

[Press release – Croatian Presidency priorities discussed in the European Parliament](#)



Under the motto “A Strong Europe in a World of Challenges”, the Croatian presidency intends to provide pertinent answers to European citizens’ concerns, stressed Prime Minister Plenković in his [speech](#) presenting the four main priorities of this presidency: a Europe that is developing, that connects, that protects and that is influential.

The work of the Croatian presidency will be focussed on an agreement on the new Multiannual Financial Framework, the orderly withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union, organising the EU-Western Balkans summit in May and preparing the Conference on the Future of Europe, he said.

Commission [President Ursula von der Leyen stressed](#) that, in order to move forward, it is important for the EU to have a new budget that is balanced and fair, but also modern.

MEPs supported the Croatian presidency’s plans, with some of them expressing concerns about the treatment of migrants on the Croatian-Bosnian border. “Regarding migration, we look forward to the new initiatives on the Dublin package. We must finally create a balance between responsibility and solidarity”, replied Croatian Prime Minister.

Catch up with the debate by VOD

Video recording of Mr Plenković's speech

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/vod.html?mode=unit&vodLanguage=EN&vodId=1578989519930&date=20200114#>

Video recording of Ursula von der Leyen's speech

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/vod.html?mode=unit&vodLanguage=EN&vodId=1578990633334&date=20200114#>

Press Conference held by Croatian Prime Minister Plenković, EP president Sassoli, Commission president von der Leyen

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/ep-live/en/other-events/video?event=20200114-1200-SPECIAL-PRESSER>