



Strasbourg Flash

Plenary Session Priorities 16-19 June 2008

Waste directive: a wasted opportunity?

Debate Monday, 16 June

Revising the existing 1975 waste framework directive offers a valuable opportunity to support a recycling society and to combat climate change. Yet latest proposals have dropped concrete deliverables for what are claimed as being top priorities: stabilising waste by 2012 and setting binding targets for recycling. The proposed studies and non-binding targets are entirely inadequate.

Meanwhile clear support is shown for incinerators, many of which will now be greenwashed as "recovery". Such an approach will not address the root cause of our ever increasing waste.

Returns directive: an unacceptable compromise

Debate Tuesday, 17 June

The so-called "negotiated compromise" from the Council offers a poor basis for a sound directive on returns. Conditions for detention must be specified, and detention periods must not exceed three months.

It is unacceptable to return people to a country of transit unless all parties agree, yet Council seeks to extend the possibility (e.g. in the re-admission agreement) for member states to do this forcibly. Greens are also firmly against the practice of detaining or forcibly returning unaccompanied minors.

Electricity market: who has the power?

Debate Tuesday, 17 June

French and German companies have a stranglehold of European grids and pipelines. Since the same energy giants control distribution, it is no surprise that their profits are growing while customers' bills are rising. This situation is also stifling an increase of renewables contribution to the energy mix.

The proposed "third way" compromise on unbundling networks and production plays into the hands of the energy oligarchy. Only full ownership unbundling will enable the emergence of a truly European grid to the benefit of consumers.

Press conference Returns Directive

with Helene Flautre, Jean Lambert, Kathalijne Buitenweg, Pierre Jonckheer
Tue. 7 June 16.00
Press Conference Room

Briefing with Greens/EFA Co-Presidents

Daniel Cohn-Bendit and Monica Frassoni

Tuesday 17 June, 10.20-10.40,
Press Conference Room

Conference What is happening in Turkey?

with Daniel Cohn-Bendit
and Joost Lagendijk
Wed. 18 June 16.30-18.30
Room S2.2, LOW Building

Worth watching - Parliamentary reports, debates and resolutions

Monday, 16 June 2008

- Report: Waste Framework Directive (Jackson)
- Report: EU exploitation of biological resources in West Africa (Frithjof Schmidt, Greens-EFA)
- Hearing for Commissioners Barrot and Tajani

Tuesday, 17 June 2008

- Report: Returns Directive (Weber)
- Report: European electricity market (Morgan)
- Debate: Chlorinated chicken

Wednesday, 18 June 2008

- Council and Commission statements: preparation of the European Council
- Council and Commission statements: measures against oil price rises
- Council and Commission statements: preparation of the EU-Russia summit

Thursday, 22 May 2008

- Debates on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

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