



The Greens | European Free Alliance
in the European Parliament

Brussels Agenda

Weekly preview of the Greens/EFA group - 24-28 September 2012

EP priorities (full text below):

- **Sakharov prize - candidates presented (joint committee meeting, Tues.)**
- **Regulating financial markets and limiting commodity speculation (economic affairs committee vote, Weds.)**
- **Budget problems in EU agencies (budgetary control committee, Weds.)**

Greens/EFA events:

- **Air pollution and EU regulation (new EEA report presentation and press point, Mon.)**
 - **ICT possibilities and the case of Iceland (study launch, Tues.)**
 - **Nanomaterial registers and transparency - Commission brought to court (press conference, Weds.)**
 - **Tackling airport noise (experts meeting, Weds.)**
 - **Human trafficking in the Sinai (press conference, Weds.)**
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Sakharov prize - candidates presented

Tues. 25 Sept. - Joint meeting of human rights, development and foreign affairs committees

The candidates for this year's Sakharov Prize for freedom of thought will be presented at a joint committee meeting. The candidate proposed by the Greens/EFA group for this year's prize is Iranian film maker activist Jafar Panahi. The prize will be awarded in December.

Regulating financial markets and limiting commodity speculation

Weds. 26 Sept. - Economic affairs committee votes (Ferber report)

The EP's economic affairs committee will vote on important legislative proposals on the regulation of the market for financial instruments. The Greens believe there should be an obligation to trade financial products on the most regulated markets, with limits on high frequency trading. With the damages of commodity speculation becoming ever more evident, particularly in food markets, the group believes this speculation needs to be curbed and is pushing for position limits to this end. The Greens also want to ensure a high level of investor protection, notably by ensuring financial advisors recommend products in their clients' interest and not simply on the basis of securing the highest commission.

Budget problems in EU agencies

Weds. 26 Sept. - Budgetary control committee votes (Macovei reports)

After the EP withheld discharge for the budgets of three EU agencies earlier this year due to irregularities, the budgetary control committee is set to reconsider the cases. All three agencies - the European Environment Agency, Medicines Agency and Food Safety Authority - have taken steps to address the problems raised by MEPs, although the Greens remain concerned about conflicts of interest in the latter two agencies. The group supports a proposal to ensure the EP gets a say in the appointment of agency directors in the future. (see [latest press release](#))

Air pollution and EU regulation

Mon. 24 Sept. - Report presentation 10-11.30; press point 11.30 - Room ASP 1G3 European Parliament

A new report from the European Environment Agency on air pollution in Europe will be presented at an event hosted by Green MEP Bas Eickhout, with a press point for journalists after the presentation. The Greens believe EU legislation should be strengthened to reflect recommended pollution limits from the WHO.

ICT possibilities and the case of Iceland

Tues. 25 Sept. - Study launch and press conference, 14.00 - Room PHS 5B001 European Parliament

The Greens/EFA group will present a new study on policies for promoting growth and resilience in the ICT sector. The study - <http://islandsofresilience.eu> - looks at the success story in Iceland as a model for the EU. (click for [more information](#))

Nanomaterial registers and transparency - Commission brought to court

Weds. 26 Sept. - Press conference, 10.00 - JAN 6Q2 (Room tbc) European Parliament

Green MEP Carl Schlyter will host a press conference to present a legal challenge he is taking against the European Commission due to lack of transparency on registers for nanomaterials. The French authorities are being blocked from setting up a register because the Commission is refusing to give them the relevant documents.

Tackling airport noise

Weds. 26 Sept. - Expert meeting, 15-18.00 - Room ASP 5E1 European Parliament

This meeting will address the problems of airport noise and their health impacts, as well as assessing the policy options for dealing with the problem. (click for [more information](#))

Human trafficking in the Sinai

Weds. 26 Sept. - Press conference, 11-11.30 - Room JAN 6Q2 European Parliament

A new study from the University of Tilburg on the shocking extent of human trafficking in the Sinai will be presented at a press conference organised by Green MEP Judith Sargentini. The press conference precedes a hearing on the same subject.