



The Greens | European Free Alliance
in the European Parliament

Brussels Agenda

Weekly preview of the Greens/EFA group - 1-5 October 2012

EP priorities (full text below):

- EU budget 2013: lines in the sand (budget committee vote, Weds.)

Other EU priorities:

- Nuclear industry under no stress (final EU nuclear stress test report, EU Commission, Weds.)

- Nanomaterials and EU regulation (EU Commission communication, Weds. - poss)

- GMO health risks and toxicity (European Food Safety Authority review)

Greens/EFA events:

- Beyond the crisis - the future of Europe (meeting of Green parliamentarians, Tues.)

EU budget 2013: lines in the sand

Weds. 3 Oct. - Budget committee vote (Vaughan-La Via reports)

MEPs on the budget committee will vote the parliament's position for the 2013 EU budget, drawing its line in the sand for annual horse-trading with the Council. In contrast with Council, which wants to short-sightedly slash the overall budget, the EP should aim to ensure the proposed EU 'Growth pact' is not stillborn, by allocating an appropriate level of resources to R&D, structural funds and other economy-stimulating measures. The Commission proposed a budget that largely reflects this and takes account of the expanding competences of the EU. As ever, the Greens oppose plans to throw vast sums of taxpayers' money into the black hole of the ITER nuclear fusion research pipe-dream.

Nuclear industry under no stress

Weds. 3 Oct. - European Commission proposal

The final report of the disputed European nuclear stress tests, proposed by the European Commission in the aftermath of the Fukushima disaster, will be presented this week. The Greens were critical of the concept for these stress tests, when it was presented by the Commission. The tests fail to properly assess a host of key risks to nuclear reactors, with the result that the stress tests will simply be an excuse for the nuclear industry to continue with business as usual, and no proposals to close unsafe or ageing reactors.

Nanomaterials and EU regulation

Weds. 3 Oct. (poss.) - European Commission proposal

The European Commission is expected to present an overdue regulatory review of nanomaterials. Despite being used in an increasing number of consumer products, there is no reliable information on the concrete uses of nanomaterials in consumer products nor about the resulting safety implications. Current EU legislation on chemicals (REACH) is not appropriate for dealing with this relatively new technology. The EP called for a proper regulatory review in 2009 with a view to adapting EU legislation and creating a European register for nanomaterials - both demands shared by a number of member states. Unfortunately, it seems that the Commission will not deliver on this.

GMO health risks and toxicity

Week of 1-5 Oct. - European Food Safety Authority review presentation

A recent groundbreaking study by French and Italian scientists demonstrated disturbing negative health impacts of GM maize. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is set to deliver its verdict on the study this week. The Greens are critical of EFSA for relying solely on industry research in its assessments of GMOs and hope it will treat this new research with the seriousness it deserves. With the majority of Europe's citizens opposed to GMOs, the group believes the only responsible, democratic decision would be to introduce an EU moratorium.

Beyond the crisis - the future of Europe

Tues. 2 Oct. - Meeting of Green parliamentarians, 10-17.30 - Room ASP 3G1
European Parliament

Green MEPs will meet with their national Parliament counterparts to discuss the state of the debate at national and EU level on the Union's future. (click for [more information](#))