



IDENTITY
AND DEMOCRACY

PLENARY BOOKLET

16 – 19 OCTOBER 2023

We stand by Israel

The cowardly attack made by Hamas terrorists left us astonished by the violence and brutality carried out against the Israeli population. Families destroyed, civilians killed, hostages used as human shields: these are the terrible images that we see from Israel.

This organized genocide is "directed" by those who want to see Israel disappear from the world map, and it is a shame that still there is not a unanimous condemnation in the political landscape: some left-wing parties and movements, in Italy and in Europe, seem to pretend that nothing happened, that there were no innocent victims and that we should even take to the streets to demonstrate against Israel and its right to exist.

With this aggression, the jihadist militias have not only declared war on the State of Israel, but on the entire West. We should all open our eyes and strongly affirm that no space is left for terrorism,

and no space is left for those who want to destroy our social, cultural and religious values.

Episodes of this gravity represent one of the darkest pages of recent history. We must rally around and support a population that is suffering and send them all our thoughts, our prayers and our most fervent support.



Marco Zanni

“With this aggression, the jihadist militias have not only declared war on the State of Israel, but on the entire West.”

President ID Group, Italian delegation - LEGA PER SALVINI PREMIER

The Digital Services Act: A stealthy attack on internet freedom

As of late August, major online platforms and search engines are subject to the EU's new Digital Services Act, which supposedly aims to tackle hate speech and online misinformation. This sweeping regulation applies to tech giants like Amazon, Meta (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram), Google's Alphabet, Apple, Microsoft, Twitter, and even China's ByteDance (TikTok), all labeled as "gatekeepers." While it's presented as a measure to safeguard fair competition, it's essentially a censorship law.

These companies must now police their platforms, removing or labeling content the EU deems illegal. Non-compliance can lead to colossal fines, up to 6% of their global annual revenue. Although the Commission claims it targets only unlawful content, its primary focus is suppressing online freedom of speech.

The Act zeroes in on hate speech and disinformation, with a broad definition that includes questioning certain war crimes and civil critiques of migration.

It also extends to political discourse, covering the spread of so-called disinformation.

What's more, a crisis clause allows the EU Commission to seize more control during health crises, wars, or financial emergencies, bypassing due process. This law sets the stage for extensive online censorship, all while the authorities pay lip service to free speech and the rule of law. State-sponsored disinformation, however, remains untouched.



Gunnar Beck

“Although the Commission claims it targets only unlawful content, its primary focus is suppressing online freedom of speech.”

2nd Vice-President ID Group, German delegation - ALTERNATIVE FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

DSA and X: EU gagging rules under implementation

“Freedom of speech in the EU is not unlimited”. These were the words used a few months ago by the Vice President of the European Commission, Věra Jourová, confirming a fanatic-like trend towards silencing spaces of freedom. This trend is even more troubling when considering that it is driving policy decisions that closely affect our values.

It has only been less than year after the entry into force of the Digital Services Act and we are already witnessing, first-hand, the dangers of arbitrary enforcement of social media policies. We are astonished, unfortunately not surprised, by the almost judicial authority tones addressed by Commissioner Breton to Elon Musk, who now faces a potential investigation from the DSA “censorship team” into X over Israeli-Hamas crisis content.

This heavy-handed approach confirms our long-standing concerns over the DSA gagging rules.

Under the cloak of the fight against disinformation, it has introduced vague criteria and ‘unknown censors’ that will revolutionize the concept of free information but in a restrictive fashion.

It is exactly provisions of this kind that unleash the contradictory nature of the decisions taken by Ursula von der Leyen and her Commissioners: recurrently during this mandate’s law making, when formulating policy orientations that can touch directly upon citizens’ lives, the Commission ends up distorting, or rather reversing, the principles and fundamental values which it claims to defend.

In a context of an ever-close deindustrialization and irrelevance on the global scene, we hope that EU institutions will not be used instrumentally to make us less free.

Marco Campomenosi

“We are astonished, unfortunately not surprised, by the almost judicial authority tones addressed by Commissioner Breton to Elon Musk, who now faces a potential investigation from the DSA ‘censorship team’ into X over Israeli-Hamas crisis content.”



