



**The Greens | European Free Alliance**  
in the European Parliament

## **Brussels Agenda**

### **Weekly preview of the Greens/EFA group - 12-16 November 2012**

#### ***EP priorities (full text below):***

- **New EU commission candidate faces MEPs (environment committee hearing, Tues.)**

#### ***Other EU priorities:***

- **Euro crisis: Greece in the spotlight (Council of Eurozone finance ministers, Mon.)**
- **Boardroom quotas for women (EU Commission proposal, Weds.)**
- **Completing the EU's internal energy market (EU Commission communication, Weds.)**

#### ***Greens/EFA events:***

- **Migration - towards a new European paradigm (conference, Weds.)**
  - **Why global climate talks must speed up (conference, Thurs.)**
  - **Towards the end of oil (conference, Thurs.)**
  - **EU enlargement and the involvement of national parliaments and civil society (conference, Thurs.)**
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#### **New EU commission candidate faces MEPs**

Tues. 13 Nov. - EP hearing in environment committee

Malta's nomination for its vacant EU commission post, Tonio Borg, will appear before MEPs in a hearing in the competent environment committee, as part of the appointment process. While the smoke has yet to clear following the controversial dismissal of John Dalli as health commissioner, there are a number of concerns about the candidacy of Tonio Borg, notably his views on minorities, women's rights and reproductive health and rights. The Greens believe clarification is needed on these issues before the EP can approve his appointment.

#### **Euro crisis: Greece in the spotlight**

Mon. 12 Nov. - Council of Eurozone finance ministers

With the Greek parliament having passed the latest painful austerity measures, Eurozone finance ministers are set to decide on the release of further bail out funds. It has long been clear that the EU-ECB-IMF programme of one-sided austerity has been self-defeating, plunging the country deeper into recession and causing massive hardship. Greater flexibility is clearly needed for Greece's fiscal correction, while the failure to tackle massive tax avoidance cannot continue. The EU needs to help Greece turn its economy around and, ultimately, move swiftly towards a proper economic and banking union, if the crisis is to be resolved.

### **Boardroom quotas for women**

Weds. 14 Nov. – European Commission proposal (possible)

Weeks after postponing much-anticipated proposals to address the under-representation of women in senior management, the Commission is again hoped to present the rules. There is no shortage of sufficiently qualified women in the workforce, with more female university graduates than male, but the representation of women on executive boards remains unacceptably low, at around 14%. The voluntary approach to addressing one of the major remaining barriers to gender equality has failed and the Greens support the introduction of binding boardroom quotas with a view to stimulating the push towards balanced boardrooms. (see [latest press release](#) and new [Green campaign](#))

### **Completing the EU's internal energy market**

Weds. 14 Nov. – European Commission proposal

The EU Commission will present an assessment of the EU's internal energy market and outline possible further measures to complete the internal market. The overarching goal should be to promote the shift to a 100% renewables-powered energy market. To this end, continuing barriers to renewable energy should be removed and steps taken to ensure the infrastructure for a European renewable energy economy is put in place, which will ensure energy prices fall. This is in the interests of EU consumers, energy security, domestic employment and the environment.

### **Migration - towards a new European paradigm**

Weds. 14 Nov. - Conference, Room ASP 1G3, European Parliament, Brussels - 15.00-18.30

This conference will look at mobility and migration in Europe and how to make it work. (click for [more information](#))

### **Why global climate talks must speed up**

Thurs. 15 Nov. - Conference, Room ASP 1G3, European Parliament, Brussels - 9.30-13.00

Ahead of this year's UN climate summit in Doha (COP18), this Greens/EFA conference will assess how to address the lack of momentum in the UN climate talks and Europe's role. (click for [more information](#))

### **Towards the end of oil**

Thurs. 15 Nov. - Conference, Room ASP 1G3, European Parliament, Brussels - 14.15-17.30

This conference will address looming peak oil and the impact of increasing oil prices for the economy, with a view to proposing EU policy solutions. (click for [more information](#))

### **EU enlargement and the involvement of national parliaments and civil society**

Thurs. 15 Nov. - Expert meeting, Room PHS 7C50, European Parliament, Brussels - 12.30-15.00

Bringing together parliamentarians and civil society with a view to strengthening their role in the enlargement process. (click for [more information](#))