

The Week Ahead 27 January – 02 February 2020

Plenary session and committee meetings, Brussels

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Brexit. Parliament is scheduled to hold its final vote in plenary on the Withdrawal Agreement on Wednesday at 18:00. To enter into force, any withdrawal agreement between the EU and the UK needs to be approved by MEPs by a simple majority of votes cast.

2020 Commission Work Programme. Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, in the presence of the college of Commissioners, will present the Commission's work programme for this year and then debate it with MEPs (*Thursday*).

International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Parliament will hold a ceremony to commemorate the liberation of the Auschwitz Nazi concentration camp 75 years ago. Liliana Segre, Italian senator for life and Auschwitz survivor, will address MEPs during the ceremony (*Wednesday*).

Common chargers. MEPs will vote on a resolution calling for measures to make common chargers a reality for consumers and reduce e-waste. According to estimates, old chargers generate more than 51 000 tonnes of electronic waste per year (*Thursday*).

Migration. The urgent humanitarian situation on Greek islands, especially that of children, will be debated with the Commission and the Council. MEPs may ask for urgent measures to ensure those affected are protected, relocated and offered family reunification (*Wednesday*).

Gender pay gap. In response to the Commission's announced proposals to close the gender pay, including legally binding pay transparency measures, MEPs will vote on their input on the matter. The resolution also winds up a debate held during January's plenary session (*Thursday*).

Western Balkans. Speakers of the parliaments of Albania, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia as well as the president of Croatia's Parliament will gather to discuss the Western Balkans' European perspectives. The summit is organised under the patronage of President Sassoli, in cooperation with the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Delegation for relations with the Western Balkans (*Tuesday*).

Redistribution of EP seats. As of 1 February, the number and distribution of seats in the Parliament changes following the UK's withdrawal from the EU. Of the UK's 73 seats, 27 will be redistributed to other countries, while the remaining 46 will be kept in reserve for potential future enlargements.

Conference of Presidents. EP President David Sassoli will chair an extraordinary Conference of Presidents on Tuesday at 10.00, where Commission President Ursula von der Leyen will present the Commission's work programme to heads of political groups.

Agenda

President's diary. EP President David Sassoli will meet UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore and UNHCR High Commissioner Filippo Grandi, on Monday. On Tuesday, Mr Sassoli will meet incoming Maltese Prime Minister Robert Abela and Federalimentare President, Ivano Vacondio, as well as open the Parliamentary Summit on the Western Balkans and host a New Year's reception. On Wednesday, he will meet the President of the Anna Lindh Foundation, Elisabeth Guigou, participate in the reception to commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day as well as a ceremony for UK MEPs. Finally, on Thursday, President Sassoli will meet European Council President Charles Michel and Commission President Ursula von der Leyen at the House of Jean Monnet in Bazoches, France to discuss the preparation for the upcoming Conference on the Future of Europe.

Press briefing. The EP Press Service will hold a press briefing on the week's activities at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, in the "Anna Politkovskaya" EP press conference room.

[EP Press service contacts](#)

Monday 27/01/2020

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's agenda

16:30 Meeting with UNICEF Executive Director, Mrs Henrietta Ford

18:00 Meeting with UNHCR High Commissioner, Mr Filippo Grandi

PRESS CONFERENCES

11:00-11:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050*

Briefing on parliamentary agenda

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

16:00-18:30 *Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2*

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs / Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Joint ECON-EMPL meeting

- Economic Dialogue and exchange of views on the Autumn Package of the 2020 European Semester (Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area, on the Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy, on the Alert Mechanism Report and on the Joint Employment Report) with:
 - Valdis DOMBROVSKIS, Executive Vice-President for An Economy that Works for People
 - Paolo GENTILONI, Commissioner for Economy
 - Nicolas SCHMIT, Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights

15:00-18:30 *Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 1G3*

Committee on Legal Affairs

- Statements by the candidates for the Chairs of the Board of Appeal of EUIPO (17.00-17.30)
- Discussion with Margrethe VESTAGER, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission with responsibility for a Europe Fit for the Digital Age (17.30-18.30)

15:00-18:30 *Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2*

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Debates

- Priorities of the Croatian Presidency of the Council of the EU - presentation by Davor BOŽINOVIĆ, Minister of the Interior and Dražen BOŠNJAKOVIĆ, Minister

Agenda

of Justice (15.00-17.00)

Joint debate on JHA Brexit related matters (17.00-18.30)

- Report on Brexit: "Refugee protection and asylum policy" of the EU Affairs Committee of the House of Lords - presentation by Lord Michael JAY, Chair of the Committee
- Family reunification post-Brexit - exchange of views with Jon FEATONBY, Policy and Advocacy Manager (Refugees and Asylum) at British Red Cross
- "No-deal Brexit preparedness concerning family reunification under Dublin III Regulation" - question for oral answer to the Commission by Claude MORAES (S&D, UK) - presentation by the Commission under Rule 138

Tuesday 28/01/2020

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's agenda

- 09:30 Meeting with the incoming Maltese Prime Minister, Mr Robert Abela
- 11:30 Meeting with the Federalimentare President, Mr Ivano Vacondio
- 14:00 Opening of Parliamentary Summit with the Western Balkans
- 18:30 President's New Year reception

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

09:00-12:30 *Brussels, József Antall, 4Q-1*

Committee on Budgetary Control

- CONT mission to the Czech Republic (26-28 February 2020) - exchange of views in preparation for the committee mission
- Follow-up on recent press reports of alleged fraud in EU agricultural funding in Italy - exchange of views with Commission and OLAF representatives

