

## Press release – EP Today



### **Pre-plenary press briefing at 15.00**

Parliament and political group spokespersons will hold a press briefing on this week's plenary session at 15.00. More information [here](#).

### **Opening of the session**

EP President David Sassoli will open the remote plenary session from the Strasbourg hemicycle on Monday at 17.00, preceded by a press point at 16.00. More information [here](#).

Live coverage of debates and votes can be found on [Parliament's webstreaming](#) and on [EbS+](#).

For detailed information on the session, please also see our [newsletter](#).

All information regarding plenary, including speakers' lists, can be found [here](#).

### **EU budget 2021**

Following the European Council's breakthrough on the long-term budget and recovery package, MEPs will debate the 2021 EU budget at around 17.15, after the session has been opened, and vote on it on Friday morning. The debate and vote on the long-term budget 2021-2027 will take place on Wednesday.

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### **Asylum requests and return of migrants**

In the early evening, MEPs will briefly debate the effectiveness and

implementation of the EU's laws on asylum requests and the return of migrants. They are set to call for more solidarity among member states, more financial resources for countries in which many people arrive, better family reunification and more funds to ensure swift and fair procedures. The votes on the two reports will take place on Wednesday evening, with results announced on Thursday morning.

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### **European Citizens' Initiative promoting diversity**

Parliament will discuss the "Minority Safepack" proposals put forward by more than 1.1 million Europeans. The initiative proposes nine actions that the EU could take to protect people belonging to national and linguistic minorities in the EU, and to strengthen cultural and linguistic diversity. A resolution will be put to the vote on Thursday.

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### **In brief**

**Sustainability.** MEPs will briefly debate how companies can better align their financial interests with their long-term impact on society and the environment. A report will be put to the vote on Thursday.

**Rescue plan for SMEs.** MEPs will discuss measures to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which have been hit hardest by the COVID-19 crisis. A resolution will be put to the vote in Wednesday.

### **Votes**

The voting session lasts from 18.30-19.45, and results will be announced on Tuesday morning at 8:45.

Among other things, MEPs will vote on

- the nomination of Polish candidate Marek Opiola to the European Court of Auditors. The EP Budgetary Control Committee has recommended that his candidacy should not be endorsed;
- temporary measures to keep the Eurotunnel running after the end of the transition period (final vote on Thursday).