




## European Parliament Coming Week Highlights Plenary Meetings

<b>6-7 May 2025</b>	<b>Next long-term budget for the EU.</b> Parliament will outline its demands and priorities for the next EU long-term budget (2028-2034), with a plenary debate on 6th May and a resolution put to a vote on 7th May.
<b>6-7 May 2025</b>	<b>EU-Türkiye relations.</b> Plenary will review Türkiye's accession progress and its broader relations with the EU in a debate with Kaja Kallas on 6th May. MEPs will then vote on their annual assessment of the accession process on 7th May.
<b>6 May 2025</b>	<b>EU response to US tariffs.</b> MEPs will discuss with the Commission and the Council how to respond to the tariffs imposed by the US Administration and assess global trade opportunities for the EU
<b>6 May 2025</b>	<b>CO2 emissions for vehicles.</b> Parliament will vote on a targeted change to increase flexibility on CO2 emission performance standards for new cars and vans. MEPs will first vote on 6th May to fast-track the procedure. If approved, they are expected to vote on the revision on 8th May.
<b>7 May 2025</b>	<b>Ukraine.</b> MEPs will discuss with the Council and the Commission how the EU can contribute to achieving a just, sustainable, and comprehensive peace deal for Ukraine.
<b>7 May 2025</b>	<b>Iberian peninsula electricity blackout.</b> MEPs will discuss with the Council and Commission ways to make the EU's electricity grid more resilient in the wake of the blackout that affected Spain, Portugal, and parts of France.
<b>7 May 2025</b>	<b>Gas supply.</b> In a debate on 7th May and a vote on 8th May, MEPs are expected to push for more flexible EU rules on gas storage refilling, to address gas market speculation and help bring down prices.
<b>7 May 2025</b>	<b>80 years since World War II.</b> Parliament will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe, in a ceremony in plenary on 7th May at 11:30 with the participation of veterans of the war.



**Europe Day.** To celebrate 2025 Europe Day (9 May), marking the 75th anniversary of the Schuman Declaration, EU Institutions in Luxembourg and Brussels will open their doors at the weekend and invite citizens to engage in a wide range of activities.

**President's diary.** President Metsola will attend a flag-raising ceremony as part of Parliament's commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe, before presiding over the commemoration ceremony in plenary (7th May). She will take part in the Europe Day celebrations in Luxembourg (9th May). President Metsola will be in Cyprus on 10th May, where she will meet the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Nikos Christodoulides and take part in the 'Your Europe, Your Future: A dialogue with youth' event with the President of Cyprus on the occasion of Europe Day. On 11th May the President will participate in the Conference of Speakers of European Union Parliaments in Budapest

**Link to all committee meetings [here](#)**

## European Commission

### Coming Week Highlights

<b>6 May 2025</b>	Commissioner Šuica meets with Barry Andrews, MEP, Chair of the European Parliament Committee on Development and Vice-Chair of the European Parliament Delegation for relations with Palestine
<b>6 May 2025</b>	Commissioner Hoekstra meets with Lynn Boylan, MEP
<b>8 May 2025</b>	President von der Leyen receives Micheál Martin, An Taoiseach

The concise agenda for Commissioners' meetings is not yet on the Commission website, but can be access in due course [here](#).



## European Council and Council of the European Union Coming Fortnight Highlights

<b>6-7 May 25</b>	Informal meeting of foreign affairs minister – Gymnich (details <a href="#">here</a> )
<b>12-13 May 25</b>	Education, Youth, Culture and Sports Council (details <a href="#">here</a> )
<b>12-13 May 25</b>	Informal meeting of energy ministers (details <a href="#">here</a> )
<b>13 May 25</b>	Economic and Financial Affairs Council (details <a href="#">here</a> )
<b>15 May 25</b>	Foreign Affairs Council (Trade) (details <a href="#">here</a> )

**Link to Council Meeting Calendar** [here](#)

**Link to CORPER Meeting Calendar** [here](#)



## Highlights Week 28 April to 5 May 2025

### European Parliament

#### Highlights Week 28 April to 4 May 2025

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**Film Award.** The film "Flow", directed by Latvian Gints Zilbalodis, was awarded the 2025 LUX Audience Award at a ceremony in the European Parliament in Brussels. 'Flow', a Latvian, French and Belgian co-production, tells the story of Cat, a solitary animal whose home is devastated by a great flood. In his efforts to adapt to a new world, Cat finds refuge on a boat populated by other animals. The film deals with issues that are central in the European Parliament's work: climate change, migration, displacement, and resilience. 29 April 2025.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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**China Lift Sanctions Against MEPS.** The lifting of Chinese sanctions against Members of the European Parliament marks a step in restoring parliamentary dialogue with China. European Parliament President Metsola informed the Conference of Presidents of the decision of the Chinese authorities to lift the sanctions against any Member (as well as their families) and Committees of the European Parliament. 30 April 2025.

Link to EP report [here](#)

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**World Press Freedom Day.** European Parliament President Roberta Metsola, Vice-President Sabine Verheyen and Culture and Education Committee Chair Nela Riehl stressed the vital role of independent journalism. The European Parliament President said: "A free press is the best shield for democracy. Journalists must be free to report without fear of censorship, intimidation, or retaliation. The European Parliament will always defend and stand up for media and press freedom – not only on World Press Freedom Day, but every day.". Every year, the European Parliament rewards outstanding journalism that promotes or defends the core principles and values of the European Union, such as human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, rule of law, and human rights. The fifth edition of the Daphne Caruana Galizia Prize for Journalism will be launched later this month. 3 May 2025.

