

# PLENARY BOOKLET

## Identity and Democracy



**21 - 24 NOVEMBER**

**PLENARY SESSION**

**2022**

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# THE DEFENCE OF EUROPEAN BORDERS IS NOT A CHOICE, IT IS A DUTY FOR ALL MEMBER STATES

Marco ZANNI, President ID Group



That the EU is systematically lagging behind on various issues can be seen in how it has handled the migrant routes situation in recent weeks. My country, thanks to the new center-right government of which Lega is also a member, has finally decided to say no to the indiscriminate arrival of illegal immigrants and is considering measures to keep the NGOs in check. These organizations play a decisive role in creating pull-factors and in encouraging departures.

The numbers are shocking - in Italy alone we have recorded 90,000 arrivals since the beginning of this year, up 60% compared to the same period in 2021 - yet Brussels either watches the exoduses in silence or, in the worst case scenario, intervenes by threatening Member States to suspend "voluntary redistribution" mechanisms that have never worked themselves to begin with.

The defense of European borders has always been at the heart of the program of our political group, Identity and Democracy. But it is above all a matter of common sense, so much so that it has become a transversal demand that today concerns all European countries and their leaders, of whatever political color. We are paying for the mistakes of a system that does not work and that all of Europe, first and foremost the most important states of the Union, decided

to implement in 2015, the year of the Syrian crisis. The time has come to turn the page.



**The defense of European borders has always been at the heart of the program of our political group, Identity and Democracy.**



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

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# 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## Gunnar BECK, 2nd Vice-President ID Group



On 10 September 1952, just over 70 years ago, the Common Assembly of the European Coal and Steel Community convened for the first time.

It was a very different time indeed. Although not mentioned at all in the Schuman Declaration, a parliamentary assembly was established, consisting of 78 appointed parliamentarians drawn from the national parliaments, having no legislative powers, but clearly instructed to function as an institution, which would counterbalance and monitor the executive.

How far we have come! We are failing at monitoring: the European Parliament is unable to scrutinize Von der Leyen's text messages to Pfizer's CEO, and is barred from information on the final beneficiaries of the € 750 billion NGEU aid program.

The Parliament does not act as a counterbalance either. Time and time again, this House proves to be a China-style mouthpiece of the Commission and a catalyst of more European integration. And now, following the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe, the EU wants to make the final push for endowing this Parliament with full powers of legislative initiative.

The result: more EU, more debt, and the abolishment of national sovereignty and our national borders.



Gunnar Beck, 2nd VP of the ID Group, German delegation - Alternative für Deutschland

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# LIBYA, A STRATEGIC SCENARIO ON WHICH EUROPE SHOULD FOCUS MORE

“ **Marco CAMPOMENOSI, Italian Delegation**

Since Muammar Gaddafi's fall in 2011, Libya has been jeopardized by several political factors for almost a decade, being nowadays still subject to serious domestic problems.

It is well known that Libya is one of the most important North-African States and its geopolitical location in the Mediterranean basin makes it strategic for Europe, who has left Libya on its political background. Nevertheless, Libya has consistent energy resources and it is the main point of departure for the illegal migration of thousands of people coming from Africa towards Europe every year, Italy being the main country hosting and receiving the latter.

On the other side, Turkey has understood how important Libya is and that is the reason why - along with a consistent Turkish military presence in the area - Ankara and Tripoli have signed a memorandum on natural gas and energy, in order to strengthen its influence on the country's internal affairs and consequently on the whole Southern Mediterranean.

In the European Parliament and in our countries, we are witnessing the hypocritical attitude of almost all the left-wing parties, which argue Libya is too much destabilized to be included in any sort of agreement, limiting clandestine migration.

That is not true. At the contrary, Libya could be an international partner to Europe as it is already to Turkey, despite of its internal turbulences. For that matter, Europe needs to mobilise its diplomatic channels and resources.

Circumscribing Turkish influences and arresting illegal migrations should be a priority, but Europe has been weak and inconsistent until today. We urge the Union to act.

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**Libya could be an international partner to Europe as it is already to Turkey, despite of its internal turbulences.**



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

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# THE ENDLESS ENLARGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION!

