

Article – Plenary highlights: Covid-19 recovery, vaccines, circular economy



Covid recovery

On Tuesday, [MEPs approved the Recovery and Resilience Facility](#), designed to help EU countries [recover from the Covid-19 pandemic](#).

The impact of Covid-19 on young people and sport

MEPs called on the Commission and EU countries to do more to prevent the [pandemic affecting young people and the sports sector](#) in a report adopted on Wednesday.

Vaccinations

In a debate on Wednesday, MEPs said the EU should take measures to boost the [production of vaccines](#).

Relief measures for aviation sector

To support the transport sector during the coronavirus crisis, MEPs agreed to extend [rules for the use of airport slots](#) to prevent empty flights and prolonged the validity of some licences used in the transport sector on Wednesday.

Circular Economy Action Plan

The Parliament called for tighter recycling rules and [binding 2030 targets for materials use and consumption](#) in a resolution adopted on 9 February 2021. The report represents Parliament feels should be included in the European Commission's proposed Circular Economy Action Plan to [achieve a circular economy by 2050](#).

Reducing inequalities

On Tuesday, MEPs called for a minimum wage, equal labour conditions for platform workers and a better work-life balance in order to [fight inequality and in-work poverty](#).

Human trafficking

In a report adopted on Tuesday, MEPs called on the EU to [step up the fight against human trafficking](#) and strengthen protection for victims.

Social media and democracy debate

On Wednesday, MEPs called on the EU to [regulate social media](#) to protect freedom of expression while limiting harmful content.

Russia

On Tuesday, MEPs hit out at the Council for failing to adequately react to [Russia's aggressive policies](#) and criticised EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell for his recent visit to Moscow.

Myanmar

On Thursday MEPs called for [democracy in Myanmar to be restored](#) and demanded the unconditional release of all those illegally arrested followed Sunday's military coup.

Abortion ban in Poland

In a debate on Tuesday morning, MEPs condemned the rollback on abortion rights in Poland following the entry into force of the Constitutional Tribunal's ruling.