

A day in the life of Molly Scott Cato MEP



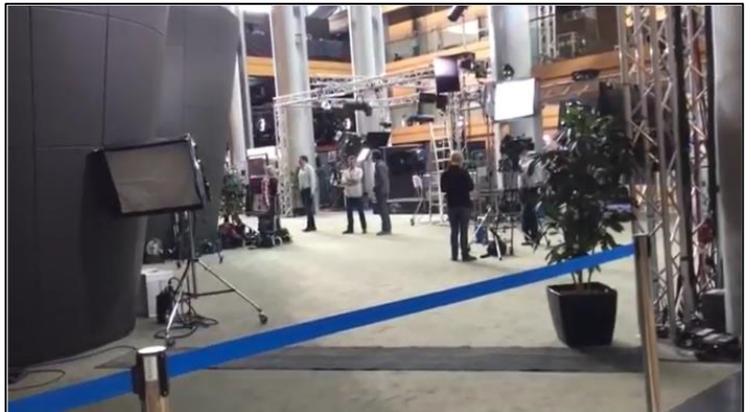
It's just before 8am, 11th May, and I lock up my bike outside the Winston Churchill building of the European Parliament in Strasbourg. It's named after him because he's considered to be one of the founding fathers of the European Union, with his vision of unified states of Europe. Strasbourg is a lovely city, but we've been campaigning to end the two seats of the European Parliament and stick to Brussels. We're still waiting on member state governments to agree to this though!

My first meeting is of our Verde Latino group. It's an internal group of [Greens-EFA](#) MEPs that focus on the EU's relationship with Latin America. Next week we're meeting in Lisbon with representatives from Latin America so we talk about the topics we'll discuss: do trade treaties really work for us or for them, why there are always attacks on Venezuela, and how we can make sure Argentina doesn't go wild for Fracking.



9am and it's time to be briefed in my office by our two experts David and Seb. I'm standing in during a banking union meeting later for a German Green MEP whose wife has just had a baby. We're going over the technical details of what happens when a bank goes bust and who picks up the bill.

10am at the media area of the Parliament, where I'm being interviewed with UKIP's Julia Reid for BBC Sunday Politics on what the EU has done for the environment. There's been a last minute change of plans when she doesn't show, so I'll be debating the Earl of Dartmouth instead.



If you'd like to find out more about my work in the Parliament and at home in the South West please visit <http://mollymep.org.uk/>

A day in the life of Molly Scott Cato MEP

11am - Time to dash off to a cross party meeting of UK MEPs. With the EU referendum looming, we we're working closer than we normally would to make sure that we're not duplicating each other's work, and that our facts and figures are correct when we share them.



12pm and the ringing of a bell signals the start of voting in plenary. All the MEPs head down into the Hemicycle voting chamber, where we'll be voting on a variety of proposals and the amendments MEPs have made to them. The votes happen over 3 days and today we're voting on some economic issues and Europol changes.

The voting can also be done electronically to show who voted for and against each proposal.

1pm, Today's votes are finished and I've got some time for lunch with my German friend and colleague Maria Heubuch MEP. We're discussing our work on the Agriculture Committee and how we can make that more effective, as we share a view on the benefits of organic agriculture, local food and preventing land grabbing. Half way through we're joined by Philippe Lamberts, Belgian MEP and leader of the Greens-EFA group.



2.30pm. Into the Food Working Group of Greens-EFA MEPs. We're discussing the proposal to relicense the environmentally damaging pesticide Glyphosate and good practice for our campaign against it. As a group we have a good reputation for promoting and protecting the quality of European food, so we're also talking about GM crops and soil health.

If you'd like to find out more about my work in the Parliament and at home in the South West please visit <http://mollymep.org.uk/>

A day in the life of Molly Scott Cato MEP

At 4pm, I head off to the Banking Union working group of the Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON) committee where I'm standing in for my German colleague after my briefing this morning, as I also sit on this committee.

Then at 5pm I'm part of the cross party Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly, and we meet to prepare for the meeting with the parliamentarians from Latin America in Lisbon.



6pm is the start of our group meeting of Greens-EFA MEPs. We meet every evening in Strasbourg to outline our political priorities, bring together the various working groups, and discuss how we're going to vote in the next day's plenary session. These meetings go on for quite a while, with lively debate when MEPs disagree on how the group should be voting.

7pm. and half way through our group meeting, I go back down to the Hemicycle chamber (the plenary session goes on all day from 9am - midnight) to make a speech on tax avoidance and preventing companies from shifting their profits overseas. The amount of time an MEP is allowed to speak is based on the size of their group and all of the plenary is live streamed. You can see my speech [here](#).



We wrap up the group meeting at 8pm, and because it's still light outside I can hop back on my bike. Over dinner I can digest the day and catch up with my team on the latest news from the West Country.

Tomorrow afternoon will mark the end of this month's plenary.

If you'd like to find out more about my work in the Parliament and at home in the South West please visit <http://mollymep.org.uk/>