Jean-Paul GARRAUD, French Delegation



The European Parliament, true to its hegemonic policy, will debate next week in a plenary session on the enlargement of the European Union and vote on a recommendation calling for it.

The countries concerned are Albania, Northern Macedonia, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia.

However, some of these states are largely plagued by corruption and Islamism and are hubs for arms and drug trafficking in the Balkans.

All the most outrageous demands are included in this recommendation addressed to the Council, the Commission, and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs:

- to introduce qualified majority voting in areas relevant to the accession process instead of the requirement for unanimity by the Member States;
- to step up the involvement of civil society and the local and regional authorities of both EU Member States and candidate countries in the accession process;
- to extend the opportunities for candidate countries to participate in and observe the work of the EU institutions;

- to prioritize the alignment of accession countries with the EU's common foreign and security policy and advance accession negotiations with Serbia, which is more stable and closer to us than Kosovo;

- to focus on the protection of various communities and minorities.

This disproportionate expansionist will of the European Union, decided by the technocrats of Brussels, in disregard of the interests and identities of the nations which compose it, must be fought firmly.



Some of the candidate member states are largely plagued by corruption and Islamism and are hubs of arms and drug trafficking in the Balkans.



Jean-Paul Garraud, Head of French delegation - Rassemblement National

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# NEW SOLUTIONS TO MIGRATION AND ASYLUM ARE URGENTLY NEEDED

## Nicolaus FEST, German Delegation



Once again, the enormous left wing of the European Parliament makes a push to perpetuate their open border policy as if they were blind to the enormous failures of the EU's migration policy.

What we need is clear - and we are privileged enough to see that some Member States have already started to implement such policies. We need to establish shelters outside of the EU in order to remove all incentives for migrants to travel to the external borders, often via perilous routes, to claim asylum there. In these shelters, we can screen the applicants to reject mere economic migrants and better ensure that genuine refugees can be protected, housed and cared for closer to their native home in the region.

Our development aid to African countries should, therefore, be directly linked to cooperation with regard to the establishment of such centres. When asylum in the EU is granted it must be temporary in order to decouple it from immigration policy.

It's clear that the EU's approach to managing migration continues to threaten peace and security for us all and that now, more than ever, a new approach is urgently needed to resolve this ongoing crisis.



Nicolaus Fest, Head of German delegation - Alternative für Deutschland

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# THE EU TURNS A BLIND EYE TO RADICAL ISLAMIC VIOLENCE

Tom VANDENDRIESSCHE, Flemish Delegation

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Last week two police officers found themselves at the receiving end of a terror attack in Schaerbeek. The attack in broad daylight was conducted by a 23-year-old radical Muslim who has been on the terrorist watchlist. A young police officer was stabbed in the neck under the infamous “Allahu akbar” shouts and later succumbed to his injuries.

In light of this brutal attack in Brussels, the heart of Europe, the Flemish delegation requested a debate on radicalisation in the EU. Sadly, the progressive majority of this parliament even refused to conduct a proper debate on this topic. Even when the violence hits close to home, the outright refusal to even acknowledge it in our Parliament remains their prerogative.

It shows us who they really are and why our opposition to these elitist policymakers is of the utmost importance. The unwillingness to address this problem is not only present among the political elites. Earlier on that same day, the suspect turned himself into the police, stating he would conduct an attack on police officers. The justice department, however, did not deem it necessary to detain the perpetrator and released him after which he turned violent against our police.

Vlaams Belang, together with its ID colleagues, will never turn a blind eye to this radical Islamic terrorism.

We do not want our people to live in fear, nor do we want to see more dead police officers in the streets. It is time to recognise this problem of radical Islamic terrorism and to take effective action against it.

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Tom Vandendriessche, MEP Flemish  
delegation - Vlaams Belang



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# VON DER LEYEN'S RESIGNATION IS DUE

Harald VILIMSKY, Austrian Delegation

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The EU's vaccine procurement is a huge mess. In the focus: the Commission President and her text messages with Pfizer boss Bourla. And now the European Public Prosecutor's Office is investigating.

Finally, one must say. Because the procurement of Covid vaccines from the pharmaceutical company Pfizer by the EU Commission contains great ambiguities. Commission head Ursula von der Leyen is at the centre of it. She had - as the New York Times revealed in April 2021 - frequent contact with Pfizer boss Albert Bourla in the run-up to the large order for 1.8 billion doses of vaccine - mainly via text message.

