27th issue

PATRIOTS
FOR **EUROPE**

PLENARY BOOKLET









PLENARY SESSION OCTOBER II
19 - 22 OCTOBER 2026

INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOKLET

Ahead of this plenary session, Patriots for Europe remains focused on a clear mission: defending national sovereignty, protecting European citizens and ensuring that EU institutions serve the people of Europe — not the other way around.

*Three key priorities will guide our work this week: the **European Council**, the **2027 EU budget** and the situation in **Ceuta**.*

*As **European families struggle with rising living costs**, businesses face high energy prices and farmers come under increasing pressure, Brussels continues to pursue more spending, more bureaucracy and more centralised power. We firmly reject this approach. Europe needs affordable energy, stronger competitiveness and a responsible long-term budget that respects democratic accountability and national sovereignty.*

*Our position on the **2027 EU budget** is equally clear: taxpayers' money must address Europeans' real needs. We demand less waste, stronger border protection, meaningful support for farmers and strict accountability for every euro spent.*

*In **Ceuta**, we continue to push for an immediate investigation into the **weaponisation of mass migration**. European citizens deserve security, transparency and answers — not political delays.*

*We will also challenge the **EU's excessive regulatory burden** and demand genuine simplification, starting with a **fundamental reversal of the Green Deal**.*

Our message is clear: responsible spending, affordable energy, secure borders and strong sovereign nations.

*Patriots for Europe will continue to stand firmly for **a Europe that puts its citizens first**.*

Articles in this Plenary Booklet don't necessarily reflect official, common Group positions or positions of all Group delegations.

Patriots Call for a Change of Direction in Europe

One of the key debates of this week's European Parliament plenary session will focus on the conclusions of last week's European Council meeting. It is therefore worth addressing the key issues and priorities for the Patriots.

Europe is facing a severe energy crisis, with soaring prices putting enormous pressure on families and businesses. European companies cannot compete with today's energy prices and carbon costs. The Patriots demand an urgent review of ETS 1 to reduce the impact of carbon costs on electricity prices, and a thorough reassessment or even a freeze of ETS 2. Europe must produce more energy, including nuclear power, to strengthen energy security and competitiveness.

The next Multiannual Financial Framework remains equally contentious. The Commission's proposal is fundamentally flawed, and attempts to rush negotiations before next year's French elections are unacceptable.

As Europeans face rising living costs, we reject increasing the EU budget to finance more Brussels bureaucracy and centralisation, alongside new own resources and ideological conditionalities. Farmers' and Europeans' interests must be protected. While the EU budget faces serious challenges, Brussels is proposing even more funding for Ukraine under the next MFF, raising serious concerns for the Patriots.

The crisis in Ceuta exposed the consequences of failed migration policies. Scenes on Western European streets demonstrate that without protecting external borders, Europeans' security is at risk. Stopping illegal migration and strengthening border protection is the only solution. Member States must decide who enters their territory, without unilateral migration decisions undermining others' security and sovereignty.

Kinga Gál

> "The crisis in Ceuta exposed the consequences of failed migration policies."



First Vice-President Patriots Group, Hungarian delegation - Fidesz

Cut The Red Tape, Not Europe´s Ambition

Europe's entrepreneurs do not need another strategy, another action plan, or another Commission press conference celebrating simplification. They need Brussels to finally get out of their way.

For years, the European Commission has been building a bureaucratic empire, one regulation, one reporting obligation, and one compliance requirement at a time. Now, the very institution responsible for this regulatory avalanche presents itself as the champion of cutting red tape.

The arsonist has arrived dressed as the firefighter.

While Brussels produces paperwork, European businesses produce jobs, innovation and prosperity. Yet instead of rewarding initiative, we punish it with administrative costs, legal uncertainty and ever-expanding obligations. Small businesses are expected to navigate rules designed by institutions seemingly unfamiliar with the realities of running a company.

Simplification cannot mean replacing ten forms with nine. It must mean fewer obligations, lower compliance costs and genuine regulatory restraint. We demand immediate action: eliminate unnecessary reporting, introduce meaningful exemptions for SMEs, systematically review existing legislation and prevent new bureaucratic burdens before they arise. Every new proposal must answer one simple question: does it help European businesses compete, or merely help Brussels expand its influence?

