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Greens/EFA vote against far-right PR stunt, but no blank cheque for Ursula von der Leyen

Today, MEPs are voting on a motion of censure from the so-called Patriots group against Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. The Greens/EFA Group are voting against the motion.

Terry Reintke MEP, President of the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament, comments:

"We won't vote with the far-right and we do not support this motion. This vote was little more than a far-right PR stunt from Putin-loving populists. This political posturing from the far-right cannot hide the fact that this vote is a eurosceptic attack against the EU."

"In unstable times, with an erratic US President, an imperial Russia and an increasingly aggressive China, we need stability, security and clarity. However, there are numerous reasons for criticism of the direction of the Commission and we need serious and credible signs that the Berlaymont is willing to shift gears ahead of the State of the Union in September."

"We will continue to stand as a constructive and critical voice in a fractured political space and ever increasing instability. We are ready to build pro-European majorities, but we will not be played by the EPP in their desperate deregulation agenda and their desire to consistently form anti-European majorities with the far-right."

Bas Eickhout MEP, President of the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament, comments:

"This motion of censure is a textbook example of what the far-right does: Creating chaos. We will never give oxygen to this far-right agenda from eurosceptic hate-mongers."

"However, our vote today is not an endorsement of the direction of the Commission. It is undeniable that the Commission and its President are losing support in recent months. From the green files to migration, the deregulation agenda with omnibuses and the CAP, the Commission is blindly following the EPP into battle with little regard for the casualties."

"We will continue to hold the Commission to task for failing to uphold its commitments to the planet and social justice. The Commission must stop rolling back the Green Deal under the fallacy of cutting red tape and deliver on promises made."

“It’s time for the Commission to stop falling for the petty political parlour games of Manfred Weber. The EPP is desperately trying to appease their far-right friends and the Commission is taking the bait over sensible consensus-based politics.”

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