

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

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HUMAN RIGHTS AND JUSTICE IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

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WEDNESDAY, 22 - SEPTEMBER 2010



Véronique
De Keyser

S&D group underline the need for an immediate end to the violence and human rights abuses in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). It stresses the need for further efforts to put an end to the activity of local and foreign armed groups in the east of the DRC. The group strongly condemns the mass rape and other human rights violations which took place between July 30 and August 3 on at least 500 women in Nord Kivu province by the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), a Hutu rebel group and the Mai Mai militia.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EC AND PAKISTAN ON READMISSION

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MONDAY 20 - SEPTEMBER 2010



Sylvie
Guillaume

Since the Lisbon Treaty's entry into force, Parliament has to give its assent in order for agreements of this type to be struck. The S&D group has declared its opposition to the conclusion of this agreement, primarily owing to the fact that Pakistan is not offering sufficient guarantees in relation to fundamental rights, nor has it signed the Geneva Convention. The Greens and the GUE Group have also come out against this agreement's conclusion for the same reasons. An oral question to the Commission, submitted by the three groups (S&D, Greens and GUE), will be examined at the same time as the debate on the Sógor report. This oral question will make it possible to widen the debate to include questions raised by EU readmission agreements with third countries.

EUROPEAN SECURITIES AND MARKETS AUTHORITY

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WEDNESDAY, 22 - SEPTEMBER 2010



Gianni
Pittella

The setting-up of this new European authority (ESMA) is based on the observation, so bitterly highlighted during the crisis, that simple coordination between national supervisory authorities, whose jurisdiction stops at the borders of their respective member states, is not enough to control the financial institutions which view the internal market as a true area without borders. A Europe-wide authority should be set up to oversee national market supervisory bodies and an effective tool introduced to establish harmonised technical norms on financial services, in order to guarantee the existence of an adequate framework as well as protection for investors and consumers in the EU. The setting-up of the ESMA marks a European response to the need for Europe-wide prudential control and provides the counterpoint to the internal market in financial services.

ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IN THE INTERNAL MARKET FUND (EGAF)

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MONDAY, 20 - SEPTEMBER 2010



Françoise
Castex

Our red lines regarding the report have been:

- Deletion of the word "piracy"
- Making a distinction between how commercial and non-commercial file-sharing is dealt with
- Guaranteeing Net Neutrality, protection of personal data and other fundamental rights
- Saying NO to the three strikes law (Hadopi) to be introduced Europe-wide
- Ensuring judicial redress and that the tasks of police forces and judges will not be handed out to private actors
- Opposing non-judicial measures of enforcing copyrights
- Calling the European Commission to study alternative business models
- Ensuring that ACTA does not contravene the EU acquis and fundamental rights

TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH TURKEY



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MONDAY, 20 - SEPTEMBER 2010

The customs union between Turkey and the EU has been operational since 1996. Between 1996 and 2001 tariffs and quantitative restrictions on trade between Turkey and the EU were gradually removed. Moreover, Turkey aligned its trade policies with the EU vis-à-vis third countries and started to implement common standards, rules and regulations. The aim of the customs union was seen as a step to a full membership which was the ultimate goal. Turkey was officially recognised, in December 1999, as an EU candidate for accession country. Turkey started its membership negotiations with the EU in October 2005. Negotiations have been opened on twelve chapters.

MACRO-PRUDENTIAL OVERSIGHT OF THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A EUROPEAN SYSTEMIC RISK BOARD



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The European Commission has proposed a regulation, following the report of February 2009 produced by the working group chaired by Jacques de Larosière, to set up a new body known as the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB). The new body, under the auspices of the European Central Bank, will perform macroeconomic surveillance duties. The creation of this European Systemic Risk Board comes in response to the financial, economic and social crisis which swept through the European Union. Its aim will be to guarantee proper macroeconomic prudential surveillance and thwart further crises.

PHARMACOVIGILANCE OF MEDICINAL PRODUCTS (AMENDMENT OF REGULATION (EC) NO 726/2004)



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TUESDAY, 21 - SEPTEMBER 2010

The pharmacovigilance legislation (Regulation and Directive) sets out the rules and procedures for monitoring the safety profile of medicinal products once they have been authorised and placed on the market. Following the first-reading vote in Committee on 27th April, the Shadow Rapporteurs unanimously decided to enter into first-reading negotiations with the Council. During the trilogues, Council has taken on a number of the Environment Committee's amendments on board - amongst them amendments from S&D colleagues. The final package was agreed by the shadows on 22nd June, and was approved in Coreper on 23rd June. This deal will help build a strong, efficient and transparent pharmacovigilance system in Europe.

INVESTIGATION AND PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS IN CIVIL AVIATION



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MONDAY, 20 - SEPTEMBER 2010

The main improvement contained in this report is the facilitation of prompt accident investigations and their independence from regulatory or judicial authorities, while limiting the disclosure of sensitive information. The EU's capacity in accident investigations was strengthened with the establishment of a European Network of Civil Aviation Safety Investigation Authorities ensuring greater structured cooperation between national safety investigation authorities. The "advisory" role of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) in accident investigation as advisors under the control of the national investigator in charge was confirmed.

SECURITY OF GAS SUPPLY



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TUESDAY, 21 - SEPTEMBER 2010

After long and difficult negotiations, the EP reached an agreement on first reading with the Spanish Presidency. The proposal for a regulation seeks to offer solutions to the problems identified, such as the lack of coordination between member states or the inadequate definition of the obligations of the various responsible parties.

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