





DEBATE ON TUESDAY 8 JUNE, VOTE ON WEDNESDAY 9 JUNE

EU Digital COVID Certificate - Juan Fernando López Aguilar MEP, the European Parliament's negotiator on the certificates, and LIBE Chair

Next week, the European Parliament will vote to make travel easier in the EU, just in time for summer, through EU Digital COVID certificates. After intense negotiations, we worked urgently to make sure these certificates can be operational from July. The certificates are good news for everyone in the EU to make sure the nightmare scenario of summer 2020 is a distant memory. After a year of patchwork responses from national governments, we want to see travel restrictions gradually lifted and free movement fully restored. It is now up to the member states to make best use of these new rules to provide certainty where people have faced complete confusion and obscurity over the past year.

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FINAL VOTE ON WEDNESDAY 9 JUNE

Meeting the Global Covid-19 challenge: effects of waiver of the WTO TRIPS agreement on Covid-19 vaccines, treatment, equipment and increasing production and manufacturing capacity in developing countries - Kathleen Van Brempt MEP, rapporteur on the resolution

In this Covid-19 pandemic, we will not be safe until everyone has access to a vaccine. There is no time to waste. We must do whatever it takes to scale up the global production capacity and ensure the access to affordable Covid-19 vaccines, diagnostics, treatments and medical equipment. That is why our group has strongly supported the call for a temporary Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) waiver. But it's not just about patents. In order to tackle this pandemic we must also strengthen the international investment in global manufacturing capacity and the production of vaccine ingredients, support the transfer of data, research and technology, and set up an effective sharing mechanism for vaccines. We want the EU to actively participate in text based negotiations at the WTO to achieve this, and urge the Commission to pursue a more visible and effective vaccine diplomacy, end export bans and act decisively to ensure that more countries, especially developing countries, are able to participate and contribute to vaccine production.

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DEBATE ON WEDNESDAY 9 JUNE, FINAL VOTE ON THURSDAY 10 JUNE

Rule of law situation in the European Union and the application of the conditionality regulation 2020/2092 - Eider Gardiazabal MEP, rapporteur on the conditionality regulation 2020/2092

On 1 January 2021, the rule of law mechanism entered into force. The Commission has had enough time to put it in place. Now it is time for action and we urge the Commission to present the first cases in the shortest delay.

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DEBATE ON MONDAY 7 JUNE, FINAL VOTE ON TUESDAY 8 JUNE

EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030: Bringing nature back into our lives - César Luena MEP, rapporteur for the EU Biodiversity strategy

Our food, our air, and our entire environment relies on biodiversity, but it's at risk because of human action. Next week, the European Parliament will vote for the report on EU's Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. The initial Commission's proposed communication was a positive step, but we succeeded to go further and improve the strategy in the environment committee. We included a call for a law on the protection and sustainable use of soil. We ensured that Europe's forests are truly part of the plan to protect and restore biodiversity. Just preventing further loss of biodiversity isn't enough, and we called for a binding target of 30% of degraded ecosystems to be restored. Last but not least, our idea of a long-term EU Action Plan on Climate and Biodiversity has been supported and included.

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DEBATE ON TUESDAY 8 JUNE, VOTE ON WEDNESDAY 9 JUNE

Systematic repression in Belarus and its consequences for European security following abduction from an EU civilian plane intercepted by Belarusian authorities - Robert Biedroń MEP, the chair of the EP delegation to Belarus

With the abduction of Raman Pratasevich following the hijacking of a commercial plane, Lukashenka's regime has shocked the entire world. But this is only one of latest examples corroborating that this regime has definitely descended into a regime of outright terror against the country's entire population. There are at least 460 political prisoners, more than 35.000 persons have been arrested or fined, thousands of cases of torture have been documented, and several persons have already been killed. This is why we insist that the international community increases the pressure on Lukashenka, and we requested this debate. S&Ds call on the Council to swiftly move ahead with decisive measures, including economic sanctions that will hurt the regime the most. At the same time, the EU must increase its assistance to civil society, independent media and the victims of repression and their families.

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S&D Group press conference
Iratxe GARCÍA PÉREZ, S&D President
Tuesday 8 June 10.15 - 10.45
Daphné Caruana Galizia room - Strasbourg - Weiss N-1/201
Webstreaming here

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