



The Greens | European Free Alliance
in the European Parliament

Brussels Agenda

Weekly preview of the Greens/EFA group - 14-18 May 2012

EP priorities (full text below):

- **Reducing the risk in EU banks - capital requirements (economic affairs committee vote, Mon.)**
- **Strengthening EU economic governance - 2-Pack (economic affairs committee vote, Mon.)**

EU priorities:

- **Europe's neighbourhood - an EU approach (European Commission proposal, Tues.)**

Greens/EFA events:

- **Reindustrialising Europe - the Green way (conference, Weds.)**
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Reducing the risk in EU banks - capital requirements

Mon. 14 May - Economic affairs committee vote (Karas reports)

MEPs will vote on new EU rules implementing the Basel III international agreement, aimed at addressing the excessive risk in banks. The Greens support the proposals to raise capital levels to reduce the risk in banks but believe higher capital levels, especially for systemically important banks, would provide better protection and that member states should be given leeway to adopt even higher levels if they wish. The group also wants binding ratios for leverage and liquidity introduced now, rather than a vague commitment to consider this.

Strengthening EU economic governance - 2-Pack

Mon. 14 May - Economic affairs committee vote (Gauzès, Ferreira reports)

MEPs will vote on two key legislative proposals aimed at further strengthening economic governance in the Eurozone. The Greens support moves to strengthen European-level budgetary surveillance and coordination as part of moves towards true economic and fiscal union, but believe this must be accompanied by proper democratic oversight. The group also believes the 'two pack' needs to be adapted with a view to ensuring more countercyclical flexibility and a qualitative approach to budgetary discipline. There is also a need to adopt a roadmap towards the mutual issuance of sovereign debt to restore confidence in Euro sovereigns, as well as a proper EU sustainable growth facility to counterbalance fiscal tightening.

Europe's neighbourhood - an EU approach

Tues. 15 May - European Commission communication

The Commission will present its neighbourhood package, assessing the progress of the EU's 12 'neighbourhood countries' in the south and east. In the east, the persisting problems with rights and repression in Belarus remain, while the Ukraine is also in the spotlight in terms of human rights and treatment of opposition politicians. In the south, the Greens are strongly in favour of supporting the Arab Spring countries economically and politically but have questions over the Commission's approach, with the excessive focus on regulatory convergence and bilateral trade with no clear benchmarks, not necessarily in the interest of democratic, economic and social development in the region.

Reindustrialising Europe - The Green way

Weds. 16 May - Conference, Room ASP 1G3, European Parliament, Brussels

This conference will look at how European industry can adapt and respond to the current economic crisis, and how a green economic transformation should be at the centre of re-industrialisation in Europe. (see [more information](#))

Mortgages - EU rules and consumer protection

Mon. 14 May - Economic affairs committee vote (Sanchez Presedo report)

EU legislation harmonising standards applying to mortgages across the EU is set to be voted on by the lead economic affairs committee. The Greens believe the legislation should strengthen consumer protection in the mortgage sector but the proposals have been subject to industry lobbying, seeking to limit the ambition in terms of consumer protection.