To this day, no one knows what Von der Leyen and Bourla agreed on back then. The head of the Commission still stubbornly refuses to disclose her communication with the Pfizer boss. This has already earned her severe reprimands from the EU Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly.

In June, Von der Leyen then sent the Commissioner for Values and Transparency (!), Věra Jourová, ahead. She brashly declared that the text messages could not be found. The EU Ombudsman responded: "The handling of this request for access to documents leaves the unfortunate impression of an EU institution that is not accommodating in matters of significant public interest."

Von der Leyen had already been similarly conspicuous during her tenure as German Defence Minister. It was about controversial consultancy contracts and about "accidentally" deleted data on Von der Leyen's mobile phone.

In any case, the EU vaccine procurement worth up to 35 billion euros stinks big time. Especially now, when the EU is saddling itself with more and more debt, this questionable vaccine procurement must be scrutinised particularly closely. In fact, Von der Leyen's resignation is due - if only because of her brazen and persistent obstruction of clarification.

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Von der Leyen's resignation is due - if only because of her brazen and persistent obstruction of clarification regarding the EU's vaccine procurement.



Harald Vilimsky, Head of Austrian Delegation - Freiheitliche Partei Österreich

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# SEVENTY YEARS OF MULTILINGUAL SHOP TALK

## Jaak MADISON, Estonian Delegation



On Tuesday 22 November, the European Parliament celebrates its 70th birthday. There is not much to be happy about, as the so-called “Europe’s democratic heart” is not democratic at all, but rather just a useless institution devouring taxpayers’ money with no real impact.

The annual EP budget for 2021 was €2.064 billion, which is more than the British, French and German parliaments combined, even though they together have almost three times the number of members. There is a clear democratic deficit in the EU. Even the German constitutional court has ruled in 2009 that it does not consider the European Parliament to be a credible source of democratic legitimacy for the EU, or even a proper parliament at all. Federalists argue this could be solved by giving more power to the European Parliament, like giving it the right of initiative.

The problem is that the majority of MEPs cannot be held accountable by voters. They are far away from their voters and are living inside the Brussels bubble where much of the time their priority appears to be to get more power for the EU in order to move towards a United States of Europe. Whereas citizens can kick out an unpopular government in national elections, the European Parliament barely changes course regardless of whether the EPP or the S&D is the largest group.

Voters have no idea what the European Parliament and its MEPs are doing. As soon as they are elected to the Parliament, the EU bureaucratic machinery, which employs more than 60 000 people, has already laid the course for them to follow.

More power to the European Parliament would mean an end to national states and democracy. Looks like the best we can currently hope for is another 70 years of pointless multilingual shop talk until the peoples of Europe have had enough.



**More power  
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Jaak Madison, MEP Estonian Delegation -  
Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond

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## ID initiatives for the Plenary Session

A motion for a resolution on the **Protection of livestock farming and large carnivores in Europe;**

A motion for a resolution on the **Human Rights situation in Egypt;**

9 Amendments to the **Situation in Libya;**

3 Amendments to the **Borrowing strategy to finance Next Generation EU, the Union's Recovery instrument;**

3 Amendments to the **New EU strategy for enlargement;**

2 Amendments to the joint motion for a resolution on the **Human Rights situation in Afghanistan especially the deterioration of women's rights and attacks against educational institutions.**

Concerning the human rights urgencies, the Group proposed the following topics:

**The situation of Tibetans under Chinese rule;**

**The situation in Qatar in view of the World Cup.**



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

- **House of Europe in Paris**

This is a request from the European Parliament to proceed with the signing of a lease agreement, for a fixed period of 10 years, for the building located on Rue de la Victorie, in Paris, to establish a new House of Europe.

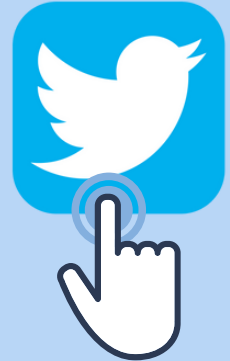
The European Parliament and the European Commission would therefore lease 1,554 m<sup>2</sup> and the Parliament's liaison office would get 485 m<sup>2</sup>, located on the seventh floor of the building.

