

PLENARY BOOKLET

Identity and Democracy



13 – 16 DECEMBER

PLENARY SESSION

2021

RESPECTING DIVERSITY DOES NOT MEAN ERASING OUR IDENTITY AND TRADITIONS

MARCO ZANNI, President ID Group



At a time when the EU is caught between an economic and energy crisis and the management of border threats, the Commission puts among its priorities the so-called guidelines on inclusiveness. Wanting to ensure respect for differences in gender, ethnicity, race, religion, disability, and sexual orientation is a good thing and reflects a value that already unites all the political formations in the European Parliament.

It is a pity that what should be a proposal to raise awareness addressed to all and free from exploitation, is turning into yet another race to erase identities and traditions and into a dangerous weapon capable of weakening, even more, the weight of our roots and the importance of our history.

We have seen this with the initiative on the abolition of the term "Christmas", to be replaced with the word "festivity" so as not to offend those who do not belong to the Christian religion; and again with the suggestion to replace "typical" names of a specific religion, such as "Mary" and "John", with more inclusive ones.

Two indications on which, also thanks to the intervention of our Group, the Brussels offices have backtracked. Respecting diversity cannot mean erasing ourselves.

If the EU, after having asked the States to give up their sovereignty, wants to ask us also to give up our identity, it will always find us on the same side: firmly aligned in defense of Christian values and of our history.



**Respecting
diversity
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erasing
ourselves.**



Marco Zanni, President ID Group, Italian delegation - LEGA PER SALVINI PREMIER

RULE OF LAW: IT'S NOW SLOVENIA'S TURN!

Nicolas BAY, 1st Vice-President ID Group



This week, Slovenia will be attacked in the name of the rule of law. Poland will also have its trial-debate, as usual, but for once without a resolution. It is Ljubljana that is now worrying our Parliament. But why?

In mid-October, the European Parliament sent a mission to Ljubljana to investigate alleged breaches of the rule of law. Sophie In 't Veld acknowledged at the end of this trip that 'the institutions are working well'... but that 'the tone of the public debate' was still an issue! And this is, of course, the fault of the government, which is attacked daily by the militant left-wing press and some Slovenian judges.

Are the media and judges absolutely untouchable, uncriticizable? Would they be pure and perfect beings made out of light, without the slightest political ulterior motive, authorised to intervene in the public debate without the possibility of responding to them? When he is the victim of slander, Prime Minister Janša answers. There is nothing else, and it is his right.

Let us stop this crude instrumentalisation of the concept of the rule of law, used to the point of disgust, to destabilise governments not aligned with the whims of Brussels.



Nicolas Bay, 1st Vice-President ID Group,
French delegation - Rassemblement
National



NICARAGUA: A REGIME THAT PROTECTS TERRORISTS AND IS HOSTILE TO THE WEST

Marco CAMPOMENOSI, Italian Delegation



As Lega, we have been severely critical about Nicaragua's regime for years, and today our concerns and condemnations are stronger than ever.

Indeed, we believe that the EU should firmly condemn the recent decision taken by Nicaragua to terminate any diplomatic relation with Taiwan and recognise de facto China's illiberal ambitions on such area.


We are not surprised that the regime of Nicaragua is willing to strengthen its relationship with China, since both countries are constantly violating human rights and suffocating the claims coming from the internal opposition, as well as from NGOs and other independent bodies.

Every time the European Parliament discusses the situation in the referred country, we, as members of Lega, seek to contribute to the debate bringing up the discussion of the case of Alessio Casimirri.

He is a former member of the Italian terroristic group known as "Red Brigades", who, back in 1978, kidnapped and murdered the Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro together with his security guards.

Today Casimirri is living as a fugitive in Nicaragua, protected by the country's authorities who have denied his extradition to Italy where he must serve six definitive life sentences.

The EU needs to counteract, stand to its so-called European values and finally develop a strong position towards Nicaragua!



Nicaragua: a regime that protects terrorists and is hostile to the West.



Marco Campomenosi, Head of Italian delegation - LEGA PER SALVINI PREMIER

FRANCE'S INTERESTS THREATENED BY THE MIKSER REPORT

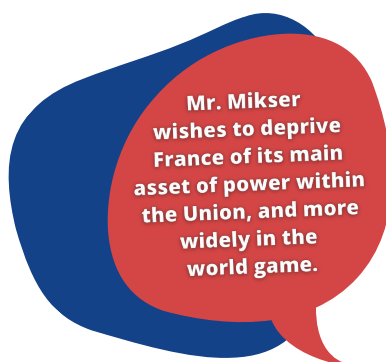
Jérôme RIVIÈRE, French Delegation



During this plenary session, the European deputies have to vote on a report presented by the Estonian socialist deputy Sven Mikser, about the control of weapons of mass destruction. This text, as is often the case with European reports, starts with the laudable intention of reducing the number and power of weapons of mass destruction in Europe and in the world.

