26th issue

PATRIOTS

FOR **EUROPE**

PLENARY BOOKLET









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INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOKLET

Next week in Strasbourg, we have several important battles ahead of us.

***The MFF** will once again be high on the agenda. The decisions taken now will shape Europe's priorities for years to come. Patriots will insist on a budget that serves Europeans, strengthens our economies and respects the interests of Member States – not one that finances more bureaucracy and failed policies.*

*And we will speak about **democracy in Hungary**. For years, this House put Hungary in the dock month after month. Today, former ministers and officials from the previous government are being detained, taken away in handcuffs and held on the basis of unproven allegations. Yet from many of those who once lectured Hungary about democracy, we hear remarkably little. Democracy cannot mean one standard for your political allies and another for your opponents.*

*Another key priority will be the fight against political Islamism. Patriots have pushed for the debate on the **Muslim Brotherhood**. Europe must take Islamist networks seriously, scrutinise their funding and influence, and protect our societies against radicalisation and extremism.*

*We will also continue to fight for **secure borders**, **European competitiveness** and **lower costs** for citizens and businesses.*

Democracy. Security. Borders. Competitiveness. And the fight against political Islamism.

These are the battles Patriots will take to Strasbourg.

Patriots Reject More Centralisation and Brussels' Double Standards

The European Council meeting on 15–16 October takes place at a time when our continent is facing multiple crises. Energy prices are skyrocketing, industries are struggling, families remain deeply concerned about the cost of living — while Brussels' radical green policies and excessive bureaucratic burdens continue to undermine the competitiveness of European businesses.

Yet, the Commission remains focused on expanding its powers rather than providing solutions to the problems of European citizens. This is even more true regarding the new MFF: the Commission's proposal is fundamentally flawed. Budget cuts and restructuring must not come at the expense of traditional EU policies like cohesion or funding for farmers. Expanding funding for EU bureaucracy, further powers to the Commission, applying ideological conditionality and introducing new own resources are unacceptable.

Meanwhile, every effort is made to suppress sovereigntist, patriotic political forces. We see this regarding Hungary, where, since the change of government, an authoritarian regime is being established: the President of Hungary was removed with a single stroke of the pen, opposition politicians are banned from the political race, and politically motivated criminal procedures are launched against them, while using excessive measures for intimidation against former ministers and state secretaries.

Even more alarmingly, the Prime Minister issues instructions to the police, prosecutors and courts, and announces their next steps in advance on social media. In this situation, the EU institutions are silent. This exposes a blatant double standard: in Brussels, democracy and the rule of law seem to matter only when they serve their political agenda.

Kinga Gál

> "In Brussels, democracy and the rule of law seem to matter only when they serve their political agenda."



First Vice-President Patriots Group, Hungarian delegation - Fidesz

Congratulations, Your Rent is Still High

Imagine being 28 years old, working full-time, watching half your salary disappear into rent and wondering whether you will ever afford a home. Do not worry. Brussels has heard you. You may not get an apartment, but you could get a European framework defining the area in which your unaffordable apartment is located. Progress. The Affordable Housing Act illustrates one of the European Commission's favourite reflexes: discover a real problem, identify that citizens are angry about it, and respond by creating another layer of European governance. Housing is expensive because Europe is not building enough homes, construction costs have risen, permitting can take far too long, land is scarce in many cities and layers of regulation increase costs. The Commission itself now says that Europe needs more than two million homes annually and is preparing a separate simplification package precisely because administrative burdens affect housing supply.

One might therefore reach a revolutionary conclusion: build more homes. Instead, we risk spending years discussing definitions, proportionality tests, transparency requirements, review mechanisms and the precise conditions under which local authorities may intervene in designated areas of housing stress. Meanwhile, the young couple is still paying the rent. There is a role for Europe. Reform State aid so governments and municipalities can invest. Protect cohesion funding. Mobilise private capital. Simplify EU legislation. Remove unnecessary costs from construction. Make EU financing accessible to cities and regions. The Commission estimates Europe's housing investment gap at around €150 billion per year. That is an investment problem of extraordinary scale. It will not be solved by extraordinary quantities of paperwork. Europe does not need Brussels to become the continent's largest estate agent. It needs Brussels to stop making building unnecessarily difficult.

