

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

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## EUROPE 2020 ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE

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WEDNESDAY, 16 - JUNE 2010

The Commission, in its proposals on European economic governance, has not come forward with solutions for a more targeted economic policy coordination geared towards the development of a common budgetary strategy in the framework of a comprehensive Europe 2020 strategy in order to restore and enforce long term economic growth rates. S&D group considers that achieving sustainable public finances requires not just responsible spending, but also adequate and fair taxation, a more effective collection of taxes by the national tax authorities and a more intensive fight against tax evasion.



Martin Schulz

## NEW EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR JOBS AND GROWTH

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WEDNESDAY, 16 - JUNE 2010

S&D group urges the European Council to draw lessons from the current crisis and to define a truly far-sighted, ambitious and coherent strategy. The group regrets that the European Council conclusions do not take into account that the fragile recovery process now underway must be fully reflected in a new 2020 strategy, by formulating a coherent policy agenda and fully integrating macroeconomic policy into the strategy, to ensure that necessary budgetary consolidation will not undermine the strategy.



Udo Bullmann

## FOOD INFORMATION TO CONSUMERS

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TUESDAY, 15 - JUNE 2010

We want people to have as much precise information as possible about what is in their food. We do not say food is good or bad: we simply want people to have the information they need to make informed choices. We want people to be able to trust health and nutrition claims and we want to make sure they are not misled into buying products that are less healthy than they appear to be. We want foods clearly labelled with their calories, sugar, salt, fat and saturated fat.



Glenis Willmott

## INTERNET OF THINGS

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MONDAY, 14 - JUNE 2010

The growth of the Internet is an ongoing process. One major next step in this development is to evolve from a network of interconnected computers to a network of interconnected objects, from books to cars, from electrical appliances to food, and thus create an 'Internet of things' (IoT). The 'Internet of Things' (IoT) drastically modifies the way our societies function. Benefits range from addressing the challenges of ageing society to the fight against climate change. Close monitoring of impacts on health, consumer privacy and data protection are needed.



Maria Badia i Cutchet

## FINANCING INSTRUMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

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WEDNESDAY, 16 - JUNE 2010

S&D group considers that more accountability and transparency in the financing of measures will contribute to the legitimacy of the EU's external policy. We are talking about significant sums, which are spent on the basis of regulations which leave a considerable margin of manoeuvre to the Commission. Citizens have to be convinced that our money is spent effectively and in line with their interests, this can only be done by involving Parliament and Council in the decision-making process. We believe that increasing democratic legitimacy is also in the interest of the other institutions, as it will help to sustain citizens' support of our external activities.



Thijs Berman



## ISRAELI MILITARY OPERATION AGAINST THE HUMANITARIAN FLOTILLA AND THE GAZA BLOCKADE

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WEDNESDAY, 16 - JUNE 2010

S&D group condemns the attack against the humanitarian flotilla in international waters on 31 May 2010, and calls for a prompt, international and impartial inquiry into this attack. The group urges Israel to immediately and permanently end the siege on Gaza that has resulted in a humanitarian disaster and increasing radicalisation, which becomes a source of insecurity for Israel and the whole region. S&D group urges the Council to take steps to convene without any delay the EU-Israel Association Council in order to discuss the current situation in the light of EU-Israel relations.



Adrian Severin

## CONCLUSIONS ON THE EU/RUSSIA SUMMIT

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WEDNESDAY, 16 - JUNE 2010

The recent EU-Russia rapprochement reflects recognition on both sides of the need to adjust to an increasingly multipolar world. Both sides realize that they need to cooperate more closely in order to be better able to address global issues. Realism and effectiveness are the keys for promoting a common European approach to relations with Russia. It is important that the EU shows solidarity in its relations and bases them on common values and mutual interests. Russia remains an important partner for the purpose of building strategic cooperation, with which the EU shares not only economic interests but also the objective of close cooperation in the international arena.



Zita Gurmai

## ASSESSMENT OF THE RESULTS OF THE 2006-2010 ROADMAP FOR EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN AND FORWARD LOOKING RECOMMENDATIONS

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TUESDAY, 15 - JUNE 2010

The 2006-2010 Roadmap for equality is due to expire this year and the Commission has announced that it will draw up a new strategy in the autumn. The current strategy has served to highlight some key aspects of gender equality but has lacked the political force to translate it into practice. Beside that, there has been an inconsistency in the Community policies which has resulted in a situation where more than 85 million people, mostly women and children, have been reduced to poverty by a combination of unemployment, casual labour with a gender pay gap above 17%, low wages, pensions between minimum subsistence level and the difficulties of obtaining access to public services. Violence against women is continuing and trafficking has expanded. Women are also often exposed to multiple discrimination because of their sex, their age, disability, ethnic background and religion.



Stephen Hughes

## THE ORGANISATION OF THE WORKING TIME OF PERSONS PERFORMING MOBILE ROAD TRANSPORT ACTIVITIES

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TUESDAY, 15 - JUNE 2010

Having made a 180° turn in its position, the Commission proposal aims at excluding self-employed drivers from the scope of the road transport working time directive 15/2002.

Their exclusion would create a double regime in working time and insecurity on European roads. If not included, self-employed drivers could work up to 86 hours a week including heavy physical work such as loading, unloading, vehicle maintenance, etc.

All workers performing mobile transport on our roads must have limited working hours! Allowing some of them to work up to 86 hours a week would create insecurity on our roads and would lead to unfair competition in the transport sector! We must stop the Commission proposal.

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