But behind this intention lies the real struggle for European hegemony, and the diminution of France's military primacy. Indeed, France, since the Brexit, is the only power in the European Union to possess nuclear weapons, and equipped with an army worthy of the name. By expressly asking for the end of the nuclear weapon, Mr. Mikser wishes to deprive France of its main asset of power within the Union, and more widely in the world game.

More broadly, it is the submission to a foreign policy decided by Brussels, which is at the disposal of the United States, that this text wishes to promote. Far from our ideal of the sovereignty of nations and the greatness of France, the European Union is following its own agenda, pushed in this direction by the utopias of French President Emmanuel Macron, the true gravedigger of French power.



**Mr. Mikser
wishes to deprive
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world game.**



Jérôme Rivière, Head of French
delegation - Rassemblement National

THE RRF IS A BLACKMAIL SCHEME



Gerolf ANNEMANS, Flemish Delegation

This week the Council and the Commission will report to the European Parliament on the state of play of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) which should ease the social impact of the Covid pandemic and help the economy in the EU back on its feet again.

However, the RRF is largely fictitious (because it is fueled by loans and money created by the ECB), it confirms the image of a transfer union and its distribution and spending is not very transparent. Governments invest in themselves, from the renovation of public buildings to the construction of bicycle paths, rather than in the real economy or the health system, thus the initial set-up of a Corona recovery fund.

The RRF has also become a political tool. 'Well behaved' Member States - such as Belgium - can call on it almost unconditionally, 'naughty' Member States - such as Poland - are put in the waiting room with funds being held up as a carrot. It's a blackmail scheme.

In Belgium the money is used for the digitization of justice and intelligence services, in which the government has failed to invest for decades. We may find it strange that covid recovery money is not used for economic recovery, but for this type of investments in a failed state.



We may find it strange that Covid recovery money is not used for economic recovery.



Gerolf Annemans, Head of Flemish delegation - Vlaams Belang

NO ACCESSION AT ANY PRICE



Harald VILIMSKY, Austrian Delegation

The Western Balkans naturally have a special significance for Austria from a historical but also from a current perspective. Nevertheless, we are very critical of the EU's current engagement in these countries, which is working towards the quickest and smoothest possible accession.

The EU's enlargement policy, especially in the Western Balkans, is like a promise that as soon as the accession negotiations start or EU accession is completed in these countries, all the problems that have plagued these countries for decades will more or less disappear.

This is exactly what the report on combating organised crime in the Western Balkans, which will be voted on in the EU Parliament this week, reflects. Admittedly, the report does have noble intentions, such as the fight against corruption, drug trafficking and illegal arms dealing.

Nevertheless, the accelerated accession process of all countries is presented as a panacea and processes are to be set in motion, which, especially in my home country Austria, the citizens see very critically.

One of these is the visa liberalisation of Kosovo, which in my opinion would be fatal from a security policy point of view.

We share the majority opinion of the Austrians that the countries of the Western Balkans are not ready for accession and in this respect, we want to continue to tie the enlargement process to the Copenhagen criteria.

Furthermore, within the framework of our political mandate from our voters and in the interest of Austria, we will of course try to put the brakes on the accelerated approach to EU accession of countries like Kosovo or Albania. We want to point out that if you falsely call countries like Kosovo the "Silicon Valley of Europe", you are committing a gross denial of reality.

We want an approach that is close to reality, without geopolitical banter or whitewashing.



Harald Vilimsky, Head of Austrian Delegation - Freiheitliche Partei Österreich

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE – EXCLUDING SANTA CLAUS?

Laura HUHTASAARI, Finnish Delegation



Some days ago many newspapers published articles regarding the "inclusive language guidelines" of the European Commission.

As one might guess, the Brussels eurocrats wanted to dim the Christian values of our continent and advised their personnel to use "holiday season" instead of using the word "Christmas".

This example might sound funny but it is not. The attempt to avoid any reference to our Christian values demonstrates what an artificial structure the EU is.

