

From this week:

8 October ***ALERT - Citizens' rights: MEPs shape the Stockholm programme***

In the Joint Meeting of Committees on Legal Affairs, Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and Constitutional Affairs, the committees members discussed a **draft resolution** referring to the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council - An area of freedom, security and justice serving the citizen. The draft resolution should serve as a **five-year blueprint for freedom, security and justice legislation and sets out priorities for work on EU citizenship**, including measures for the protection of citizens, solidarity, access to justice and reaping the full benefits of the single market through European contract law. The **resolution will be put to the vote on 12 November** in a joint committee meeting in Brussels.

The draft resolution is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/y1zko7l>

The press release is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/ygqk737>

The communication is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/ygaef5j>

You will receive a summary of the draft resolution next week.

7-8 October ***Working Party on Global Disarmament and Arms Control (CODUN) and Working Party on Non-Proliferation (CONOP) troika between the EU and Ukraine***

The agenda for the meeting in New York included the **disarmament and non-proliferation** issues dealt within the working parties.

7 October ***Afghanistan: "EU police force must be beefed up"***

In his address to the members of the Foreign Affairs Committee on 6 October, the **EU's special representative in Afghanistan**, Ettore Francesco Sequi, **called for the EU police mission in Afghanistan to be strengthened**. Sequi also appealed to the Member States to **give greater resources to EUPOL** since the purpose of this mission is to "set up a real police force capable of conducting investigations". On the other hand, he also stressed that "The EU must maintain a presence in Afghanistan but some areas must gradually be managed by the Afghans themselves." Sequi also argued for a **process of inter-Afghan reconciliation** to bring together the various factions that have been in dispute in recent years.