

# PLENARY BOOKLET

## Identity and Democracy



**10 - 11 NOVEMBER**

**PLENARY SESSION**

**2021**

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# ENERGY CRISIS AND BORDER SECURITY: EUROPEAN COUNCIL FIASCO

MARCO ZANNI, President ID Group



The outcome of the last European Council leaves too many questions unanswered. Among these is the issue of energy prices, which is bringing industrial production to its knees both at the European level and at the level of individual Member States.

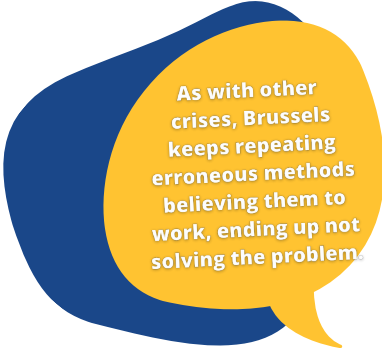
The toolbox prepared by the Commission will not solve a crisis that is not temporary, considering the almost total dependence on foreign suppliers, but instead, it is likely to continue for years to come, causing damage to Western economies, employment, and consumers.

As with other crises, Brussels keeps repeating erroneous methods believing them to work, ending up not solving the problem.

Ursula von der Leyen fails to critique her own energy transition centrepiece, set with her number two, Frans Timmermans, whose ideological approach will give great cost and little opportunity.

Equally disappointing are the action plans on migratory phenomena originating in North African countries. Not only are further "flexible" funds allocated for migrants, but there is also insistence on cooperation with NGOs.

Once again ignoring the fact that the only methods for putting a brake on the phenomenon of irregular immigration are border protection, the establishment of diplomatic agreements with the countries of origin, and the creation of hotspots outside the continent run by European personnel who guarantee respect for human rights, so dear to this Commission.



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

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# THE EU DOES NOT STRENGTHEN, BUT WEAKENS PLURALISM

Jörg MEUTHEN, 2nd Vice-President ID Group



During the current plenary session, the European Parliament is discussing the question of "Strengthening democracy, media freedom and pluralism in the EU".

As you might expect, the EU's answer to this question is already clear: more centralism is required and more power should be transferred to Brussels. We, as the Identity and Democracy Group, strictly oppose that.

Pluralism in Europe can be guaranteed only by respecting and protecting our national and regional identities.

The EU's centralism will instead destroy this unique diversity of cultures, languages and traditions.

The EU's dubious point of view on pluralism and democracy has been shown impressively by its behaviour towards Poland and Hungary.

It does not respect these countries' sovereignty and their own, democratic decisions, but pressures its Member States to share its agenda by any means.

This does not „strengthen“ democracy or pluralism at all, but attacks and weakens them.



Jörg Meuthen, 2nd Vice-President ID Group,  
German Delegation - Alternative für Deutschland

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# THE OUTCOME OF THE EU-US TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL (TTC)

Marco CAMPOMENOSI, Italian Delegation




The EU-US Trade and Technology Council (TTC) met for the first time in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on 29 September 2021 aiming to coordinate approaches to key global technology, economic, and trade issues; and to deepen transatlantic trade and economic relations, basing policies on shared democratic values.

Ten working groups, targeting key areas of concern were formed. Considering that previous attempts at economic coordination have floundered, focusing on a limited set of strategic concerns was thought to allow the TTC to be more successful although there is little sign of tangible progress. The agenda seems to be wide-ranging and too ambitious including semiconductors, artificial intelligence, supply chains, technical standards, and cybersecurity - among others.

We need to acknowledge that the formation of the TTC comes at a critical time in US-EU relations as we have witnessed persistently low levels of cooperation and rising geopolitical tension. The TTC is an attempt to rebuild the transatlantic relationship and leverage that relationship to address global challenges. A very much needed topic to tackle is the rise of China and its continued use of foreign industrial subsidies and theft of intellectual property.

The TTC will meet again next year. Will the Biden administration's China policy recover from its failed attempt to spell out a strategy for dealing with the fundamental trade and technology elements of China's predatory state capitalism by then?



A very much needed topic to tackle is the rise of China and its continued use of foreign industrial subsidies and theft of intellectual property.



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

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# BRUSSELS AUTHORITIES CONTINUE TO HARASS POLAND



Jérôme RIVIÈRE, French Delegation

This week, the European Parliament will once again vote on a resolution about Poland, criticizing its internal policy on societal laws, on which the European Union has no say.

Every week, the authorities in Brussels try to put pressure on Poland, finding different reasons for this. A few days ago, it was the assertion of the primacy of its constitution over European law that earned Warsaw the wrath of the Brussels authorities. The Commission went so far as to claim that this was a first step towards a "Polexit".

The move is too big: in reality, the authorities of the Union seek to put pressure on Poland for ideological reasons. They refuse the choice of the Polish people on immigration as well as on societal policies and try to disguise a political conflict as an institutional issue.

In the meantime, one can see with fear the crowds of migrants instrumentalized by Belarus and who physically attack the Polish border. But rather than helping the Poles to defend themselves from an invasion, Brussels prefers to attack them, on the sole grounds that it wishes to preserve their identity, their history and their way of life.