Klara Dostalova

> "Europe does not need Brussels to become the continent's largest estate agent."



Vice-President Patriots Group, Czech delegation - ANO 2011

Effective Measures to Protect and Empower Children in The Digital World

Protecting children online is not simply a digital policy issue. It is about defending childhood, supporting families and deciding what kind of society we want to build for the next generation.
For us, as Patriots, the principle is clear: parents must remain the first educators of their children. Families, not technology companies, should decide what is appropriate for minors. Europe must support parents while fully respecting the competences of Member States.

Digital platforms must be held accountable. Their business models cannot come at the expense of children's safety. They must tackle grooming, cyberbullying, pornography and other harmful content, with meaningful sanctions when they fail. We also need safeguards against addictive design, including endless scrolling and overnight notifications, as well as stronger protection against unwanted contact from adults.

Protecting children must never become an excuse for mass surveillance. Fighting sexual abuse requires targeted investigations and determined prosecution of offenders, including those who use artificial intelligence to produce abusive material. It must not weaken encryption or undermine anonymity online, which are essential safeguards for the privacy and security of all citizens.

As Europe debates the KIDS Act, our priorities are clear: accountable platforms, empowered parents, protected children and respect for national competences.

Schools must also equip children to recognise manipulation and use technology responsibly.

Technology must serve families, not the other way around. Childhood is non-negotiable.

Susanna Ceccardi

Vice-President Patriots Group, Italian delegation - Lega Per Salvini Premier

> "Families, not technology companies, should decide what is appropriate for minors."



The Leaves Are Falling

It is autumn in Europe and the leaves are falling, including those of the so-called center-right parties.

By refusing to work with parties to their right, they have opted for permanent cooperation with the left. Their voters increasingly reject political firewalls.

Across Europe, voters are demanding change: an end to mass immigration, a lower cost of living, and greater security. Yet center-right parties tied to the left struggle to deliver. They see their voters leaving, but refuse to change course.

The same contradiction exists in the European Parliament. The EPP increasingly talks about tougher borders, migration control and security. But the real question is not what the EPP says before elections. It is whom it chooses to work with afterwards.

You cannot promise voters a change of direction while refusing to work with the parties demanding that change. You cannot campaign to the right and then govern with the left without eventually alienating your own electorate.

Manfred Weber has launched a "Win2029" task force to prepare the EPP for the next European elections.

Its goal is to develop a policy platform that keeps voters on board. Good luck with that. As long as the EPP prefers to work with the socialists and liberals rather than the patriots, that strategy faces an obvious contradiction.

No task force can convince trees not to shed their leaves in autumn.

The leaves are already falling.

Mieke Andriese

> "The EPP hopes to 'Win2029'. But will end up losing."



Vice-President Patriots Group, MEP Dutch delegation - PVV

Brussels' Power Grab Must Stop: Less Centralisation, More Sovereignty

Not a day goes by without Brussels producing another proposal for more centralisation, more bureaucracy and more power at EU level. The latest debate on enlargement is another example of how far the European Commission is prepared to push institutional boundaries.

The idea that candidate countries could send Commissioners to Brussels before even becoming EU members turns the accession process on its head. A Commissioner is part of the EU's political executive. Countries that are not members should not be granted the institutional privileges of membership through the back door.

Europe does not need more Commissioners, more posts or an ever-expanding Brussels apparatus. It needs the opposite: a smaller Commission, leaner institutions and a clear return of powers to sovereign Member States. The EU should respect the principle that decisions are taken as close to citizens as possible, rather than continuously concentrating political authority in Brussels.

While the Commission discusses ever more questionable institutional experiments, Europeans face far more urgent problems. Illegal mass migration must be stopped and Europe's external borders effectively protected. Businesses and citizens need relief from excessive regulation instead of another wave of rules and bureaucracy. And European policy must once again focus on securing peace, freedom and prosperity.

Enlargement cannot become an excuse for further centralisation. Europe needs clear limits, strong nations and cooperation between sovereign states — not an increasingly powerful centralised EU apparatus that constantly searches for new competences, new positions and new ways to expand its reach.

Harald Vilimsky

> "Enlargement cannot become an excuse for further centralisation."



