



DEBATES ON TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER
Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
Paolo de Castro, S&D coordinator for agriculture

The new CAP will allow the EU to meet the Green Deal's goals. We started in 2018 with the Hogan reform proposal which nationalised back the CAP. Thanks to S&Ds, we have avoided that risk, and shaped an ambitious balance between the social, environmental and economic dimensions of the CAP whose ultimate goal remains to increase the productivity of agriculture and the returns of the EU farmers. Thanks to our Group, the social character of this reform has been massively beefed up with the social conditionality: no more funds to those who do not respect workers' rights. The green spirit has been enforced with over the 25% of direct payments to eco-schemes and over the 35% of the Rural Development Fund will be dedicated to agro-environmental practices, like organic production. In order to deal with these new challenges on the ground, we ensured the needed meaningful participation of local and regional actors, best in place to do that.

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DEBATE ON MONDAY 22 NOVEMBER
Introduction of a European Social Security pass for improving the digital enforcement of social security rights and fair mobility
Marianne Vind, S&D member of the employment and social affairs committee

To fight fraud and social security abuse, we have since 2014 been calling on the Commission to present a European Social Security Number (ESSN) and to improve the coordination of social security systems in the EU. In the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan earlier this year, the Commission announced a pilot project with the view of establishing a European Social Security Pass. We call on the Commission to accelerate this project and step up its ambitions. To better protect mobile workers a digital instrument must be developed at a European level to ensure real-time verification of workers' places of work, places of employment, employment relationships, identity and standardised social security benefits, provisions and relevant certificates in order to ensure effective identification, traceability, aggregation and portability of social security rights. The Socialists and Democrats are also calling for a European Labour Card that would allow workers and their representatives and inspectorates to have up-to-date access to information about their employers and their wage entitlements and labour and social rights.

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DEBATE ON MONDAY 22 NOVEMBER, VOTE ON TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER
A European strategy for critical raw materials
Mohammed Chahim, S&D vice-president and S&D negotiator on the European strategy for critical raw materials

It is our duty to make sure the EU industry is not left without critical raw materials. This is crucial for our industry's competitiveness and for a successful energy transition. The report we are going to vote at the next plenary session in Strasbourg is the reaction of the European Parliament to the communication of the European Commission made more than an year ago. We, the Socialists and Democrats, are convinced technologies requiring critical raw materials will be key to achieve climate neutrality, but at the same time Europe should not replace reliance on fossil fuels with reliance on raw materials. Our group calls in the EP report to elaborate a comprehensive EU strategy for critical raw materials to be based on high environmental, social and human rights standards, also taking into account the natural scarcity of minerals.

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DEBATE ON TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER
Situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina
Tonino Picula, S&D spokesperson on foreign affairs, and the chair of the AFET Western Balkans Working Group

Bosnia and Herzegovina is in a deep political crisis, which could even lead to the country breaking apart. The leader of the Serb Bosnian entity, Milorad Dodik, in Republika Srpska is actively pushing a separatist agenda. He has not only annulled the decision to criminalise genocide denial, but also has been boycotting the federal institutions for weeks now, and laid out a detailed plan to create parallel institutions, including army. This fiercely goes against the Dayton Peace Agreement that ended the war 25 years ago. The European Union cannot remain silent, and must play a much stronger role to preserve BiH's territorial integrity and peace. In the debate on Tuesday, we will reaffirm our strong support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as its European future in the EU.

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DEBATE ON TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER

Multilateral negotiations in view of the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference in Geneva, 30 November to 3 December 2021

Bernd Lange, S&D chair of the international trade committee

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) as the bedrock of a multilateral trading system, is in dire straits. The next Ministerial Council (MC12) at the end of November is therefore very important: we need very concrete and impactful outcomes there to show that the organisation is able to respond to challenges of the 21st century. This resolution sets out a set of 4 concrete deliverables that should be achieved in Geneva: a multilateral agreement on prohibiting unsustainable fisheries subsidies, a response to the pandemic including discussions on a temporary TRIPS waiver, a limited package on agriculture as well as launching the work to reform the organisation. With this resolution the European Parliament shows strong support for multilateralism and for a successful ministerial council.

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DEBATE ON TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER

Legal migration policy and law

Cyrus Engerer, S&D negotiator on legal migration policy and law

Many EU countries have serious gaps in the labour market. Europe's population is ageing and we will not have enough workers by 2050. We need migration. In last year's Migration Pact, the Commission promised that it would come forward with legislative proposals on legal migration and in next week's plenary we will present our ambitious ideas. We are calling on the Commission to set up an admission scheme for low and medium-skilled third country workers, as well as ensuring that skills and qualifications from outside the EU are properly recognised. We also want self-employed people and entrepreneurs to have the option to come legally to the EU through an EU-wide admission scheme that lays down the conditions of entry and residence for those looking to establish businesses and start-ups.

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DEBATE ON WEDNESDAY 24 NOVEMBER

Fundamental rights and Rule of Law in Slovenia, in particular the delayed nomination of EPPO prosecutors

Birgit Sippel, S&D spokesperson on civil liberties, justice and home affairs

Six months ago, the European Parliament debated the urgent need for Member States to complete their nominations procedures for the full functioning of the European Public Prosecutor's Office. Now after dragging its feet for months, the Slovenian government is moving ahead. But the delayed appointment of the EPPO prosecutors, and now the "temporary appointments", as well as a number of public prosecutors in Slovenia, remain a concern when it comes to political interference in the judiciary. The delays risked undermining the effective prosecution of crimes in Slovenia and endangered the integrity of the EU budget. Sadly, this example of the worrying slide on rule of law in Slovenia is not the only one. Political interference in Slovenia also extends to the press, where Janša has personally attacked journalists on social media and pushed media freedom to its limits with threats of cuts to funding in the long term. The unwillingness of Prime Minister Janša to lead by example on the rule of law demonstrates that this government was never fit to chair the presidency of the European Union.

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S&D Group press conference
Iratxe GARCÍA PÉREZ, S&D President
Tuesday 23 November 10.30 to 11.00 in the Parliament's Daphne Caruana Galizia Press conference room, Strasbourg (Weiss N-1/201)

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