09:30-12:30 *Brussels, József Antall, 4Q2*

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Debates

- Exchange of views with the Directors of the Agencies under the EMPL remit - Presentation of the annual agencies work programmes

09:30-11:00 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 1A002*

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

- Structured dialogue with Thierry BRETON, Commissioner for Internal Market

09:00-16:30 *Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 1G3*

Committee on Legal Affairs

Debates

- Priorities of the Croatian Presidency of the Council of the EU - exchange of views **(14.30-16.00)**
- Representative actions for the protection of the collective interests of consumers (COD), reporting back to committee on the negotiations (Rule 74(3)), rapporteur Geoffroy DIDIER (EPP, FR) **(16.00-16.30)**

09:00-15:30 *Brussels, József Antall, 2Q2*

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Joint debate (09.00-10.10)

Agenda

- State-of-play on the negotiation and implementation of EU readmission agreements and arrangements - presentation by the Commission
- Conclusion of the Agreements between the European Union and Belarus on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation and on the facilitation of the issuance of visas, presentation by the Commission and consideration of draft recommendations, rapporteurs Petar VITANOV (S&D, BG) and Antony HOOK (Renew, UK)

Debates

- Electronic evidence in criminal proceedings - consideration of two draft reports, rapporteur: Birgit SIPPPEL (S&D, DE) . **(10.10- 10.50)**.
- EU Drug Markets Report 2019 - presentation by Alexis GOOSDEEL, Director and Wil van GEMERT, Deputy Executive Director of Europol, Operations Directorate **(10.50-11.50)**

Votes

- EU/Montenegro and EU/Serbia status agreements: actions carried out by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency in Montenegro and Serbia (NLE), adoption of two draft recommendations (consent), rapporteur Bettina VOLLATH (S&D, AT) **(11.50-12.00)**

Afternoon

Debate

- The future of the EU internal security and EU Internal Security Strategy - discussion with Ylva JOHANSSON, Commissioner for Home Affairs **(14.30-15.30)**

11:00-18:30 Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, 3E2

Committee on Constitutional Affairs

- Priorities of the Croatian Presidency of the Council of the EU - presentation by Nikolina BRNJAC, State Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia **(14.30-16.00)**

Wednesday 29/01/2020

PLENARY SESSION

15:00 - 18:00 Commemoration and debate

- Resumption of session
- International Holocaust Remembrance Day - 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz
[2019/2966(RSP)]

- Order of business

- *** • Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community

Report: Guy Verhofstadt (A9-0004/2020)

[2018/0427(NLE)]

[Committee on Constitutional Affairs](#)

18:00 - 18:15 VOTES (oral explanations of votes will be taken on Thursday)

- *** • Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community

Report: Guy Verhofstadt (A9-0004/2020)

[2018/0427(NLE)]

[Committee on Constitutional Affairs](#)

18:15 - 00:00 Debates (or at the end of the votes)

- Coronavirus outbreak
[2020/2511(RSP)]
- Rights of indigenous peoples
[2019/3015(RSP)]

Agenda

- **India's Citizenship (Amendment) Act 2019**
[2020/2519(RSP)]
- **Urgent humanitarian situation on Greek Islands, especially of children - ensuring protection, relocation and family reunification**
[2020/2520(RSP)]
- **EU strategy for sustainable mobility and transport: measures needed until 2030 and beyond**
[2020/2518(RSP)]
- **One-minute speeches (Rule 172)**

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's agenda

10:00 Meeting with the President of Anna Lindh Foundation, Ms Ms Elisabeth Guigou

14:00 Reception Holocaust commemoration ceremony (Yehudi Menuhin)

18:30 Ceremony for British members (Yehuid Menuhin)

PRESS CONFERENCES

10:00-10:30 *Brussels, Paul-Henri Spaak, 0A050*

“Brexodus”

Nigel FARAGE (NI, UK)

Thursday 30/01/2020

PLENARY SESSION

09:00 - 11:20 Debates

- **Commission Work Programme 2020**
[2019/2965(RSP)]
- **EU response to devastation following floods in Spain**
[2020/2537(RSP)]

11:30 - 13:30 VOTES followed by explanations of votes

- **Parliament's calendar of part-sessions – 2021**
[2020/2508(RSO)]
- **Parliament's calendar of part-sessions – 2022**
[2020/2509(RSO)]
- **Verification of credentials**
Report: Lucy Nethsingha (A9-0015/2020)
[2019/2180(REG)]
Committee on Legal Affairs
- * • **Appointment of a member of the Single Resolution Board**
Report: Irene Tinagli (A9-0009/2020)
[2020/0902(NLE)]
Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
- * • **Appointment of a member of the Single Resolution Board**
Report: Irene Tinagli (A9-0011/2020)
[2020/0903(NLE)]
Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
- * • **Appointment of the Vice-Chair of the Single Resolution Board**
Report: Irene Tinagli (A9-0010/2020)

Agenda

[2020/0904(NLE)]

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

- * • **Appointment of the Executive Director of the European Banking Authority (EBA)**

Report: Irene Tinagli (A9-0008/2020)

[2020/0901(NLE)]

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

- **Objection pursuant to Rule 111(3): Classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures - titanium dioxide**

[2019/2843(DEA)]

- **Common charger for mobile radio equipment**

[2019/2983(RSP)]

- **Gender pay gap**

[2019/2870(RSP)]

THE PRESIDENT'S DIARY

The President's agenda

Presidents' Retreat : Preparing the Future, Jean Monnet House (Bazoches)

Friday 31/01/2020

PRESS CONFERENCES

11:00-12:00

The Future of Europe: Declaration by EU Presidents Sassoli, Michel and Von der Leyen

(Parlamentarium, European Parliament)