Vice-President Patriots Group, Head of Austrian delegation - FPÖ

Europe's Islamist Blind Spot: Funding, Access and Islamist Entryism

Europe can no longer pretend that the warning signs are unclear. National intelligence services, governments and parliamentary reports have repeatedly documented Islamist networks operating through associations, education, religious structures, lobbying and financing. Yet our response remains fragmented, reactive and deeply contradictory.

Several countries have formally designated the Muslim Brotherhood, or national branches of it, as terrorist organisations or terrorist entities, including Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States. Meanwhile, Europe still struggles with basic prevention.

We have seen organisations facing serious questions over links to Islamist networks receive EU funding or institutional access. We have seen Gaziantep Islam Science and Technology University remain within Erasmus+ while concerns were raised over statements supportive of Hamas attributed to its rector.

We continue to face weaknesses in tracing foreign funding and opaque financial flows.

These are not administrative details. They are failures of due diligence, transparency and security.

The European Union already has the laws, institutions and financial-control mechanisms needed to act. What it still lacks is systematic vetting, full traceability of foreign funding, and a framework for identifying Islamist entryism before European money, access and legitimacy have already been granted.

Europe has been warned. To continue ignoring those warnings is not neutrality or caution - it is to tolerate risk inside Europe and, ultimately, to place Europe itself at risk.

António Tânger Corrêa

> "Europe has been warned."



Vice-President Patriots Group, Head of Portuguese delegation - CHEGA

Iran: Let Us Not Allow The Oppressors to Win

In Iran, the crackdown is not abating but intensifying. Protesters, opposition figures, students and women who refuse to submit to the mullahs' regime are being arrested, tortured and, increasingly, sentenced to death.

Since the start of the year, there have been hundreds of executions. The UN now estimates that more than 70 people remain at imminent risk of execution. Among them is Najmeh Amini, a 23-year-old student from Mashhad. Arrested last January, she is reported to have been detained and tortured for several months before being sentenced to death on the basis of a confession extracted under duress.

Her story is that of a young woman who, in full knowledge of the consequences, chose to stand up to the Iranian regime and risk her own life to defend her people's freedom. She knew the risks involved and yet chose to act. Her courage must not condemn her to silence or oblivion.

Europe cannot be content with mere statements when men and women risk being sent to the gallows for demanding their freedom. A public statement by the European Parliament and action by the European authorities could help to exert much-needed international pressure on the Iranian regime and, perhaps, save this young woman's life.

We must act now to save Najmeh Amini and all those whom the mullahs seek to silence.

Jean-Paul Garraud

MEP Patriots Group, Head of French delegation - Rassemblement National

> "Her courage must not condemn her to silence or oblivion."



An Authoritarian Regime in the Making in Hungary

Péter Magyar and the Tisza Party have taken the establishment of their authoritarian regime in Hungary to a new level. Following the constitutional coup, Péter Magyar and his followers have launched politically motivated proceedings with the aim of violently suppressing the political opposition.

In only a few months, through retroactive and tailor-made legislation, the new parliamentary majority prevented the leader of the opposition from returning to the post of Prime Minister; severely restricted the voting rights of Hungarian citizens; removed the head of state from office three years before the end of his term; and removed several members of the Constitutional Court, including its president, from their posts.

The case of opposition MP Balázs Hankó marks a new level. Prime Minister Magyar publicly accused Hankó and spoke about his imprisonment. Proceedings followed. Prosecutors requested the lifting of his parliamentary immunity, and the Tisza-dominated majority approved the request. Hankó was subsequently detained and has rejected the allegations against him.

The aim of the show trials initiated by this authoritarian regime is the eradication of the opposition.

Yet Brussels remains remarkably silent.

For years, Hungary faced intense scrutiny from the Brussels mainstream over democracy and the rule of law. Now that the Magyar government is politically aligned with Brussels – nothing to see. We reject such double standards.

Democracy requires genuine political competition. State power must not be used to intimidate political opponents or silence dissenting voices.

Hungary's patriotic opposition will not be silenced.

Tamás Deutsch

> "State power must not be used to intimidate political opponents or silence dissenting voices."



MEP Patriots Group, Head of Hungarian delegation - Fidesz

Methane Regulation: Penalising Importers Will Not Cut Global Emissions

Regulation (EU) 2024/1787 was handled jointly by the ENVI and ITRE committees. It was adopted in plenary on 10 April 2024 and entered into force in August 2024. While its stated objective is legitimate, its import provisions are proving unworkable.