This goes along the lines of the previous projects to promote the EU anthem, have an EU army, use the EU flag in the Olympics and so on.

Not so long ago Commission President Ursula von der Leyen spoke about "European Sovereignty", which does not exist because the EU is not a state.

Everybody should understand that the EU is a project to abolish sovereign national states and replace them with the United States of Europe ruled by eurocrats.

Anyway, I hope I can still wish you a Merry Christmas without any sanctions?



Laura Huhtasaari, MEP Finnish Delegation
- Perussuomalaiset

THE EU IS A HYPOCRITE WHEN IT COMES TO HUMAN RIGHTS



Jaak MADISON, Estonian Delegation

COVID-19 has been around for more than 2 years with no end in sight. People are tired of restrictions that are the same as last year - the only difference is that now we have ineffective vaccines that promised salvation. We also have better treatments, medicines and more experience to combat this virus. Still we are in this absurd situation where normality is a distant memory and countries are more and more willing to infringe on human rights.

The EU prides itself on being the human rights watchdog when it comes to Member States and foreign relations. Its institutions take every opportunity to attack Poland and Hungary when they are allegedly violating human rights. Take for example the Polish near ban on abortions where the EU screamed "my body, my choice". With mandatory vaccinations, same standards of personal integrity do not apply. Von der Leyen even urged Member States to debate on mandatory vaccinations.

It can be argued that vaccinations are a public good, but it should definitely not be forced on people. Especially with COVID vaccines that are ineffective and will not prevent people from spreading the virus or getting ill. We have Israel as a perfect example of why vaccines won't do the trick. Israel's vaccination rate is almost 80% for over 12-year olds, meaning herd immunity has been reached.

However, they still struggled with yet another COVID wave.

When the pandemic started in China, we saw horrendous scenes of people being locked in their apartments as doors were welded shut. Two years later similar scenes are happening in Member States. In Austria, unvaccinated people have been placed in lockdown and starting from February all unvaccinated residents over the age of 14 will be fined up to 3600 euros. PCR tests, the only guarantee of not having COVID, will be deemed worthless.

The EU is good at protecting minority rights when it comes to LGBT people but now when we are talking about millions of EU citizens who are forced to have a jab the EU institutions are deafeningly quiet. That shows how hypocritical the EU really is.



Jaak Madison, MEP Estonian Delegation -
Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond

WHAT YOU WILL **NOT** FIND IN THE PLENARY

The Committee on Budgets (BUDG) approved three requests from Parliament to proceed with the signature of the respective lease contracts in order to install new Europa Experience facilities:

- **Dunaj Palace building, 10 Národní třída, Prague, Czech Republic:** the European Parliament and the European Commission will rent the premises on the basis of lease contracts to be concluded for a period of 15 years. The building will be totally refurbished and the work will be finalised in the second quarter of 2022. Subsequently, fit-out will take place. The total surface area of rented spaces is 2 438 m². The total cost of the building project amounts to: **EUR 14.9 million** for the 15-year period of rent, out of which EUR 9.7 million to be paid by the Parliament and EUR 5 million by the Commission; EUR 4.2 million for the fit-out of the premises, out of which EUR 2.6 million to be paid by the Parliament and EUR 1.5 million by the Commission.
- **14/16A Jasna Street, Warsaw, Poland:** the European Parliament and the European Commission will rent the premises on the basis of lease contracts to be concluded for a period of 10 years. The new Europa Experience premises will be located on the ground and first floors. The conference and office areas will be fully fitted out afresh. The total area of rented spaces is 3 146 m². The total cost of the building project amounts to: **EUR 7.7 million** for the 10-year period of rent, out of which EUR 4.5 million will be paid by the Parliament and EUR 3 million by the Commission; EUR 3.7 million for the fit-out of the premises, out of which EUR 2.3 million will be paid by the Parliament and EUR 1.3 million by the Commission.
- **Rotenturmstraße 19, Vienna, Austria:** the lease agreement will be concluded for a period of 10 years. The Europa Experience premises will be distributed over the ground and the mezzanine floors as well as the two basement levels. With a rented area of 1 034 m², Parliament will use approximatively 20% of the total surfaces of the 5-storey building. The total cost of the building project amounts to **EUR 6 million** for the 10-year lease period and EUR 2.3 million for the fitting out of the premises.

STOP THE UNFAIR RISE IN ENERGY PRICES DUE TO EU POLICIES!