The building also contains a 224-seat auditorium and a number of meeting rooms equipped to accommodate between 20 and 90 people, as well as three canteens, a parking and a space for bicycles as well as a gymnasium.

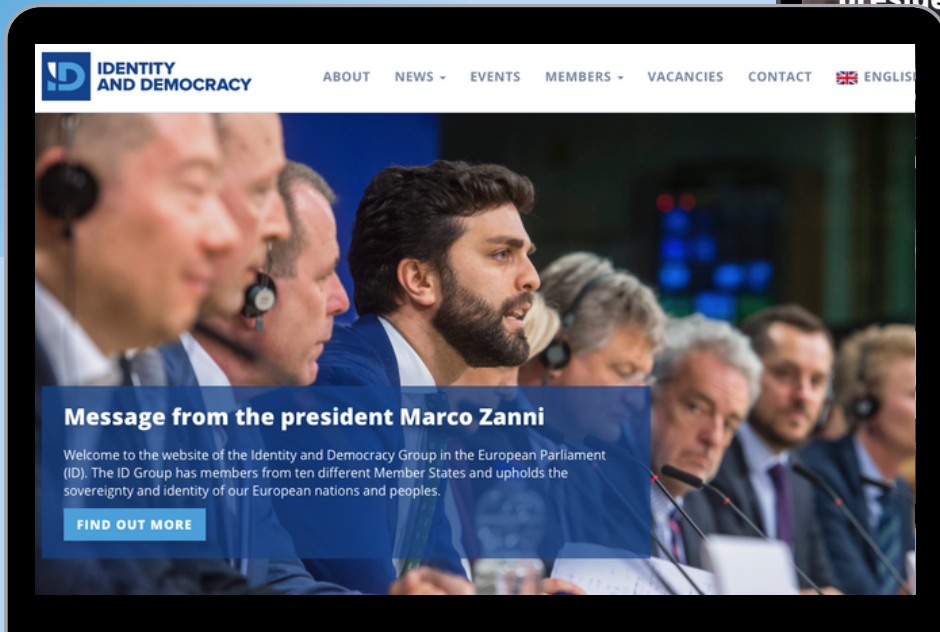
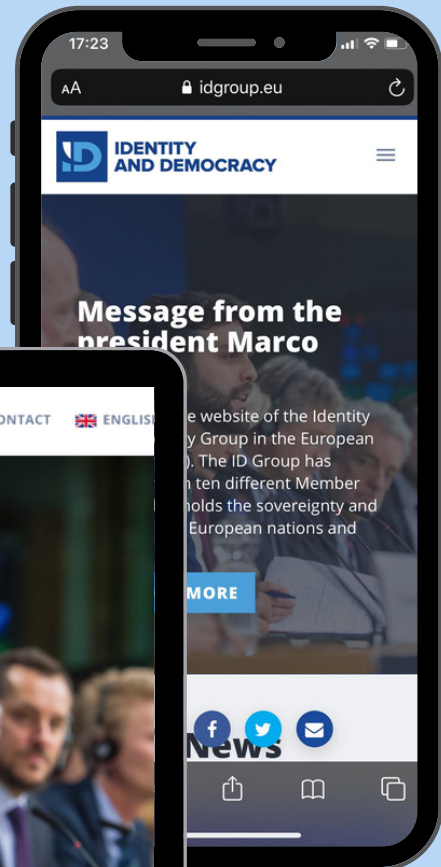
The annual cost amounts to **EUR 1.2 million**, of which **EUR 395.000** would be borne by Parliament. On the other hand, outfitting costs, would amount to **EUR 2 million**, **EUR 640.000** of which would be borne by Parliament.

The move to the new building would begin in the second half of 2023, until then the Parliament and Commission will continue to be hosted in the current House of Europe, located at 288 Boulevard St. Germain, still in Paris.

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# Defending the identity of peoples and the sovereignty of nations!

The Identity and Democracy group, founded in June 2019, has 64 members in the European Parliament, coming from 9 countries: Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Flanders (Belgium), Czech Republic, Finland, Denmark, Estonia.



**IDENTITY  
AND DEMOCRACY**

**IDENTITY AND DEMOCRACY GROUP**

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