

Article – Plenary highlights: Commission changes, EU budget and climate law



On Wednesday, [Parliament approved the appointment](#) of Mairead McGuinness as commissioner for financial services, financial stability and the Capital Markets Union as well as Executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis' change of portfolio to include responsibility for trade.

MEPs called on Wednesday for [reinforcement of the rule of law](#) across Europe through a new mechanism linking receipt of EU funds by a member state to respect for the rule of law. In a separate vote, they called for EU values to be fully and unconditionally respected in [Bulgaria](#).

All EU countries must become climate neutral by 2050, MEPs said in a vote on the [EU climate law](#). Parliament also called for a 2030 emissions reduction target of 60% (compared to 1990 levels) and an interim target for 2040 to ensure the Union is on track to reach its mid-century goal of climate neutrality. In a separate vote, MEPs called for the EU to promote [forest management](#) models that ensure forests are environmentally and economically sustainable.

Members also discussed [Brexit and the economic recovery](#) in a debate with Council President Charles Michel on last week's EU summit and the upcoming one on 15-16 October.

On Thursday, MEPs called for EU countries to take stronger action to counter the impact of the [Covid-19 crisis on young people](#) by ensuring that those who

register for the Youth Guarantee schemes are offered “good-quality, varied and tailored jobs, training or internships”.

Regarding Brexit, MEPs endorsed two proposals on Thursday concerning the [Channel Tunnel](#) with the goal of maintaining the same set of rules governing the whole railway tunnel once the UK has the status of a third country.

This week’s plenary also approved a deal struck with the Council on common rules to boost EU [crowdfunding platforms](#) and protect investors. The new single set of rules aims to help crowdfunding services function smoothly across the internal market and to foster cross-border business funding.

On Thursday, with public health in mind, MEPs objected Commission proposals on [food products](#) containing titanium dioxide and acrylamide.

[*Click here to see what MEPs have to say about the issues on Parliament’s agenda this week.*](#)