Europe cannot regulate its way to competitiveness. Nor can it build prosperity through spreadsheets and compliance checklists. The Commission must stop measuring success by the number of rules it adopts and start measuring it by the burdens it removes.

Entrepreneurs create Europe's prosperity. Brussels should stop standing in their way.



Klara Dostalova

> "Europe cannot regulate its way to competitiveness."

Vice-President Patriots Group, Czech delegation - ANO 2011

COP31: Stop Green Ideology, Protect Europe's Industry and Jobs

While Europe shuts down its factories, puts entire industrial supply chains under pressure and makes citizens pay the price for ideological policies, there are still those in Brussels who believe that climate challenges can be solved by imposing new bans and spending billions more of taxpayers' money. COP31 in Antalya risks becoming yet another opportunity to push this failed approach: more restrictions on businesses, less freedom for Member States and additional funding for non-European countries, while Europe's competitiveness continues to decline.

The European Parliament's resolution repeats the same approach as the Green Deal: accelerating the phase-out of combustion engines, imposing new renewable energy targets and multiplying environmental restrictions, without adequately considering the economic and employment consequences.

We will not accept jobs, businesses and our continent's industrial future being sacrificed in the name of climate policy.

We are not opposed to environmental protection, but to a top-down transition that penalises our businesses while international competitors often benefit from more favourable conditions.

Europe needs affordable energy, less red tape, technological neutrality and the freedom for Member States to choose the solutions best suited to their needs. International climate finance must also guarantee transparency, accountability and measurable results.

As Patriots for Europe, we stand for a Europe that puts its citizens, workers and businesses first—not ideology. For these reasons, we will always fight against those who jeopardise Europe's competitiveness without ensuring a proper balance between environmental protection, economic growth and energy security.

Susanna Ceccardi

> "We will not accept jobs, businesses and our continent's industrial future being sacrificed in the name of climate policy."



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

Who Needs The EU?

The Netherlands is suffering as a result of the mismanagement of other EU member states. Some nations have unilaterally granted residence permits to up to a million illegal immigrants, who can consequently move freely to our country. Other nations refuse to bring their budgets under control. While the Dutch have cut spending and raised the retirement age in order to keep pensions and social security affordable, other nations continue to run excessive budget deficits. Their fiscal policies risk undermining the stability of our shared currency.

The Party for Freedom briefly hoped that reforms within the EU were possible. That hope proved misplaced. The EU's endless utopian schemes continue to cost us billions. The people of Iceland were right to reject renewed EU accession talks. We, too, must have the courage to make that choice.

We believe the Netherlands can prosper and protect its citizens with its own currency and its own policies.

Today, we are merely a shadow of our former selves. This is why our national party is returning to its previous position in favour of Nexit.

We respect the position of other patriots hoping to reform the EU from within. However, we must ask: reform the EU into what? Into a European free trade organisation? EFTA already exists. Into an organisation that defends our security against foreign enemies? Nato already exists. This raises the question: why do we need the EU at all?

Mieke Andriese

> "The EU is dragging us down."



Vice-President Patriots Group, MEP Dutch delegation - PVV

FPÖ Calls on The EU to Follow The US and Impose Sanctions on The ICC

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has increasingly abandoned its original mandate and transformed itself into a political actor that interferes in the sovereignty of independent nations. This development is deeply concerning and must have consequences.

As the Austrian Freedom Party (FPÖ), we firmly believe that international institutions must respect the sovereignty of states and operate strictly within their defined competences. No international court should be allowed to position itself as a self-appointed moral and political authority above democratically legitimised governments.

The ICC's actions against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu demonstrate just how problematic this development has become. The arrest warrant issued in 2024 raises serious questions about political motivations, judicial overreach and the instrumentalization of international justice for geopolitical purposes.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has already announced sanctions against the ICC. The European Union must now demonstrate the same determination. Instead of blindly defending an increasingly politicised institution, Brussels should finally recognise the need for decisive action.

The FPÖ therefore explicitly calls on the EU to follow the American example and impose sanctions on the International Criminal Court.

International cooperation must never become a justification for political interference or the erosion of national sovereignty. Europe must stand up for the independence of sovereign nations rather than granting international institutions unlimited political authority.

