



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

## **Brussels Agenda**

### **Weekly preview of the Greens/EFA group - 22-26 April 2013**

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

- **Mortgages - EU rules under review (trialogue agreement possible, Mon.)**
- **Threatened cod stocks and EU quotas (fisheries committee vote, Mon.)**
- **Tackling illegal fisheries (fisheries committee vote, Mon.)**
- **Dalligate, tobacco lobbying and OLAF (budgetary control committee debate, Tues.)**
- **Tackling rising youth unemployment (employment committee vote, Tues.)**
- **EU fingerprint database and civil liberties (civil liberties committee vote, Weds.)**

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

- **Emissions trading and the future of EU climate policy (informal environment council, Mon.)**

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

- **Rescuing EU climate policy and emissions trading (press conference, Mon.)**
  - **Drill, baby, drill (film screening, Tues.)**
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#### **Mortgages - EU rules under review**

Mon. 22 Apr. – Triilogue negotiations with Council and Commission

New EU rules on mortgages could be finalised in negotiations between the European Parliament and Council this week. The Greens have pushed for provisions ensuring greater transparency on mortgages, notably those with variable interest rates and in foreign currencies, and hope this will be reflected in the final deal. The group is concerned the final legislation will fail to deal with the macroeconomic risks of irresponsible lending however. (see [latest press release](#))

#### **Tackling illegal fisheries**

Mon. 22 Apr. – Fisheries committee vote

EU rules aimed at clamping down on illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing will be voted on by the fisheries committee. The proposals include provisions to provide greater transparency, with a view to tackling the problem. Green draftsperson/rapporteur Raül Romeva believes it is crucial for the effectiveness of the legislation that there is complete transparency with regards to the listing of countries subject to trade embargoes for illegal fishing. (see [latest press release](#))

### **Threatened cod stocks and EU quotas**

Mon. 22 Apr. – Fisheries committee vote

MEPs will vote on a long-term plan for cod stocks and fisheries. With cod stocks under pressure and in a critical state in a number of fisheries, the Greens believe the EU needs to adopt quotas in line with the scientific recommendations for allowing these stocks to recover. The European Parliament and the Commission are taking Council to the European Court of Justice after it removed two important sections of the regulation.

### **Dalligate, tobacco lobbying and OLAF**

Tues. 23 Apr. – Budgetary control committee debate

OLAF, the EU's anti-fraud body, will present its annual report to MEPs on Tuesday. Given the controversy surrounding the dismissal of commissioner Dalli and ongoing questions about OLAF's role in the process, this is expected to be the focus of the debate. The Greens have been to the fore in pushing for a proper response to this scandal and its implications for transparency and lobbying rules at the EU institutions. The group regretted that its proposal for a special EP committee to this end was rejected last week. (see [press release](#))

### **Tackling rising youth unemployment**

Tues. 23 Apr. – Employment committee vote

A new EU funding instrument, which is set to be included in the European Social Fund with a view to implementing the new European Youth Guarantee, will be voted on by MEPs. This Youth Employment Initiative fund, worth €6 billion, is a crucial element for realising the Youth Guarantee, which was developed by the Greens. (see [latest press release](#))

### **EU fingerprint database and civil liberties**

Weds. 24 Apr. – Civil liberties committee vote

MEPs will vote on the establishment of an EU database for fingerprints (EURODAC), which aims to facilitate comparison of the fingerprints of asylum applicants. The Greens have concerns about the proposals, notably the possibility of police authorities getting far-reaching access to the database, which flies in the face of the fundamental rights of these asylum seekers. (see [latest press release](#))

### **Emissions trading and the future of EU climate policy**

Mon. 22 Apr. – Informal council of EU environment ministers

EU environment ministers will debate the future of EU climate policy and the dramatic situation with the EU's emissions trading scheme, which is close to collapse. The failure of the EP to approve a stopgap measure aimed at preventing the collapse of the emissions trading scheme, the EU's flagship climate policy instrument, has pushed EU climate change policy to crisis point. (see [latest press release](#))

### **Rescuing EU climate policy and emissions trading**

Mon. 22 Apr. – Press conference - Room ASP 5G2 - European Parliament - 10.30

Ahead of the informal environment council, this press conference will address the implications of the vote for the emissions trading scheme and EU climate policy, and the necessary political decisions that must now be taken to rescue it.

### **Drill, baby, drill**

Tues. 23 Apr. – Film screening - Room ASP 1G3 - European Parliament - 18.30

Film about a village in a beautiful area in Poland on the border with Ukraine, which is rocked when an energy corporation pushes ahead with plans to develop a shale gas extraction plant. (click [to register](#))