



Strasbourg Flash

Greens/EFA plenary session priorities 18-21 January 2010

Commissioner hearings

Monday 18-Tuesday 19 January

The last remaining hearings of Commissioner-designates take place on Monday evening and Tuesday morning, with a European Parliament plenary vote on the proposed Commission as a whole due to take place in Brussels on 26 January.

Mixed performances so far mean that Parliament's approval of the new college is far from secured. Clarification is also still pending regarding the declaration of business interests by Humanitarian Aid Commissioner-designate Rumiana Jeleva.

Greens/EFA Co-Presidents Rebecca Harms and Dany Cohn-Bendit will share their views with the press at their briefing - scheduled later than usual on Tuesday at 14.00 (See below).

Iran in the spotlight

Tuesday, 19 January

Catherine Ashton, EU High Representative for foreign and security policy, will give a statement to the European Parliament plenary on Iran.

Barbara Lochbihler - German Green MEP and Chair of the EP's Delegation to Iran - expressed surprise and disappointment following Iran's decision to postpone the visit of a cross-party delegation of MEPs to the country earlier this month.

In a situation of deep political turmoil and increasing repression, the delegation was due to meet not only government representatives but also the political opposition and civil society groups.

EU-US SWIFT bank data

Wednesday, 20 January

On the agenda at the request of the Greens/EFA Group, Parliament will debate the bank data sharing agreement with the US that relates to the SWIFT system of transfers.

The EU Council rushed through an interim agreement on 30 November - the final day before the Lisbon Treaty came into force, granting Parliament co-legislative powers in this area.

The agreement, which takes effect on 1 February, is a one-way street where the EU provides bank transfer data to the US. It lacks basic safeguards regarding protection of data and their possible transmission to third parties.

Briefing

Greens/EFA Co-Presidents Strasbourg briefing

with: **Daniel Cohn-Bendit** and **Rebecca Harms**

At the **changed time** of: **Tuesday, 19 January, 14.00-14.30**

Press conference room, EP, Strasbourg

Also worth watching - Parliamentary reports, debates and resolutions

Tuesday, 19 January

Joly report on the revision of the Cotonou agreements

Green MEP and DEVE committee chair Eva Joly's report on the mid-term review of the 2000-2020 EU-ACP Cotonou agreement. The report proposes revisions in areas such as parliamentary scrutiny, climate change, coherence of different policy areas and the role of the EIB policy on offshore financial centres.

Wednesday, 20 January

Council and Commission statements on Copenhagen

Council declaration on the Spanish EU Presidency programme (With José Luis Zapatero)

Council and Commission statements on democratisation in Turkey

Thursday, 21 January

Commission statement on the situation in Haiti

Debates on urgencies

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