Harald Vilimsky

> "International cooperation must never become a justification for political interference."



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

A Mediterranean Pact That Defends Europe, Not Its Weaknesses

What kind of Europe seeks partnerships across the Mediterranean while failing to defend its own borders? What kind of Union transfers millions to third countries without demanding cooperation in return?

This is an abdication of responsibility towards European citizens.

The Mediterranean Pact must deliver concrete results, not another collection of empty promises.

First, secure borders. Ceuta and Melilla are European territory and must be defended. The Pact must ensure stronger border controls, decisive action against illegal immigration, the dismantling of human trafficking networks and an end to the weaponisation of migration flows.

Second, enforceable readmission agreements. European funding must be strictly conditional on third countries accepting the return of their nationals residing illegally in the EU. No cooperation, no financial privileges. The era of blank cheques must end.

Third, unconditional respect for Member States' sovereignty. The occupation of Cyprus, threats against Greece and intimidation of European energy projects cannot be tolerated. Cooperation with Turkey must never come at the expense of European territorial integrity or strategic interests.

Finally, accountability. Every euro spent must produce measurable results. Countries that violate their commitments must face consequences, including the suspension of financial benefits.

Europe cannot continue rewarding non-cooperation, tolerating threats against its Member States and abandoning its borders. The Mediterranean Pact must protect sovereignty of the Member States, guarantee reciprocity and defend the interests of European citizens.

A Europe that does not respect itself will never be respected by others.



António Tânger Corrêa

> "Every euro spent must produce measurable results."

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

Erasmus+: A Programme Hijacked in The Service of Brussels' Ideology

The Erasmus+ programme is one of the few positive contributions made by the European Union, and one of its sole successes. Promoting exchanges, encouraging learning and enabling students to discover other countries are laudable objectives. But Erasmus+ must not become a pretext for an uncontrolled surge in public spending!

The European Commission is proposing to increase its budget to 40.8 billion euros for 2028–2034, up from 14.7 billion in 2014–2020. The European Parliament even wants to reach 47.4 billion! This is a staggering increase, whilst the number of students has risen by only 11 per cent since 2014.

Even more seriously, this programme is straying from its original purpose. Behind the educational exchanges, there is a proliferation of activist projects, ideological objectives and schemes promoting the integration of migrants.

Academic excellence and language learning are taking a back seat, in favour of a drive to mould young people in the European mould from a very early age.

As for the condition that funding be tied to adherence to so-called 'European values', this grants the Commission the power to impose potentially arbitrary sanctions, as it has done for years against Hungary.

We support meaningful exchanges, not waste, ideology and centralisation. Our support for Erasmus+ is therefore not a blank cheque: taxpayers' money must serve students, not the political ambitions of Brussels.

Jean-Paul Garraud

> "We support meaningful exchanges, not waste, ideology and centralisation."



MEP Patriots Group, Head of French delegation - Rassemblement National

Protecting Our Farmers, Securing Our Future

The Patriots demand a 2027 EU budget that cuts leftist ideological spending, strengthens borders and supports farmers. Taxpayers' money must serve Europeans' security and prosperity, with less bureaucracy and no new EU borrowing or own resources that burden citizens and businesses.

The proposals put forward by the Patriots for Europe Group on EU Budget 2027 include a €2.5 billion increase to the Common Agricultural Policy. This would provide additional funding to support young farmers, the wine sector, and beekeeping.

Furthermore, the Patriots Group has submitted a proposal to increase the EU crisis fund—designed to compensate farmers—from its current €450 million to €900 million.

This proposal was previously voted down in the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) by the "grand coalition" of the European People's Party and the Left.

We hope they will support this renewed initiative from the Patriots at the Plenary vote.

The Patriots Group demands an end to the ideological political blackmail of Member States and woke propaganda; to this end, we would cut 250 million euros from EU budgetary funds that currently support left-wing activist organizations and NGOs.

Tamás Deutsch

> "The Patriots demand a 2027 EU budget that cuts leftist ideological spending, strengthens borders and supports farmers."



MEP Patriots Group, Head of Hungarian delegation - Fidesz

EU Budget 2028–2034: Accountability and Responsible Spending Must Come First

Once again, the European Court of Auditors' 2025 annual report raises serious concerns about the management of EU taxpayers' money. The estimated error rate in EU spending rose to 3.8%. Among the different spending categories, it reached 6.6% for cohesion, resilience and values and 3.9% for natural resources and environment.

