

Press release – Opening – January plenary session



Describing Alexei Navalny's detention on his return to Moscow yesterday as a violation of human rights, President Sassoli underlined that all MEPs support his release.

The President also paid tribute to Lithuanian citizens who defended their independence and freedom thirty years ago on 13 January 1991, when Soviet tanks attacked the Vilnius television tower.

Outgoing MEPs

Cristian Ghinea (Renew, Romania) as of 22 December 2020

Kris Peeters (EPP, Belgium) as of 11 January 2021

Incoming MEPs

Erno Schaller-Baross (EPP, HU) as of 10 January 2021

Alin Mituta (Renew, Romania) as of 28 December 2020

Changes to the agenda

Tuesday

There will be a statement by the EU Foreign Policy Chief Josep Borrell on the arrest of Alexei Navalny as the first item in the afternoon. The debate will be wound up with a resolution.

The sitting is extended to 20.00.

Wednesday

The Council and Commission statements on the inauguration of the new President of the United States and the current political situation are changed into European Council and Commission statements.

The information concerning the distribution of votes is available on the website of the European Parliament under the section "[Priority information](#)".

The changes to the agenda with timing of votes can be found [here](#).

Requests by committees to start negotiations with Council and Commission

Decisions by committees to enter into inter-institutional negotiations (Rule 71) are published [on the plenary website](#).

If no request for a vote in Parliament on the decision to enter into negotiations is made by Tuesday 12.00 midnight, the committees may start negotiations.

Information on the extraordinary remote participation procedure is available [here](#).