

Oireachtas Digest on Europe

Week: 9 to 15 September 2024 | Ref: 31-24



European Parliament Coming Week Highlights Committee Meetings

European elections and new Commission. President of the Commission von der Leyen will discuss with the suggested structure and portfolios of the college of Commissioners with Parliament's Conference of Presidents (President Metsola and political groups' leaders). This meeting will pave the way for opening the evaluation process, including the confirmation hearings, once Parliament receives all the necessary documentation (Wednesday).

Digital Services Act (DSA). Members of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee will continue to scrutinise the implementation of the DSA. In addition to the re-establishment of the working group on the DSA, MEPs will discuss with the Commission the formal proceedings against X, TikTok, AliExpress, Facebook and Instagram and whether to expect an inquiry into Telegram, in light of the latest developments. Internal Market Commissioner Breton has been invited to the meeting (Thursday).

Plenary preparations. Political groups will prepare for the 16-19 September plenary session, where MEPs are expected to discuss the programme for Hungary's six-month Council Presidency that started on 1 July 2024. They will also lay out their position and demands for the EU's 2025 budget, discuss various foreign affairs topics and decide on the appointments to Parliament's interparliamentary delegations. The final plenary draft agenda will be agreed upon by the Conference of Presidents on Wednesday.

President's diary. EP President Roberta Metsola will meet Finland's Prime Minister Petteri Orpo, on Tuesday.

Link to all committee meetings here

European Commission Coming Week Highlights 9th-15th September 2024			
10 September 2024	Valdis Dombrovskis, together with Mairead McGuinness, participates in the High- Level Executive Roundtable 'Preventing the circumvention of EU sanctions on sensitive goods', organised by the European Commission.		
12 September 2024	Věra Jourová meets with representatives of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), the European Endowment for Democracy (EED), the European Partnership for Democracy (EPD), the Open Government Partnership (OGP), and the European Network of Political Foundations (ENOP).		

12 September 2024	Helena Dalli delivers an online keynote speech at the Women in Law Conference.	
13 September 2024	President Ursula von der Leyen to deliver a keynote speech at the <u>Digital-Life-Design (DLD) Nature Conference</u> in Munich, Germany.	
13 September 2024	Nicolas Schmit attends the G7 Meeting on Labour and Employment in Cagliari, Italy.	

Link to Commission's weekly calendar <u>here</u>

European Council and Council of the European Union Coming Week Highlights				
8-10 September 2024	Informal meeting of agriculture and fisheries ministers			
13-14 September 2024	Informal meeting of economic and financial affairs ministers			

No meetings of the European Council are scheduled before 23rd September. Link <u>here</u>.

Link to CORPER Meeting Calendar <u>here</u>



Highlights Week 2 to 8 September 2024

European Parliament. Highlights Week 2 to 8 September 2024.

No Committee reports this week.



Final Report of the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of EU Agriculture.

4th September: President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen received the final report of the **Strategic Dialogue on the Future of EU Agriculture**, delivered by the group's chair, Professor Peter Strohschneider. entitled "A shared prospect for farming and food in Europe", the report presents an assessment of challenges and opportunities, followed by a set of recommendations. These suggestions will guide the work of the European Commission when shaping its Vision for Agriculture and Food, to be delivered in the first 100 days of President von der Leyen's second mandate.

Link to Commission statement here

Link to the Strategic Dialogue here.

Link to the European Commission President's Statement here

Evaluation of the EU Anti-Trust Enforcement Regulations.

5th September: The European Commission launched an evaluation of the EU Anti-Trust Enforcement Regulations in March 2022 to assess whether they remain fit for purpose after more than 20 years of antitrust enforcement. The main findings have been released.

Link to Commission finding and preliminary evaluation <u>here</u>

Question and Answers about this evaluation are contained here.

European Council and Council of the European Union Highlights Week 2nd to 8th September 2024

Informal meeting of the General Affairs Council, 2-3 September.

Link to Council report here.

Informal meeting of the ministers responsible for cohesion policy, 5-6 September.

Link to Council report <u>here</u>.

European Court of Auditors Highlights Week 2nd to 8th September 2024

The EU's industrial policy on renewable hydrogen.

4th September: the European Court of Auditors (ECA) invites contributions to a survey on its special report 11/2024: <u>The EU's industrial policy on renewable hydrogen</u> – Legal framework has been mostly adopted – time for a reality check'. The survey is linked <u>here</u>.

The EU's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

4th September: the European Court of Auditors undertook a review of the EU's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically in the context of responses by EU medical agencies. The review of linked here.

COVID-19 recovery money trickles more slowly than planned into the real economy.

2nd September: the European Court of Auditors' report indicates that the COVID recovery money trickles more slowly than planned into the real economy. The details of the report can be accessed <u>here</u>

European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

Link to European Committee of the Regions Home Page here
Link to European Committee of the Regions News Page here

Inter-parliamentary meetings and conferences during the Parliamentary Dimension of the Hungarian Presidency 2nd Semester - 1st July - 31 December 2024

Version 10 May 24

Date	Meeting	Host	Location
9-10 September	Inter-Parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy (IPC on CFSP/CSDP)		Budapest
3-4 October	Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU (IPC on SECG)		Budapest
27-29 October	LXXII. COSAC Plenary		Budapest
11-12 November	Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol (JPSG on Europol)		EP/Brussels
4 - 5 December	Conference on the topic of cultural heritage and the identity of national communities (Budapest)		Budapest
9 - 10 February	Meeting of the Secretaries General of the European Union Parliaments (EUSG)		Budapest
11 - 13 May 2025	Conference of the Speakers of European Union Parliaments (EUSC)		Budapest

Sources: Websites of: European Parliament European Commission, European Council and Council of the European Union Council, European Court of Auditors and European Ombudsman.