The citizens of the nations of Europe have had enough. The Europe to which they aspire is that of Nations and freedoms, that of freely agreed cooperation, certainly not that of a Brussels centralism that despises the nations.



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Jérôme Rivière, Head of French delegation -  
Rassemblement National

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# BRUSSELS' JET SET DOES NOT CARE ABOUT CLIMATE PROTECTION

Harald VILIMSKY, Austrian Delegation



## Part 1

"We have the chance to make history here at COP26. ... Europe will strive to become the first climate-neutral continent. But all of us, globally, need to step it up a lot." said EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in the past days at the climate summit in Glasgow.

Since von der Leyen presented her "Green Deal" as "Europe's man-on-the-moon moment" at the end of 2019, it has slowly dawned on Europe's citizens that Brussels' world-saving attitude will bring massive burdens and restrictions on freedom for the common people.

The fact that the EU Commission also wants to make air travel more expensive and wants to put an end to short-haul flights is one of the smaller problems. However, the fact that the Brussels hierarchy does not take its own Sunday speeches seriously is well illustrated by this example.

The EU Commission and especially its head like to travel a lot, very often by plane and not infrequently also with the most CO<sub>2</sub>-damaging variant, the business jet. If one analyses the travel data of the Commission, which has been in office since December 2019, there are 773 trips listed; not bad for just 27 individuals, thereby averaging 29 trips

per person in less than two years [during a lockdown]. 109 of these trips were made with so-called "air taxis" - i.e. specially chartered business jets. Commission head von der Leyen is the front-runner. 20 of her 39 listed trips were made with such jets; costing just under 80,000 euros!

Among them, in June 2021, the 41-kilometre short-haul highlight Vienna-Bratislava. Was that when she said in Glasgow that much more speed was needed? In view of this need, it is not surprising that the Commission re-tendered these air services, on Christmas Eve 2020.

Between 2016 and 2020, the Brussels authority spent 10.7 million euros on air taxis. The new tender was only for four years and amounted to 13.55 million euros.

Annualised, therefore, this represents an impressive increase of 58 per cent for the use of business jets. The fact that the same EU Commission has declared 2021 the "Year of the Rail" seems like sheer mockery.

This is exactly how Europe's citizens can imagine the "Green Deal": No restrictions for the "elites", but massive burdens for the common people.



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## Harald VILIMSKY, Austrian Delegation

### Part 2



For the latter, flying is to become much more expensive in the future by abolishing the exemptions in the emissions trading system.

The only question is how long the citizens will put up with this Brussels climate double standard.



Harald Vilimsky, Head of Austrian Delegation - Freiheitliche Partei Österreich

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# WHAT IS THE MEDIA SILENT ABOUT TODAY?

Laura HUHTASAARI, Finnish Delegation

## Part 1



When I was a child, the Finnish mainstream media never wrote anything bad about the Soviet Union. If anyone dared to criticize the Soviet Union, he was rejected and stigmatized.

The Swedish Prime Minister has used the mainstream media to stigmatize and isolate the Sweden Democrats. If the Swedish Prime Minister had listened to or even cooperated with the Sweden Democrats in opposition, Sweden would hardly be the most dangerous country in Europe today.

Unfortunately, it has not been possible to have a sensible debate on this issue, because the debate has been guided by political correctness, which includes the “quarantine thinking” of nationalists. The debate is not driven by freedom of speech, but by those in power who seek to silence people with ever-tightening hate speech legislation.

Globalists have no values. They are mainly fighting against traditional values. Open borders, trampling on national identity and opposing a conservative world of values lead to nothing but chaos. Elsewhere there is famine and we have a climate emergency. The mainstream media makes climate activists heroes.

Freedom of speech is a human right for all. In the mainstream media of one truth, freedom of speech is not realized. We need polyphonic media. Everyone has the right to express, publish and receive information, opinions and other messages without prior prevention.

For its part, the European Court of Human Rights has, in its preliminary rulings, safeguarded freedom of speech and specifically underlined that freedom of speech also applies to information which may disturb, upset or offend an individual.

Social media is a medium. It has enabled real-time communication between different layers of society and democratized an elitist culture of conversation in which the traditionally narrow media field has dictated the topics discussed in the realm. After universal and equal suffrage, social media can be considered one of the most invigorating factors in democracy.

As a result, it has been worrying to monitor the intensity with which not only privately owned media houses but also government officials and various public bodies have begun to speak out that free debate on social media should be brought under control.





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## Laura HUHTASAARI, Finnish Delegation

### Part 2



Often, these needs for restrictions on free speech are justified under the guise of “hate speech” or so-called “fake news”. The direction must be reversed. If we do not defend freedom of speech and the existence of a diverse media every day, we will not have freedom of speech. If there is no freedom of speech, there will soon be no other freedoms.



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Laura Huhtasaari, MEP Finnish Delegation  
- Perussuomalaiset

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# THE EUROPEAN UNION IS BLIND TO THE ENERGY CRISIS



Jaak MADISON, Estonian Delegation

The European Union is blind to the energy crisis. For the most part the European Council meeting of 21-22 October gave us a lot of warm air but no meaningful solutions to the recent spike in energy prices. The toolbox presented by the Commission offers a bandage to the gaping wound but what is really needed is a thorough operation.