MEP ID Group, Head of Italian delegation - LEGA PER SALVINI PREMIER

Israel in the face of horror!

The date of 7 October 2023 will forever go down in the history of the Jewish people as one of absolute horror. The large-scale attack carried out by Islamist terrorists of Hamas reached a level of barbarity rarely equaled. Women raped, families kidnapped, hundreds of people murdered, babies decapitated, this paroxysm of hatred is mind-blowingly monstrous. And those who condone it, excuse it or refrain from condemning it, are just as guilty as their perpetrators.

How can it be that, for the period 2021-2024, the EU has granted €1.2 billion euros to Palestine without checking where the money is actually going? How can it be that the Palestinian Authority has not yet condemned the horrific attacks by Hamas? The University of Gaza has received nearly two million euros from the EU since 2014. But this faculty, founded by the Muslim Brotherhood and extremely close to Hamas, has given one of its leaders positions of responsibility. As for the mastermind of the 7 October terrorist attack, he was a diligent student.

How many times have we denounced the excesses of the European Union, which regularly uses our money to finance associations close to the Muslim Brotherhood, some of which are hosted by the European Parliament and the European Commission? We have repeatedly alerted the various institutions on this subject. The Rassemblement National has always had the courage to fight this Islamist cancer. We will continue to do so!



Jean-Paul Garraud

“How can it be that, for the period 2021-2024, the EU has granted €1.2 billion euros to Palestine without checking where the money is actually going?”

MEP ID Group, Head of French delegation - RASSEMBLEMENT NATIONAL

The Court of Auditors rings the Warning Bells

The latest report from the European Court of Auditors (ECA) should send shockwaves through the Parliament. The auditors highlight that, in 2022, errors in spending from the EU budget increased significantly, reaching 4.2%, up from 3% in the previous year. This is not a minor blip; it's a significant and worrying trend.

What's more troubling is that the auditors found that two-thirds of the audited expenditure was high-risk due to the complex rules and eligibility criteria governing it. These errors point to serious mismanagement and inefficiency. The auditors' issuance of an adverse opinion on the EU's spending in 2022 underscores the severity of the problem.

The report also highlights concerns about the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), a crucial component of the EU's response to the pandemic.

The auditors found that 11 out of 13 RRF grant payments were affected by regularity issues, with six payments showing material error. This is unacceptable.

As someone who prioritizes responsible spending and the efficient use of taxpayer funds, I stand with the Court of Auditors in their concerns. The European Union must do better. It's time for the European Commission to take the necessary steps to rectify these errors and ensure that every euro from the EU budget is spent wisely and effectively. Our constituents deserve nothing less.



Joachim Kuhs

“The auditors highlight that, in 2022, errors in spending from the EU budget increased significantly, reaching 4.2%, up from 3% in the previous year. This is not a minor blip; it's a significant and worrying trend.”

MEP ID Group, Head of German delegation - ALTERNATIVE FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Protein Strategy or Protein Replacement?

Within the EU, the current deficit of protein production has been a concern for decades. As this production is essential for both human consumption as for livestock, it highlights the strategic element of our agricultural sector.

While the EU currently produces 77% of protein used for human consumption, our livestock production does not even meet half of that capacity with 29%. One would expect a protein strategy to be specifically deployed to counter this shortcoming and enhance our food security.

The EU, however, in addressing this problem, could not resist promoting its agenda of insect protein and synthetic meat for human consumption. If it is up to our green globalist elite, synthetic meat and insect protein will be the new cornerstones of our future diets!

The European peoples have no interest in these so-called "alternatives" or even actively oppose them apparently also reached the elites.

Synthetic meat will therefore hit the shelves conveniently labelled as "cell-based" foods, to make them more appetizing. With insects, we saw the same trend. Instead of saying mealworms, the EU calls it "Dried/powder *Alphitobius diaperinus* larvae (lesser mealworm)". We would not want the label to take away from the customer's taste!

While amusing for some, these "alternatives" hit the core of our food model production, which is more than just protein. In Europe, food is inherent to identity, local traditions and customs. European gastronomical culture is that of butter and olive oil, wine and beer. It is not the culture of insect protein or synthetic meats.