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#STOPRISINGENERGYPRICES



**IDENTITY
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With its Green Deal, the EU will make energy prices even higher. Due to rising demand, prices are soaring and our external suppliers are taking advantage of it.

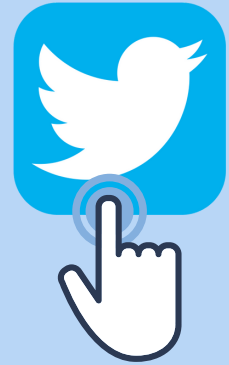
Our energy sovereignty is under threat.

We are waiting for the European Commission, who is so quick to give lessons to all Europeans, to explain to us how ordinary people will be able to heat their homes in the winter, or use their cars.

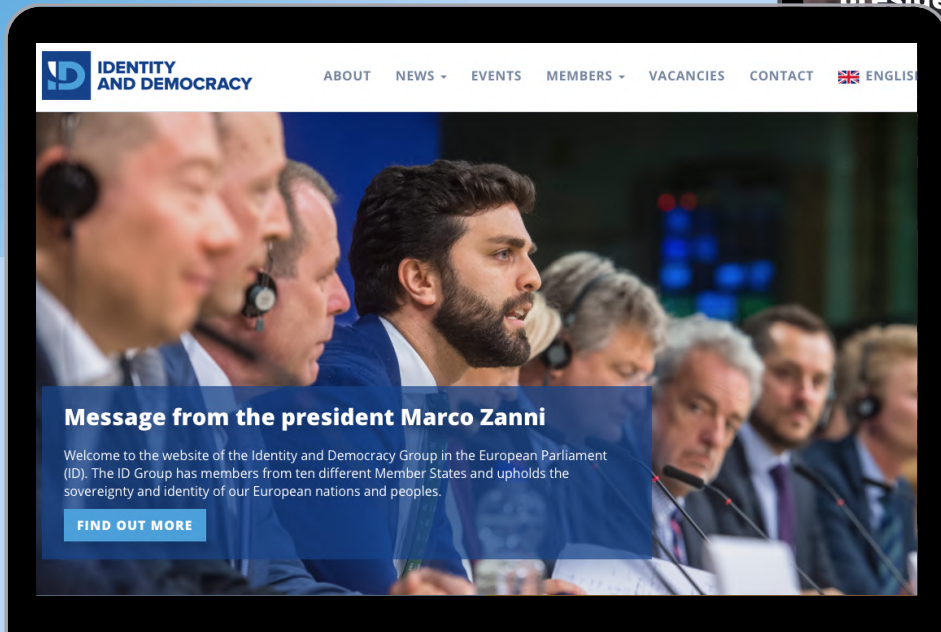
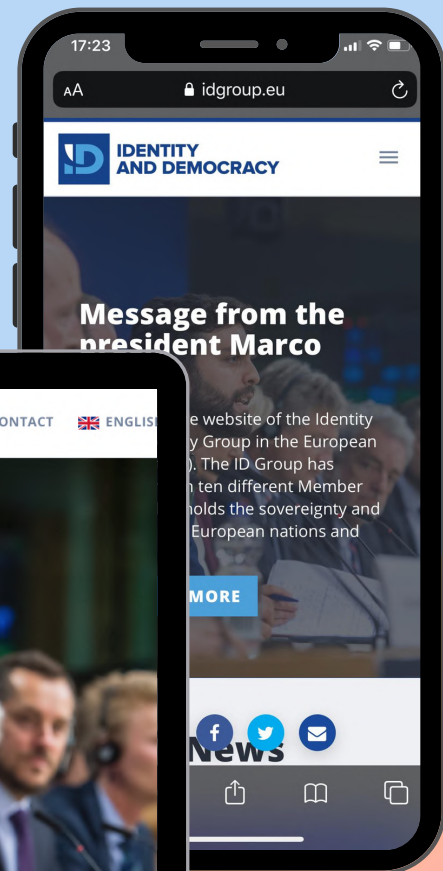
The EU Commission needs to drop its unrealistic and expensive plans!

Support us by signing this petition [here](#) and sharing it with your friends!

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www.idgroup.eu and sign
up to our Newsletter!



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Defending the identity of peoples and the sovereignty of nations!

The Identity and Democracy group, founded in June 2019, has 70 members in the European Parliament, coming from 10 countries: Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Flanders (Belgium), Czech Republic, Finland, Denmark, Estonia, the Netherlands



**IDENTITY
AND DEMOCRACY**

IDENTITY AND DEMOCRACY GROUP

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