The core problem is Chapter V. From 1 January 2027, importers must demonstrate that crude oil, gas and coal come from producers applying monitoring, reporting and verification standards equivalent to the EU's. Penalties reach up to 20% of annual turnover.

This places an extraterritorial obligation on importers who have no control over foreign production sites, while the implementing tools arrived late.

The outcome is predictable: an LNG cargo turned away from Europe is simply sold elsewhere. Global emissions stay the same, and Europe loses supply and pays higher prices.

Events have confirmed these concerns. Seventeen Member States called for a three-year suspension, and major suppliers including the US and Qatar warned that cargoes could be diverted.

The Commission's response was a non-binding recommendation to waive penalties in 2027–2030, while all obligations remain in force. This leaves operators without legal certainty and risks fragmented enforcement across Member States.

The Patriots for Europe call for:

- a genuine legislative stop-the-clock;
- grandfathering of existing contracts;
- removal of penalties on importers;
- bringing forward the 2028 review.

Europe's security of supply and competitiveness must not be sacrificed to rules that deliver no real environmental benefit.

Paolo Borchia

> “Global emissions stay the same, and Europe loses supply and pays higher prices.”



MEP Patriots Group, Head of Italian delegation - Lega Per Salvini Premier

The Million Dollar Question

Two weeks ago, the American government asked the EU General Court for permission to intervene on behalf of Elon Musk and his company X in the latter's case against the European Commission. Musk and X want the Commission to annul the €120 million fine it imposed on them for violating the EU's Digital Services Act (DSA) which obliges online platforms to censor content which the Commission deems harmful.

Suppose Elon Musk had been a globalist multiculturalist, rather than a vocal supporter of patriotic movements and an opponent of transgenderism – would the EU then have slapped him with a €120 million fine? That is the "million dollar question".

Last February, the House Judiciary Committee of the U.S. Congress published a report about the EU's decade-long campaign to censor speech.

The congressional report accused the EU of using its Digital Services Act to pressure tech companies to remove content which the EU considers "disinformation," i.e. critical of the ruling European establishment. The report also accused the EU of using the DSA as an instrument to restrict political free speech prior to national elections

When we, as democratically elected representatives of the European citizens, subsequently asked the European Parliament to debate the findings of this disturbing congressional report, the EP refused to do so. Given that we were denied the possibility to ascertain whether the DSA is a censorship law, we applaud the recent decision of the American government. In this regard, three cheers for Washington!

Marieke Ehlers

> "It is good that America keeps the pressure on the DSA."



MEP Patriots Group, Head of Dutch delegation - PVV

Ceuta: Now The Parliament Has to Answer

In July we called the assault on Ceuta an act of hybrid warfare and were told it was an "immigration incident". In September this Parliament condemned the attack on the Union's southern border and the invasion that followed, in precisely those terms, and demanded an independent investigation into who planned it. This week we deliver the instrument.

One hundred and forty-four signatures were required to request a special committee. We have gathered 161, from nineteen member states and across four political groups. Morocco opened its border, let tens of thousands cross and has since claimed Ceuta and Melilla in public. That is the fact this committee exists to establish, and no European institution will be able to call it a bilateral misunderstanding again.

What we ask of that committee is specific. Twelve months to expose who is responsible, how it was organised and what it has cost Ceuta.

Then the measures that follow: European funding conditioned, the Association Agreement used as leverage, returns carried out in full, external borders defended in fact and not in communiqués.

Two months on, neither this government nor the Commission has shown any intention of defending Ceuta of its own accord. That is why we are doing it here, from inside this Parliament, with the instruments this Parliament has. Those who signed have taken their position. Every other member will now be asked to take his, and the vote will show who stands where.

Ceuta is not for sale. Ceuta is defended. Those were never slogans, and this is what they look like when they are kept.

Jorge Buxadé

> “Patriots secures the signatures for a special committee on the invasion of Ceuta.”



MEP Patriots Group, Head of Spanish delegation - VOX

Stop The Centralization

We must stop the centralization of the EU. No new budgetary powers can be given to the European Commission! Even mainstream politicians and media have begun to notice financial crisis in the European Union. A coalition of six wealthiest net contributors, led by German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, sent a letter to the European Commission demanding hundreds of billions of euros in cuts from the 2028–2034 budget.

Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Austria, Finland and Sweden call the current proposal "impossible to finance." This is an important voice in the budget debate: together, the group provides about 40% of EU budget revenue.

Merz's coalition demands a fundamental budget reform: cutting cohesion funds and redirecting money to defence, economic innovation, strict migration control and protection of border sovereignty.

The wealthy six also oppose plugging the budget gap through EU debt or new taxes from Brussels.

Such a plan means open conflict with 17 countries, including Poland and France. These states want the Commission's proposal preserved. To finance rising spending, some countries, led by Paris, propose new EU-wide taxes (ETS, e-waste, excise duties), potentially raising around €60 billion annually. The idea faces resistance because member-state governments do not want to hand fiscal powers to Brussels.

Meanwhile, the European Parliament wants an additional €200 billion for the EU budget. Pressure is rising as elections next year in France, Italy, Spain and Poland could complicate negotiations. Leaks suggest neither side intends to back down. The 15 October summit under the Irish presidency will show what comes next for the EU's long-term budget. Without radical cuts, there will be no agreement.

Anna Brylka

> "We must stop the centralization of the EU. No new budgetary powers can be given to the European Commission!"



MEP Patriots Group, Head of Polish delegation – Ruch Narodowy

The EU's Next Budget: Bigger, More Centralised, More Contested

The battle over the EU's next long-term budget is intensifying. The European Commission has proposed a Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for 2028–2034 worth almost €2 trillion, with up to €100 billion for Ukraine outside the budget ceilings. The European Parliament wants even more: a larger envelope, more money for external action, and NextGenerationEU debt repayments placed outside the ceilings too.

Resistance among Member States is growing. In late August, six net contributors (Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Austria, Finland and Sweden) demanded cuts of several hundred billion euros and rejected new common borrowing, exposing the gap between Brussels' ambitions and the governments expected to pay.

The Commission has forgotten that the EU is about peace and prosperity. Violence in our streets, economic stagnation, a widening innovation gap, suffocating bureaucracy, soaring energy prices: who would reward a failed Commission with a substantially increased budget?

Worse still, the Commission wants to turn the next MFF into an instrument of centralisation. It plans to bundle agriculture, cohesion and other programmes into National and Regional Partnership Plans under stronger Brussels supervision. Patriots for Europe rejects ideological conditionality: EU funds must not become a political lever against sovereign Member States.

The choice is not simply between spending more and spending less. It is about priorities: protect farmers, foster innovation and industry, cut bureaucracy and ideological expenditure, reject new common debt, and return control over EU spending to the Member States.

Tom Vandendriessche

> "The Commission has forgotten that the EU is about peace and prosperity."



MEP Patriots Group, Head of Flemish delegation – Vlaams Belang

Protecting Children Online Starts with Parents and Teachers

Children today grow up in a digital world that offers real opportunities for learning, creativity and innovation. At the same time, it exposes them to risks we cannot ignore: harmful content, online manipulation, excessive screen time and threats to their privacy. Protecting them is a shared responsibility, and one that we should take very seriously.

Effective measures start with the people closest to the child. Parents and teachers know local realities best, and education remains primarily a national competence. The EU can support them with practical tools such as training for teachers and clear guidance for families. Prevention and education bring more lasting results than prohibitions.

Technology companies also bear responsibility for the products they offer to young users. Existing rules should be properly enforced before any new layers of regulation are added.

Whatever we agree on must be proportionate, protect privacy and leave decisions about children with their parents.

We should support innovation, including artificial intelligence, and the opportunities it brings to education and research. However, when children use such tools, human oversight must come first, with the protection of minors as the primary consideration.

Every proposal on this issue must be judged by whether it protects children in practice, works in the different conditions of the Member States and keeps the administrative burden reasonable.

Antonín Staněk

> "Protect privacy and leave decisions about children with their parents."



