



# Socialist Angle

February 2008 Plenary Session

## Lisbon Treaty

» Wednesday, 20

**Richard Corbett** TEL: + 33 3 88 17 5504

The Lisbon Treaty will be endorsed by a very large majority of the representatives that Europe's citizens elect to represent them directly at European level. The new treaty will improve both the effectiveness and the democratic accountability of the European Union. Greater effectiveness will enhance the EU's capacity to deliver on social protection, the environment, climate change, tackling multinational companies, foreign policy, fair trade and consumer protection. Greater democracy will ensure that all EU legislation requires the approval of elected parliamentarians. Both are necessary.



### PRESS CONFERENCE

**MARTIN SCHULZ**



TUESDAY 19 FEBRUARY 9H45

LOW N-1/201

## Population and housing censuses

**Jamila Madeira** TEL: + 33 3 88 17 5898



» Wednesday, 20

Population and housing censuses play a decisive role in the daily life of the European Union, even if it is not always apparent in our lives. The Treaty of Lisbon (with the new double majority voting system of both member states and population), and the economic, social and territorial cohesion, and the various policies of the Union should be based on correct data and, more importantly, the data must be complete.

## Application of the law on customs and agricultural matters

» Monday, 18

**Catherine Neris** TEL: + 33 3 88 17 5745

While trade increases at the global level, particularly in agriculture, it is now essential that the European Union comes up with a means for more efficient customs control to ensure that producers get much needed protection against the possibility of fraud or other 'irregular activities'.



### PODCAST

Follow Martin Schulz's press conference on the Socialist Group's website

[WWW.SOCIALISTGROUP.EU](http://WWW.SOCIALISTGROUP.EU)

## Application of certain national technical rules to products lawfully marketed in another Member State

» Tuesday, 19

**Mia De Vits** TEL: + 33 3 88 17 5715

The Socialist Group welcomes the proposal and supports an efficient implementation of the 'mutual recognition' principle in non-harmonised areas without prejudice to further harmonisation which remains the basis of the Single Market. This principle of mutual recognition can only be workable if consumers have full confidence in products marketed in the EU.



### Press

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## Broad economic policy guidelines for 2008

**Udo Bullmann**

» Tuesday 19



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## Community customs code

**Manuel Ortega Medina**

» Monday 18



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## Situation in Gaza

» Thursday, 21

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The Socialist Group calls for an immediate end to all acts of violence. It calls on Israel to put an end to military actions which kill and endanger civilians and extra-judicial targeted killings. It also calls on Hamas to take up its responsibilities for the Gaza Strip, and to prevent the firing of rockets by Palestinian militia from the Gaza Strip into Israeli territory.

## Factors favouring support for terrorism and the recruitment of terrorists

» Monday, 18

**Claudio Fava** TEL: + 33 3 88 17 5203

We must promote an integrated approach to social inclusion, citizenship and integration. The Group wants to promote diplomatic resolution of conflicts, on top of the inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogue within the United Nations framework for an alliance of civilizations.

## Lisbon Strategy

» Tuesday, 19

**Edith Herczog** TEL: + 33 3 88 17 5596

We must revive a social Europe and strengthen the co-ordination of macro-economic policy, as well as the co-ordination of research, innovation and education. It should discuss the issue of climate change and measures to protect the environment. We need better regulation of financial markets and an improved "Lisbon governance".

## Common framework for the marketing of products

» Tuesday, 19

**Christel Schaldemose** TEL: + 33 3 88 17 5491

The Socialist Group welcomes the proposal for a Regulation on the accreditation and market surveillance of products in the Community, and the accompanying proposal for a Decision on a common framework for the marketing of products. In the current climate of product safety, this new legal instrument is necessary and we believe it will create a higher level of consumer protection.

## Demographic future of Europe

» Wednesday, 20

**Françoise Castex** TEL: + 33 3 88 17 5129

For several years, low birth rates and the increase in life expectancy have pointed to a change in the EU's population structure and in the "age pyramid" in 2050. These demographic changes are a challenge for Member States which have to rapidly improve their policies in favour of young children and the balance between work and family life. The EU is also faced with the challenge of better management of the labour force to achieve full employment and higher skills levels.

## An EU Strategy for Central Asia

**Katrin Saks**

» Tuesday 19

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## EU's strategy to deliver market access for European companies

**Carlos Carnero**

» Monday 18

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