Tom Vandendriessche

"European gastronomical culture is that of butter and olive oil, wine and beer. It is not the culture of insect protein or synthetic meats."

MEP ID Group, Flemish delegation - VLAAMS BELANG

The Digital Service Act: an EU censorship law

In recent years, largely unnoticed by the general public, Brussels has set about tightening the thumbscrews on the discourse on the sovereignty of European citizens, at least potentially. The focus is on tightening control over the Internet. In the process, virtually none of the major digital companies have been created in the EU. But when it comes to regulating them, Brussels is at the forefront. In the best Brussels tradition, these measures do not come openly, but are hidden in a jungle of regulations that the Commission under Ursula von der Leyen always sells as progress.

As in all areas, it is evident that the Union's competences are being overstretched in order to give the centralists more and more power at the expense of the nation states. You don't even have to be one of the pronounced critics to call the Digital Service Act an EU censorship law. Officially, it is intended to protect Internet users from illegal content, goods and services and to ensure greater transparency of online platforms. But at its core, it's about putting the squeeze on digital companies to crack down on so-called "hate speech"

and "disinformation." The completely fuzzy terms of "hate speech" and "disinformation" open the door to abuse. Everything from "overblocking" (services remove too much content just to make sure they won't be prosecuted) to targeted manipulation in a certain direction is conceivable.

Particularly piquant is the fact that content moderation is also to be carried out with the help of "trusted whistleblowers" and can be outsourced to them by services. This is a perfect target for NGOs and activists whose reason for being oscillates somewhere between the "fight against the right", anti-racism and queer propaganda. The fact that even the official "fact checkers", who already take care of actual and alleged "disinformation", far too often have a clear slant, does not make the problem any smaller.

The fears that Europe is moving toward a state-controlled Internet regime like China or Iran are well-founded. Therefore, we firmly reject the DSA as such.

Harald Vilimsky

"The fears that Europe is moving toward a state-controlled Internet regime like China or Iran are well-founded."



MEP ID Group, Head of Austrian delegation - FREIHEITLICHE PARTEI ÖSTERREICH

Will the EU be welcoming Palestinian “refugees” soon?

The heinous and inhumane attack orchestrated by Hamas against the Israeli people is truly distressing. While the Israeli response, regrettably impacting Palestinian civilians in Gaza, is both understandable and imperative. Israel has the fundamental right to self-defense.

Hamas must be eradicated! An Islamist terrorist organisation that guns down hundreds of civilians in their homes, cuts off heads of babies, kidnaps and tortures women and children has no right to exist.

Regrettably, there are numerous individuals in the Western hemisphere who celebrate Hamas' atrocities. This group predominantly consists of individuals with migrant backgrounds, and there are also European sympathizers who were witnessed cheering in the streets of Paris and Berlin. Even Black Lives Matter (BLM) Chicago has aligned itself with a declaration of support for Palestine, which takes the side of terror. These are the individuals whom the EU is inadvertently supporting through its policies.

Taxpayer funds, sent to the Gaza Strip on humanitarian grounds, have ended up in the hands of Hamas. The EU has indirectly contributed to the funding of anti-Semitic schoolbooks in Palestine. Water pipelines constructed with EU funding have been repurposed for creating homemade rockets used to attack Israel. All economic support to Palestine must be suspended until the war's end.

The people of Gaza must denounce Hamas and distance themselves from the organization. Hamas must unconditionally release all prisoners and surrender to the Israeli armed forces. Only then can the conflict be resolved, and basic services like water and electricity can be restored, thereby ending the suffering on both sides.

When the siege of Gaza shifts to street fighting and Palestinian civilians begin fleeing the war, it's crucial for the EU to remember the atrocities committed by the people of Gaza. The EU should be cautious in welcoming hundreds of thousands of refugees who may harbor support for Hamas and its methods.

Jaak Madison

“The EU should be cautious in welcoming hundreds of thousands of refugees who may harbor support for Hamas and its methods.”