The Court also identified non-compliant payments and weaknesses in the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility.

These findings cannot be ignored, particularly as the European Commission has proposed an EU budget of almost €2 trillion for 2028 - 2034, while also seeking new own resources to finance its priorities and repay NextGenerationEU borrowing.

Before asking citizens and businesses for additional contributions, Brussels must demonstrate that it can manage existing resources wisely, avoiding waste and irregularities. This requires stronger controls, greater transparency and clear accountability for how public money is spent.

For the Lega and Patriots for Europe, the priority is clear: a larger EU budget must not come at the expenses of a responsible spending.

Any increase in resources must be justified by concrete results and real benefits for European citizens.

Paolo Borchia

> "Brussels must demonstrate that it can manage existing resources wisely."



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

The Commission's 2027 Agenda: Less Red Tape, or More Europe?

Competitiveness and simplification. The Commission tries to sooth us with the familiar buzzwords, hoping to pacify voters' discontent, member states' grievances, and industries' suffering.

For the 2027 work programme, we can expect another attempt to present European integration as the inevitable answer to every crisis. Expect more opaque omnibus packages, a push for a deeper single market, and initiatives on investment, digitalisation and defence. The irony is that the institution promising to simplify Europe is often the same institution that makes it unnecessarily complicated.

We also expect renewed pressure for deeper integration in foreign policy, security and economic governance. Under the banner of efficiency, national vetoes and democratic accountability may once again be portrayed as obstacles rather than essential safeguards for democratic legitimacy.

After years of burdensome regulation, high energy costs and declining industrial confidence, Brussels can no longer ignore the damage its policies have inflicted.

The real test of the 2027 programme will therefore not be how many initiatives it announces, but how many it abandons. Will the Commission withdraw obsolete legislation, respect national competences and restore room for businesses to breathe? Or will simplification become another justification for centralisation?

The EU does not need more Brussels-driven ambition. It needs fewer unnecessary rules and stronger national democracies.

Marieke Ehlers

> "Behind the polished language, one question remains: will the Commission finally learn the limits of its own power?"



MEP Patriots Group, Head of Dutch delegation - PVV

Ceuta: They Voted The Resolution, Now They Bury The Inquiry

Two months is not a procedural delay. It is a decision, and on 14 October the EPP took it, voting with the Socialists and the Left at the Conference of Presidents to keep the special committee on Ceuta off this week's agenda.

Patriots for Europe forced this Parliament to confront the invasion, and in September the Chamber voted our case: an attack on the Union's southern border, hybrid warfare against a member state, a parliamentary investigation to establish who planned it. The EPP voted for that too.

One hundred and sixty-five members signed our request, twenty-one more than required, from twenty-five countries and five political groups, including all twenty-two Spanish Popular Party members.

The EPP has now voted to bury the only instrument capable of delivering what it backed a month ago.

Meanwhile Ceuta waits. Not two months in the abstract: two months of businesses that stay shut, of schools that do not run normally, of a city living with an attack nobody has answered for. Every week without an inquiry is a week handed to those who invaded Ceuta and those who refused to defend it. Evidence does not improve with age.

We are asking this plenary to restore the committee to the agenda now. It would establish who attacked Ceuta and who failed to act, examining the Moroccan authorities, Pedro Sánchez's government and the EU institutions, and propose real measures to protect European borders against the weaponisation of mass immigration.

Enough of the games. Ceuta no se vende. Ceuta se defiende.

Jorge Buxadé

> "The EPP has pushed the inquiry into the invasion of Ceuta back by two months."



MEP Patriots Group, Head of Spanish delegation - VOX

No Budget Centralisation. No Common Debt. No EU Taxes.

The EU budget should serve European citizens, not the growing ambitions of the European Commission. We cannot accept further centralisation of EU finances or the transfer of more powers from Member States to Brussels. National governments must retain control over their public finances.

