



Strasbourg Flash

Priorities for the Greens/EFA group for 4-8 February 2013

Fisheries policy moves forward? CFP reform

Tues. 5 Feb. - EP debate; vote Weds. (Rodust report)

Plans to overhaul the EU's Common Fisheries Policy will be voted by MEPs. The Greens want fundamental CFP reform, shifting it from the current destructive model, based on overfishing. With many fish stocks in a precarious situation, threatening the viability of the fishing industry, the Greens believe the EU needs to move to a sustainable fisheries policy. The group welcomed the committee vote to tie quotas to scientific recommendations on allowable catch and end wasteful practises like discards. The Greens also wants to link fishing rights to environmental good practise.

Car/vehicle noise and EU rules

Tues. 5 Feb. - EP debate; vote Weds. (Ouzky report)

Proposals revising EU rules on noise from vehicles will be voted by parliament. The legislation has been subject to heavy lobbying from carmakers, with sports car manufacturers seeking to water down the proposals amidst lobbying intrigue and controversy. With noise pollution having a seriously damaging effect on human health and the environment, the Greens believe proposals to strengthen current EU rules on noise from vehicles should clearly be supported and their implementation not delayed. Hopefully, MEPs will not be swayed by the din from noisy carmakers.

Strasbourg priorities press briefing

with Greens/EFA co-presidents **Dany Cohn-Bendit** and **Rebecca Harms**

Tuesday, 5 February, 14.00-14.20 - Press Conference Room EP, Strasbourg

Protecting endangered species - EU role

Tues. 5 Feb - EP debate; vote Weds.

Ahead of the high-level meeting of the CITES convention on the protection of endangered species (COP16), MEPs will adopt a resolution setting out priorities for EU action. Against the background of growing wildlife crime against endangered species, the EU needs to lead the way in ensuring effective action is taken through CITES. Among the most alarming issues is the rise in rhino and elephant poaching, along with the trade in these animal parts. Urgent action is needed and the EU needs to push for this, whilst getting its own house in order.

Future EU budget - decision nears

Weds. 6 Feb. - EP debate; EU summit Thurs. - Fri.

EU heads of state and government will meet for the second of two summits on the future EU financial framework (2014-20). Ahead of that, parliament - a co-decider on the EU budget - will debate the situation. The latest proposals, being considered by EU governments, fall short both in terms of overall ambition but also in the areas where spending cuts are foreseen. Future oriented spending is to be cut at the expense of backward-looking areas, with no European value-added. The Greens believe the EP must stand strong and not accept an MFF along these lines.

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