MEP ID Group, Estonian delegation - EESTI KONSERVATIIVNE RAHVAERAKOND

ID initiatives for the Plenary Session

12 amendments to the resolution on the **General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2024;**

31 budgetary amendments to the **EU budget 2024;**

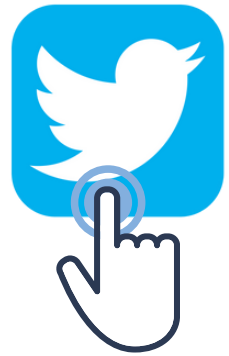
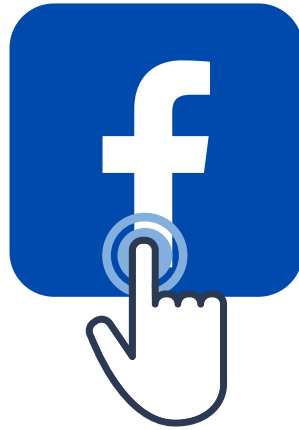
An alternative motion for resolution on the **European protein strategy;**

An objection to a **Taxonomy Climate Delegated Act;**

A rejection amendment to the **Fisheries control report;**

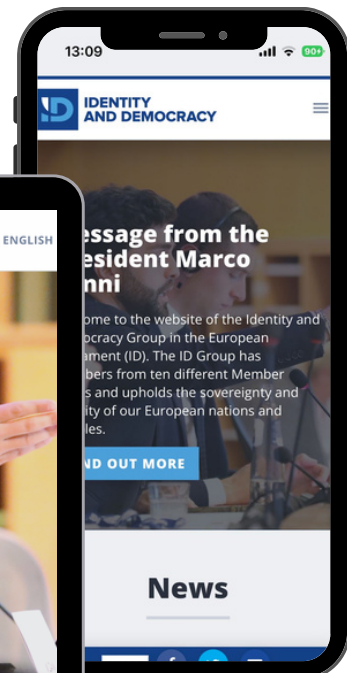
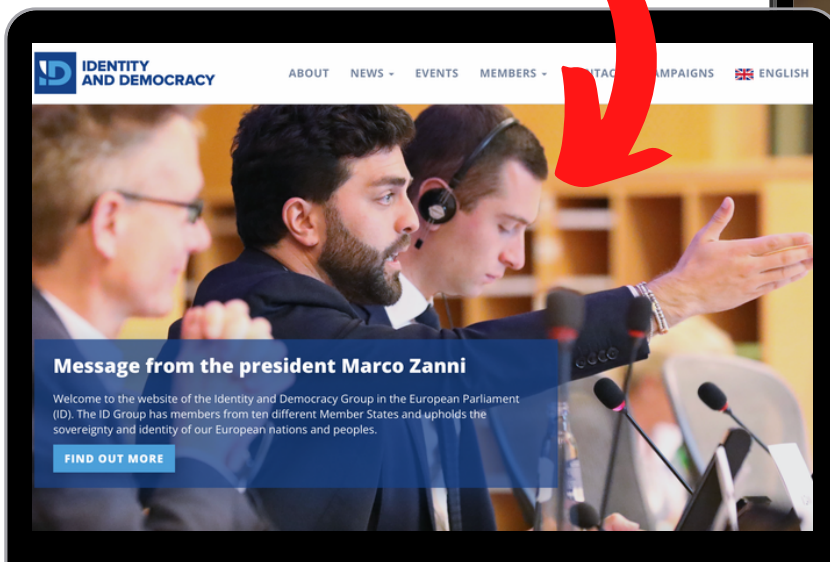
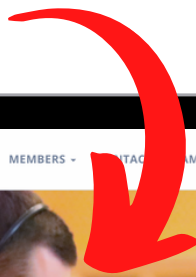
A motion for a resolution on the **despicable terrorist attacks of Hamas against Israel.**

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Defending the identity of peoples and the sovereignty of nations!

The Identity and Democracy Group, founded in June 2019, has 60 members in the European Parliament, coming from 8 countries: Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Flanders (Belgium), Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia.



IDENTITY AND DEMOCRACY GROUP

BRUSSELS

Zweig Building - 07K014
60 Rue Wiertz
B-1047 Brussels

STRASBOURG

Louise Weiss Building - T04055
President Robert Schuman Avenue
1, CS 91024
F-67070 Strasbourg Cedex

WWW.IDGROUP.EU