Mitigating Green Deal problems with short-term relief for the most affected and vulnerable consumers and companies will achieve little if we do not fix the underlying problems. The biggest problem of course is the Europe's green transitioning itself.

On Monday, 8th of November, exactly ten years have passed since opening Nord Stream gas pipeline between Russia and Germany and soon Nord Stream 2 will get green lighted as well. It is going to be Russian gas that keeps the EU energy sector from collapsing and not this transition to climate neutrality.

If Europe's Green deal would lessen our reliance on fossil fuel imports from third countries then why is Nord Stream 2 even necessary? It seems that even the authors of the Green Deal do not believe in it and are desperate for Russian resources, all the while closing down our own power plants and mines.

For example, the Turow coal mind in Poland, which has a crucial place lighting up millions of households, has been hit by a €500,000 per day penalty by the European Commission.

To the authors of the Green deal it looks like European coal = bad - Russian coal = good. All that we achieve is fulfilling the Falin-Kwiecinski doctrine where Europe is not held hostage with force of arms but rather with energy imports from Russia.

The European Union must abandon its wishful thinking that Green transitioning will help Europe achieve energy independence. It does the exact opposite by switching proven reliable cheap means of electricity for unreliable "green" expensive energy.



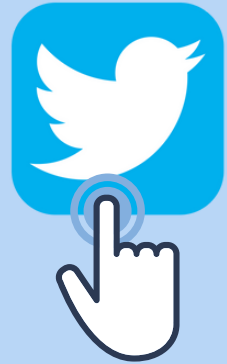
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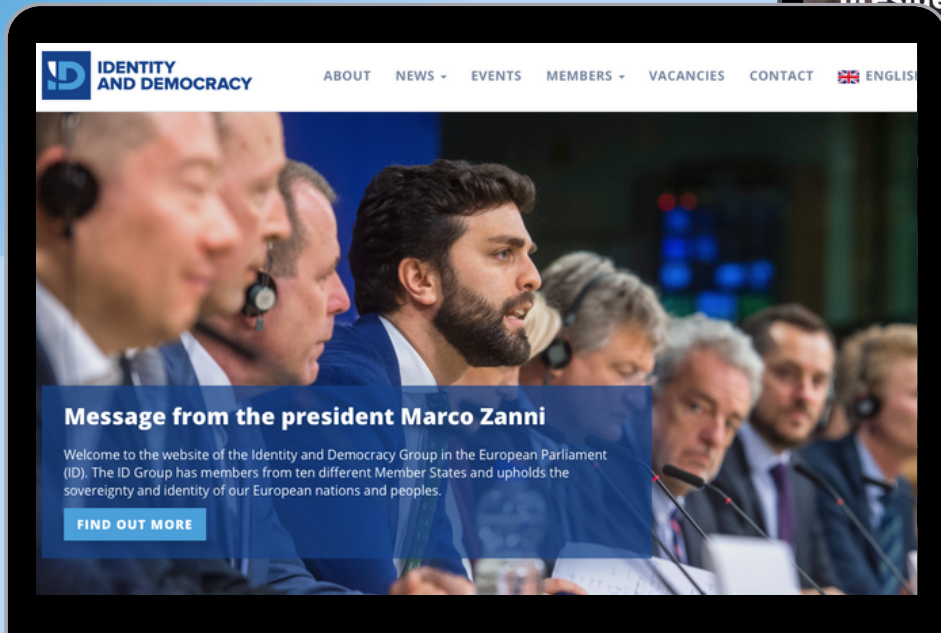
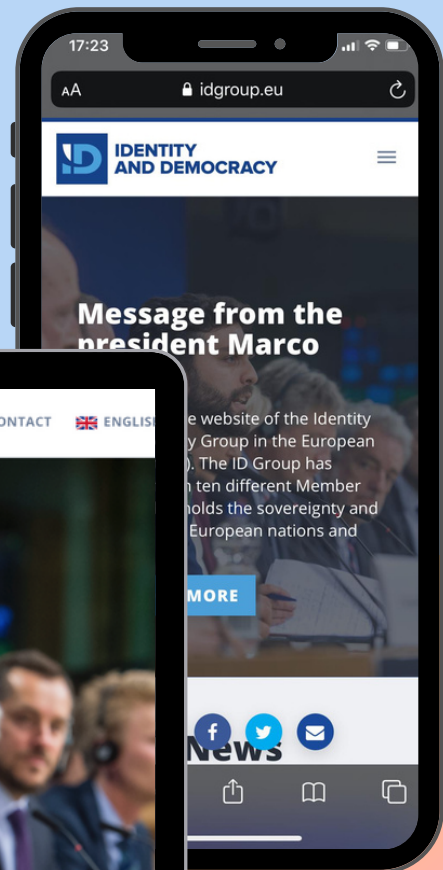
Jaak Madison, MEP Estonian Delegation -  
Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond

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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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