

PRESS CONFERENCE WITH MARTIN SCHULZ TUESDAY
AT 09H45 GTM LOW N-1/201

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EU-AGRICULTURE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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MONDAY, 19 APRIL 2010

Climate change is now an indisputable fact. Average temperatures on the planet have risen by some 0.8°C in the last 100 years. Most scientists believe that the rate of warming will increase further by the end of the 21st century owing to the build-up of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

This phenomenon has a direct impact on the Common Agricultural Policy. Even though agriculture produces some of these greenhouse gas emissions (9.3% of the total in 2007 compared to 11% in 1990), the ratio underlines the fact that agriculture can also make an active and positive contribution to efforts to alleviate global warming. This can be done within the framework of a strong CAP serving sustainable and economically viable development.



Stéphane
Le Foll

THE EU STRATEGY TOWARDS LATIN AMERICA

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TUESDAY, 20 APRIL 2010

The report, as amended, takes a comprehensive approach to the relations of the EU with Latin America, by focusing on the relevant priorities for the bi-regional strategic association, such as the promotion and defence of human rights and common values, gender equality, economic integration, fight against economic and social inequality, climate change, etc.

On the contentious point of the EU multi-party trade agreement with Andean Community, a satisfactory compromise was achieved that stressed the need for an adequate parliamentary ratification procedure to address all the issues of mutual concerns, and especially to make sure that human rights, labour rights, social and environmental standards are fully respected in these agreements.



Menéndez del
Valle Emilio

SWIFT

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WEDNESDAY, 21 - APRIL 2010

S&D Group considers the fight against terrorism to be a high priority. At the same time, we want greatly strengthened citizens' privacy and legal protection at all stages of the process, i.e. ensuring EU oversight on the processing and transfer of bank data as well as citizens' rights over their own personal data, notably rights of access, rectification, compensation and redress.

We hope the main European political Groups next week in Strasbourg will stick to these basic principles and call on the Commission to work on and negotiate with the US a fair, effective and proportionate agreement in line with these concerns.



Claude
Moraes

AVIATION SECURITY CHARGES

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MONDAY, 19 APRIL 2010

The Rapporteur has largely agreed with the Commission proposal seeking to establish the following basic principles to be respected when determining security charges: Non-discrimination - Consultation and remedy - Transparency and cost-relatedness of security charges - Establishment of a supervisory authority.

Socialists and Democrats lead the European Parliament in demanding clear and binding rules on the financing of additional security charges in aviation across the EU, making sure that the passengers are not made to pay out of their pocket yet again - we now call on the EU national governments need to swiftly agree to our proposals.



Jörg
Leichtfried



Bernhard Rapkay

POWER OF LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

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MONDAY, 19 - APRIL 2010

The Conference of Presidents charged JURI with drawing up this initiative report as there was the need for the Parliament to urgently define its position on delegated acts under the Lisbon Treaty. Article 290 of the Treaty, allows the legislator (EP and the Council) to delegate to the Commission the power to adopt non-legislative acts "delegated acts" (Article 290(3)) of general application to supplement or amend certain non-essential elements of a legislative act. The report outlines the principles and specific conditions for controlling the exercise of delegated power.

ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE: TOWARDS A EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

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MONDAY, 19 - APRIL 2010

The Commission presented a White Paper on the strategy to adopt in the European Union to adapt to climate change. The rapporteur supports the Commission proposal and presents a number of recommendations on what should be done in the different policy areas to prepare for climate change. Adaptation and 'climate-proofing' should be mainstreamed in all policy areas.

The resolution calls on the Commission : to make floods and droughts a priority , in terms of planning national civil protection, to focus on adaptation policies in water, soil, fisheries, agriculture, and coastal areas policies. It also calls on the Commission and Member States to do more on adaption in the areas of transport, infrastructure, urban environments, energy, cultural heritage and biodiversity. The Rapporteur considers that adaptation is an opportunity to create new sustainable jobs in Europe.



Vittorio Prodi

TRANSPORTABLE PRESSURE EQUIPMENT

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The report aims to bring the EU legislation on transportable pressure equipment in line with the international rules on the transport of dangerous goods. The proposal would simplify the provisions on the use of such equipment in the single market and streamline procedures for conformity assessment.

The Rapporteur supported the objectives pursued in the revised proposal. This proposal will ensure a high level of safety for transportable pressure equipment and its' users



Brian Simpon

GENERAL PROVISIONS ON THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND, THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND AND THE COHESION FUND AS REGARDS SIMPLIFICATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS AND AS REGARDS CERTAIN PROVISIONS RELATING TO FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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TUESDAY, 20 - APRIL 2010

The modifications of the Structural Funds General Regulation (EC 1083/2006) come as a response to the economic crisis and aim giving faster and easier access to EU structural funding. The rapporteur strongly defended the socialists' position on the need to speed up the flow of EU money to beneficiaries and to simplify the structural funds' implementing rules. "Anti-crisis" measures such as the increased advance payments for countries worst hit by the crisis and more flexible spending rule (decommitment rule) for 2007 funds for all member States are clear demonstration of solidarity. These important measures will enable investments in projects that create jobs and help workers to adapt to economic change. The socialists fully support a quick entering into force of the amended Regulation in order its positive effects to be experienced before the crisis is over.



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