We reject new EU taxes and any attempts to expand the Union's own resources to finance ever-increasing spending ambitions. The Next Generation EU (NGEU) programme was presented as an exceptional response to a crisis, but its financial consequences will last for decades. Repayment of NGEU debt is scheduled to take place between 2028 and 2058. This long-term burden must not become a pretext for permanent common borrowing, new EU taxes or further transfers of national powers to EU institutions.

Common debt does not eliminate costs. It shifts the burden onto future budgets and taxpayers.

Instead of using NGEU repayment to justify new taxes or further borrowing, the EU must rein in its spending ambitions.

Poland's National Recovery and Resilience Plan (KPO) illustrates the consequences of linking access to EU funds to conditions established at European level. The rule of law conditionality mechanism must be distinguished from the milestones and targets required to unlock payments under national recovery plans. We oppose the use of funding conditions as a means of political pressure on Member States.

The 2027 budget should prioritise fiscal discipline and spending restraint while respecting national sovereignty.

Anna Brylka

> "We oppose the use of funding conditions as a means of political pressure on Member States."



MEP Patriots Group, Head of Polish delegation – Ruch Narodowy

Clean Deal: European Commission Clings to Climate Targets

From 9 to 20 November, the UN climate circus pitches its tents in Antalya, Turkey. Thousands of unelected bureaucrats, lobbyists and climate activist will fly to the Turkish Riviera for COP31.

The irony, however, could hardly be greater: while Turkey rolls out the red carpet, the country itself is the largest producer of coal-fired electricity on the European continent. The Turkish government continues to grant purchase guarantees for domestic coal plants well into the 2030s and a phase out date does not exist.

While the European Union dismantles its own industry with suffocating regulations, drives up energy prices for millions of households and willingly surrenders its competitive position, the host country of the COP31 yearly CO_2 emissions has risen over 202% since 1990.

COP31 exposes the staggering hypocrisy of the global climate establishment. Brussels sacrifices European industry, jobs and prosperity on the altar of the Green Deal, and the rest of the world continues to expand its emissions.

Year after year these conferences deliver the same empty spectacle: photo opportunities and vague promises that result in more bureaucracy, loss of prosperity and the continued dismantling of our economy.

Europe must reject this charade. We should not be lectured by a UN circus that produces nothing but destructive symbolism. Climate policy must serve our people, our industry and our sovereignty, not a talking shop that jets from city to city, achieving nothing yet costing us everything.

Barbara Bonte

> "We should not be lectured by a UN circus that produces nothing but destructive symbolism."



MEP Patriots Group, Flemish delegation – Vlaams Belang

Skills Europe Can Build On

Vocational education and training is not a second choice. It is the backbone of Europe's industrial base, from automotive and engineering to traditional crafts and the conservation of our cultural heritage. Many of these skills risk disappearing simply because no one is passing them on. Apprenticeships, dual training and mentoring by experienced workers are the most practical answer.

But the solution will not come from new European curricula. Education remains a national competence, and rightly so. Schools, municipalities, regions and local employers know local realities far better than any new European structure. The EU can add value in some areas, such as removing administrative and legal barriers to apprentice mobility, keeping Erasmus+ focused on its original purpose, and making existing tools such as Europass and the European Qualifications Framework work better, rather than inventing new ones.

We also need to look after the people who make vocational education possible. Only 18% of VET teachers feel their profession is valued. Without respected, well-prepared teachers and trainers, no strategy will succeed. A good vocational school is vital to a town: it gives young people real skills, helps local businesses find the workers they need, and creates opportunities for people to build their future in their own community.

Europe must give vocational schools the recognition they deserve, value the work of teachers and trainers, and make it easier for them to focus on what matters most: preparing young people for real jobs and strengthening local communities.

Antonín Staněk

> “Europe must give vocational schools the recognition they deserve.”



