 31 March 2020 - exchange of views with the European External Action Service **(11.30-12.00)**
- Report on the 5th European Migration Forum – "From global to local governance of migration: the role of local authorities and civil society in managing migration and ensuring safe and regular pathways to the EU" - presentation by Members of the Bureau of the European Migration Forum: Cristian Pirvulescu, EESC, Adem Kumcu, UNITEE, Rossella Nicoletti, EURO CITIES **(14.45-15.45)**
- Data protection rules as a trust-enabler in the EU and beyond – taking stock - presentation by the Commission **(15.45-16.30)**
- Rule of law in Hungary: follow up in the Council to the Parliament's reasoned proposal pursuant to Article 7(1) TEU as regards the situation of the rule of law in Hungary - presentation by the Finnish Presidency on the first hearing in the General Affairs Council of 16 September 2019 **(16.30-17.30)**

## Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

**Monday 18/11/2019 15:00-17:00 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3G3**

### Public Hearing

- Hearing on violence against women: state of play in the Member States and exchange of best practices. on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (25 November) Programme and further information available [here](#).

### Vote

- FEMM committee calendar 2020 - adoption of FEMM meetings for 2020

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### High-level conference to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Convention of the Rights of the Child

**Wednesday 20/11/2019 14:30-18:30 Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, plenary chamber**

**Convention on the Rights of the Child.** Parliament is organising a high-level conference to mark the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as to discuss progress made over the past three decades and reflect on the challenges that children and youth face today. It will be opened by Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians, Parliament President David Sassoli as well as Spanish singer and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador David Bisbal. (*Wednesday*).

### Contacts

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