Link to EP report [here](#)



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## European Commission

### Highlights Week 28 April to 4 May 2025

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**'Flu Preparedness.** The European Union is strengthening its preparedness for a potential flu pandemic. A new joint procurement contract, signed by the European Commission, through the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority, offers 17 countries the possibility to purchase up to 27,403,200 pandemic influenza vaccine doses. The agreement, concluded with pharmaceutical company Seqirus UK Ltd., secures supplies of Foclivia, a vaccine to protect against flu when a pandemic has been officially declared by the World Health Organization or the European Union. 29 April 2025

Link to Commission statement [here](#)

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**Inclusion and Diversity.** The winners that have been announced in the fourth edition of the European Capitals of Inclusion and Diversity Award. In the category of 'local authorities with more than 50,000 inhabitants': the Gold Award went to the city of Utrecht, the Netherlands for its impressive city-wide commitment to diversity, equality and inclusion, embedded across all departments and backed by robust structures, leadership and funding; the Silver Award went to the city of Bilbao, Spain for its intersectional and values-driven initiatives on employment, education, transports, security, youth, and sport and the Bronze Award was awarded to the city of Kraków, Poland for programmes supporting diverse individuals in public spaces, in health, education, and culture. 29 April 2025

Link to Commission statement [here](#)

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**Research and Innovation.** Horizon Europe, the EU's flagship research and innovation programme for 2021-2027, is proving to be a major driver of economic and societal benefits. For every euro of costs to EU society, the programme is expected to generate up to six euros in benefits for EU citizens by 2045. In terms of economic growth, every euro of EU contribution is estimated to generate up to €11 in GDP gains by 2045, according to an evaluation of the Commission which has been released. 30 April 2025

Link to Commission statement [here](#)

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**EU/UK Fisheries Management and Conservation Issues.** The European Commission welcomes the final ruling by the Arbitration Tribunal, established under the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) to settle the EU-UK sandeel dispute, which agreed with the EU's interpretation of several key issues. The Arbitration Tribunal's ruling provides clarity on the interpretation of the TCA and its application to fisheries management and conservation





measures. Since 26 March 2024, the UK has imposed a ban on EU fishing vessels operating in the English waters of the North Sea and in all Scottish waters, preventing those vessels from fishing sandeel in these areas. The EU raised concerns regarding the compatibility of the UK's ban with the TCA. In April 2024, the EU requested consultations with the UK. The aim of these consultations was to find a mutually agreeable solution. However, consultations concluded without reaching such a mutually agreed solution. 2 May 2025

Link to Commission statement [here](#)

## European Council and Council of the European Union Highlights Week 28 April to 4 May 2025

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**Moldova.** The Council decided to prolong EU restrictive measures against those responsible for actions aimed at destabilising, undermining or threatening the sovereignty and independence of the Republic of Moldova, until 29 April 2026. These restrictive measures currently apply to a total of 16 individuals and 2 entities. Those listed under the EU sanctions regime are subject to an asset freeze. It is also prohibited to make available funds or economic resources to them, either directly or indirectly. Additionally, a travel ban applies to the natural persons listed, preventing them from entering and transiting through the territories of EU Member States. 28 April 2025

Link to Council report [here](#)

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**Regional Innovation.** The President of the European Council, António Costa, will travel to Barcelona, Spain on 5 and 6 May 2025 to meet with regional leaders and visit key industrial and research infrastructures in the areas of the automotive sector, artificial intelligence (AI) and innovation. The visit highlights the important role played by European regions such as Catalonia in further advancing European integration and contributing to the EU's strategic priorities. It also reflects EU's continued commitment to enhancing Europe's industrial capabilities, promoting innovation and competitiveness, and supporting the twin green and digital transition. 2 May 2025

Link to Council report [here](#)

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## European Court of Auditors

### Highlights Week 28 April to 4 May 2025

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**Microchip Production.** It is very unlikely that the EU will meet its target of a 20 per cent share of the global market for microchips by 2030, according to a new report by the European Court of Auditors. While the 2022 EU Chips Act has brought new momentum to the European microchip sector, the investments driven by it are unlikely to significantly enhance the EU's position in the field. Further details [here](#). 28 April 2025

## European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

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**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 Polish Presidency 1st Semester - 1st January - 30 June 2025

Version 05 March 2025

Date	Meeting	Host	Location
11 - 12 May 2025	Conference of the Speakers of European Union Parliaments (EUSC)		Budapest
18 - 19 May 2025	Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Challenges for Health Security in the EU (Health Committee of the EU Member States)		Warsaw
20 May	Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Global Gateway and the 4th Conference on Financing for Development: Advancing Poverty Eradication and Energy Access in Developing Countries  (IPC, DEVE, European Parliament Committee on Development)		EP, Brussels
4 June	Inter-Parliamentary Conference on the Implementation of the Environmental Crimes Directive  (IPC, JURI, European Parliament Committee on Legal Affairs)		EP, Brussels
8-10 June	LXXIII COSAC Plenary Meeting		Warsaw

Link to the parliamentary dimension to the Polish Presidency is [here](#).

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