MEP Patriots Group, Head of CZ delegation - Motoriste

PATRIOTS INITIATIVES

3 amendments to the **Guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States;**

2 amendments to **Combating VAT fraud;**

4 amendments to **Simplification of waste legislation;**

1 amendment to the **Discharge 2024: General budget of the EU - European Council and Council;**

2 amendments to **Boosting skills in the Union – opportunities for vocational education and training;**

10 amendments to the **Future of Euro-Mediterranean relations – the Pact for the Mediterranean;**

6 amendments to the **Erasmus+ programme 2028–2034;**

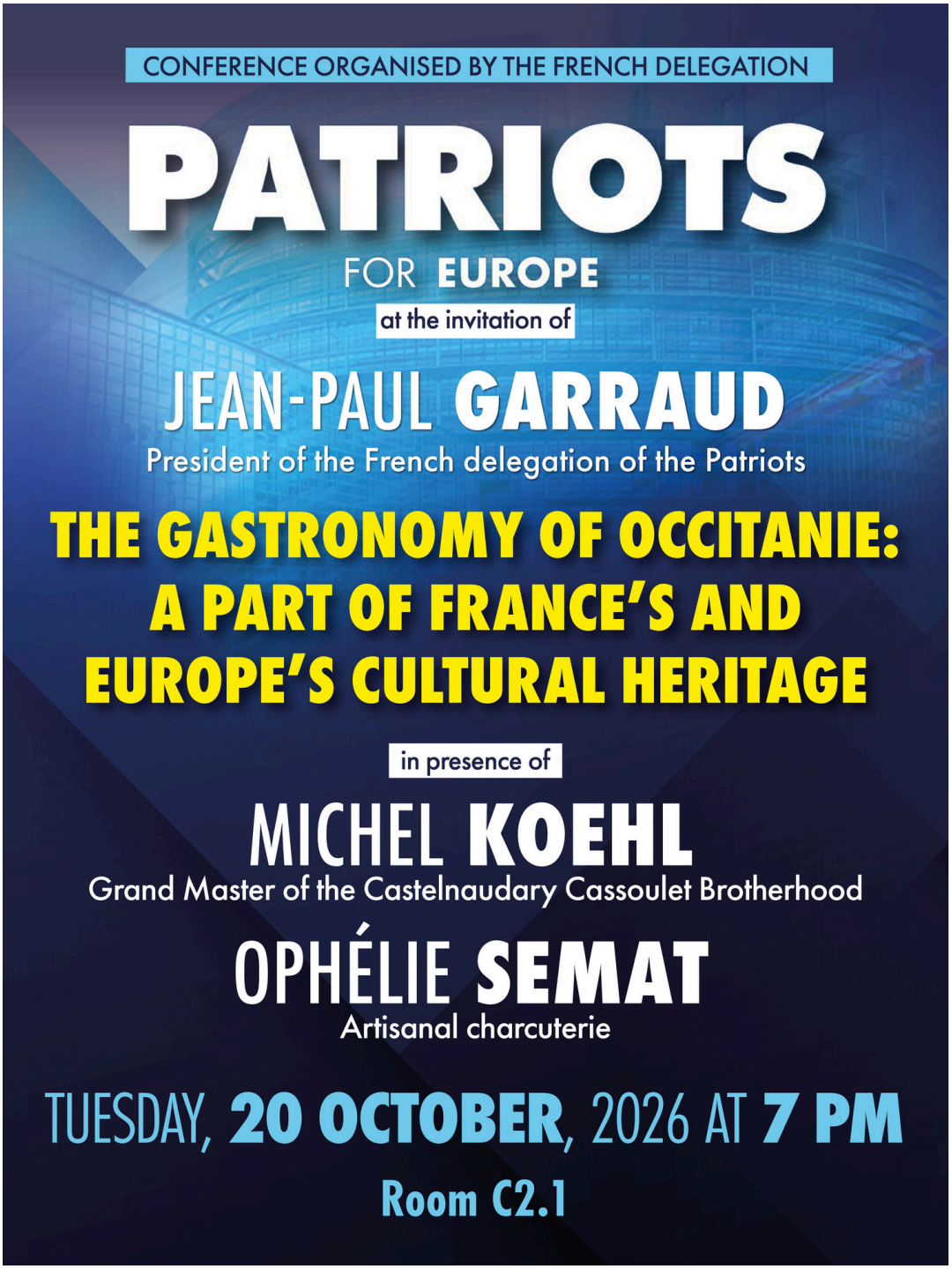
40 amendments to the resolution for **Budget 2027;**

61 budgetary amendments to **General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027;**

4 amendments to the **Revised benchmark values for the heat and fuel benchmarks for the period from 2026 to 2030;**

A motion for a resolution on **Escalation of Houthi attacks and implications for regional security.**

PATRIOTS EVENTS



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