



**The Greens | European Free Alliance**  
in the European Parliament

## **Brussels Agenda**

# **Weekly preview of the Greens/EFA group - 25 February - 1 March 2013**

### ***EP priorities (full text below):***

- **Horsemeat scandal and EU meat labelling rules (agriculture council, Mon.; environment committee debate, Thurs.)**
- **Airline emissions and the EU emissions trading scheme (environment committee vote, Tues.)**
- **Banking rules, capital requirements and remuneration (trialogue negotiations, Weds. - poss.)**

### ***Other EU priorities:***

- **Border control technology and civil liberties (Commission proposals, Weds.)**

### ***Greens/EFA events:***

- **Mali - how to win peace (conference, Weds.)**

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### **Horsemeat scandal and EU meat labelling rules**

Mon. 25 Feb. - Council of agriculture ministers; Thurs. 28 Feb. Environment committee debate

EU agriculture ministers will discuss the ongoing horsemeat scandal and possible EU action at their council on Monday. Ahead of the council, Green MEPs are hosting a press conference to present their demands for EU-level action. The scandal has highlighted deficiencies with the procedures for verifying food quality, as well as shortcomings in EU legislation, notably on meat product labelling. The Greens will be outlining demands to this end, as well as more fundamental reforms of our agri-food system. On Thursday, EU environment commissioner Borg will meet MEPs on the EP environment committee to discuss the affairs. (see [latest press release](#))

\* Press conference - Mon. 25 Feb. 11.30 - Room ASP 5G2, European Parliament \*

### **Airline emissions and the EU emissions trading scheme**

Tues. 26 Feb. - Environment committee vote

The inclusion of airlines in the EU's emissions trading scheme was supposed to come into effect in 2013 but, under pressure from a number of third countries, the Commission has proposed freezing the application of the ETS to non-intra EU flights. This would mean flights accounting for a large proportion of the emissions from aviation in the EU would be excluded. The ostensible excuse is to give the international aviation organisation (ICAO) time to come up with global proposals but, with such international opposition, the prospects for this are not likely. For the reason, the Greens believe MEPs must reject the proposed freeze on non-

intra-EU flights to ensure a coherent approach to EU aviation emissions. (see [latest press release](#))

### **Banking rules, capital requirements and remuneration**

Weds. 27 Feb - Triologue negotiations with Council and Commission (possible)

Negotiations between the European Parliament, Council and Commission on key legislative proposals establishing rules for banks (the capital requirements directive) could be finalised next week. The Greens support the overarching aim of the rules to ensure banks are sufficiently capitalised. However, the group wants to ensure the EU does not miss this opportunity to establish tougher regulations on other areas of banking activities. The group wants to ensure a more realistic remuneration policy in the banking sector, with EU-wide limits on remuneration, and provisions to provide proper transparency on the activities of banks. (see [latest press release](#))

### **Border control technology and civil liberties**

Weds. 27 Feb. – European Commission proposal

The European Commission is set to present proposals on the use of new technologies to control Europe's borders, the 'Smart Borders' package. The Greens believe the proposals are anything but smart and pose serious risks for civil liberties in the EU. Apart from the privacy and data protection concerns related to the introduction of increasingly intrusive border technologies, the Greens are critical of the large costs involved. (see [latest press release](#))

### **Mali - how to win peace**

Weds. 27 Feb. – Conference - Room ASP 1G3 European Parliament - 9.30-12.30

Conference on the crisis in Mali and how to achieve a peaceful solution. (click for [more information](#) - FR only)