MEP Patriots Group, Head of CZ delegation - Motoriste

PATRIOTS INITIATIVES

7 amendments to **Psychosocial risks, stress and mental health at work;**

5 amendments to **EU-China political relations;**

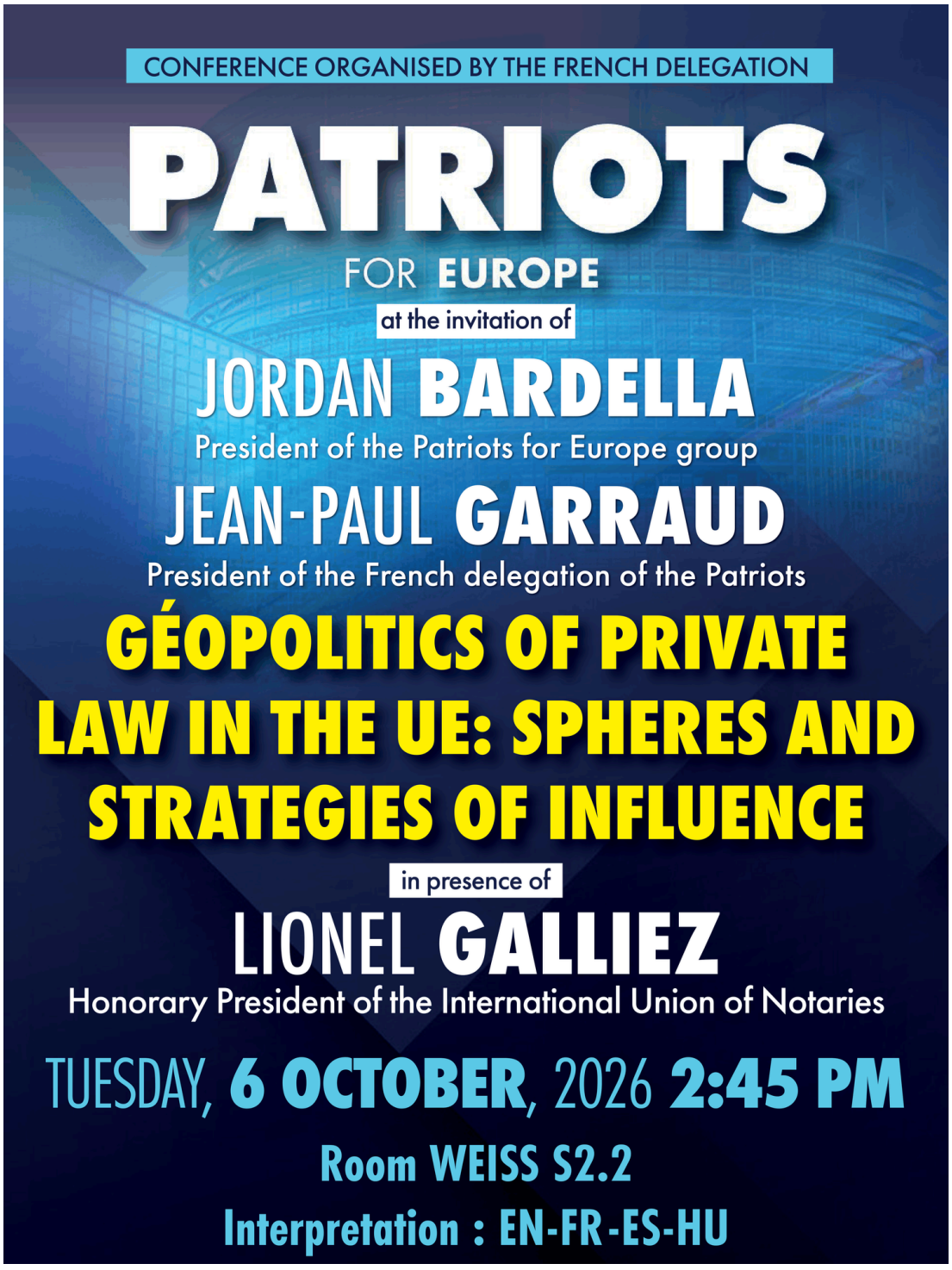
4 amendments to the **EU Anti-Corruption Strategy;**

A motion for a resolution and 16 amendments to the **EPP resolution on the Influence of the Muslim Brotherhood network;**

An objection on **Lead in shot used for hunting and sport hunting;**

A motion for a resolution on the **Human rights situation in Iran.**

PATRIOTS EVENTS



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