



The Greens | European Free Alliance
in the European Parliament

Brussels Agenda

Weekly preview of the Greens/EFA group - 3-7 September 2012

EP priorities (full text below):

- **Euro crisis: a hot autumn ahead? (economic affairs committee debate with Rehn, Barnier, Draghi, Mon.)**
- **Human rights: Debate with Stavros Lambrinidis, EU Special Representative for Human Rights (foreign affairs committee and human rights subcommittee, Mon.)**

Greens/EFA events:

- **How to keep Europe GMO-free (Conference, Weds.)**
- **How rosy or green is the future for the European steel industry? (Conference, Weds.)**
- **Financing and biopiracy (Conference, Thurs.)**

Euro crisis: a hot autumn ahead?

Mon. 3 Sept. - Economic affairs committee debate

The Economic affairs committee takes up its work after the summer break with a high level debate on ways out of the euro crisis, which is threatening to heat up again this autumn. Economic and Monetary Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn and Internal Market Commissioner Michel Barnier will explain how they plan to safeguard the Economic and Monetary Union. Prior to this, a debate with ECB President Mario Draghi will take place behind closed doors.

Human rights: Debate with Stavros Lambrinidis

Mon. 3 Sept. - Foreign affairs committee and Human Rights subcommittee

Stavros Lambrinidis, who was appointed in July as the first EU Special Representative for Human Rights, will meet for the first time with the Foreign affairs committee and Human Rights subcommittee. Lambrinidis' nomination has been a success for Parliament, which has called for years to create such a post, aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the EU's Human Rights policy.

How to keep Europe GMO-free

Weds. 5 Sept. - Conference, Room JAN 6Q2, European Parliament - 9.00-18.30

Genetically modified crops and organisms are set to be a political 'hot potato' this autumn. Dozens of new GMO approvals are pending, the EU Commission is

proposing to allow traces of GMOs in food for human consumption for the first time and the Council of Ministers is failing to agree on legislation for national and regional bans. 200 representatives from GMO-free regions and organisations will discuss the future for GMOs in Europe with politicians and representatives of the EU institutions (see [more information](#)).

How rosy or green is the future for the European steel industry?

Weds. 5 Sept. - Conference, Room ASP 1G3, European Parliament - 15.00-18.30

The future of the steel industry is a crucial question in European industrial policy. The European steel industry is under considerable competitive pressures from overseas. Ignoring that or giving up on the European steel industry is not an option. A highly energy and resource efficient industry will be an indispensable partner for the green industrial revolution. How do we reconcile economic concerns with environmental ones, innovation needs with competition issues, or employment challenges with low-carbon strategies? All this will be discussed by representatives from industry, trade unions, NGOs and academia. (see [more information](#)).

Financing and biopiracy

Thurs. 6 Sept. - Conference, Room ASP 1G3, European Parliament - 15.00-18.30

Ahead of a crucial UN Biodiversity Summit in Hyderabad (India) in October 2012, the Greens/EFA group is taking stock of the ongoing loss of biodiversity on this planet and how to remedy it. The loss of biodiversity comes at a huge cost: around €50bn a year. Biodiversity erosion is particularly alarming in developing countries with the constant plunder of their natural richness and linked to this, the exploitative appropriation of indigenous forms of traditional knowledge (see [more information](#)).

Press conference at 11.00, Press room PHS 0A50, European Parliament