

CHAIR'S WELCOME



The next ENVI committee meetings will take place on 7-8 June in Brussels and 12 June in Strasbourg.

We are honoured to hold an extraordinary meeting, together with the Committee on Development, with the participation of prominent UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) advocates. Nominated by the UN Secretary General to promote the 17 SDGs, the advocates are meeting in

Brussels for the European Development Days and will discuss "Global Goals for People, Planet and Prosperity". The meeting will be opened jointly by Antonio Tajani, President of the European Parliament, and Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of Norway, and speakers will include, among others, advocate Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Prize laureate.

As part of the Union's commitment to leading the way in the global fight against climate change, we will discuss a draft opinion on energy efficiency. Improving energy efficiency will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy security, cut energy costs for households and companies, benefit public health and help alleviate energy poverty. Moreover, this will contribute to reaching the targets of the historic Paris Agreement.

We will also hold an implementation session with the European Commission on the Birds and Habitats Directives. This gives us the opportunity to monitor the implementation of the legislation and identify the areas where there has been successful action and those which need improvement. We will also hear about the Action Plan for nature, people and the economy, recently put forward by the Commission.

Finally, on Monday 12 June in Strasbourg, we will hold an exchange of views with Mr Frans Timmermans, First Vice-President of the European Commission, as part of the yearly structured dialogue exercise. The key issues that will be raised are the Circular Economy and the SDGs.

Follow our discussions live and get involved in the debate at <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/envi/home.html>

[Adina-Ioana Vălean](#)

MEETING ITEMS

Votes:

- 2018 Budget - Mandate for the Trilogue
- Application of the Environmental Liability Directive 2004/35/EC with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage (the 'ELD')

Considerations:

- Energy efficiency
- Legitimate measures to protect whistle-blowers acting in the public interest when disclosing the confidential information of companies and public bodies

Exchanges of views:

- Implementation of environmental legislation – Presentation of Action Plan for nature, people and the economy; Birds and Habitats Directives
- with Mr Frans Timmermans, First Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Better Regulation, Inter-Institutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights, as part of the structured dialogue

Next meeting of the ENVI Committee

21-22 June 2017 (Brussels); For future meetings see [2017 meeting dates](#).

Watch online

Watch the Committee meeting live on the [EP web site](#) or on [Europarl TV](#). Past meetings are available via the [EP Live multimedia library](#) and you can also download the extracts of speeches.

More information

Contact the ENVI Secretariat: envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu or visit the [website](#) of the ENVI Committee.

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Further information sources

The EP Policy Departments [publish](#) studies, notes, information notes and workshop proceedings; to contact them, write to Poldep-Economy-Science@europarl.europa.eu. The EP Library regularly prepares briefings summarising information related to topical subjects. Find the latest updates via the links [briefings](#) and [blog](#).

VOTES

2018 Budget - Mandate for the Trilogue

Vote on draft opinion in letter form (see [meeting documents](#))

As it has already been the case in the past, this year the ENVI opinion on the mandate for the budgetary trilogue takes the form of a letter (RoP 53(1)). The aim is to present, in very general terms, the main budgetary concerns of the ENVI Committee.

The letter was drafted by the Chair (also Standing Rapporteur on the budget) together with the Shadow Rapporteurs. The letter will now be formally endorsed by the ENVI Committee by vote.

The next steps in the budgetary procedure in ENVI include the work on the ENVI opinion on the 2018 draft budget (consideration in ENVI on 10 July, vote on 31 August), and the work on the ENVI budgetary amendments, including pilot projects and preparatory actions (vote also on 31 August).

Rapporteur: [Valean \(EPP\)](#)

Shadows: [Girling \(ECR\)](#), [Jäättteenmäki \(ALDE\)](#), [Flanagan \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Eickhout \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [D'Ornano \(ENF\)](#)

Application of the Environmental Liability Directive 2004/35/EC with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage (the 'ELD')

Vote on draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))

The Environmental Liability Directive establishes a framework to prevent and remedy environmental damage to biodiversity, water and land. Based on the 'polluter pays' principle, it enforces that the liable operator must take the necessary preventive or remedial action and bear all costs.

The implementation report, for which JURI is the lead committee, relates to the Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage (COM(2016)0204). It assesses the application of the Directive between 2007 and 2013. According to the report, full transposition of the Directive by Member States has only been achieved since mid-2010, and considerable diversity remains.

In his draft opinion, the Rapporteur calls for the extension of strict liability for all environmental damage and for the imposition of liability for human health and environmental damage. He also recommends mandatory subsidiary state liability, mandatory financial security for operators and a supplementary EU-wide fund.

58 amendments have been submitted to the draft opinion. **6 compromise amendments** have been negotiated, replacing 29 amendments.

Rapporteur: [Javor \(Greens/EFA\)](#)

Shadows: [Pietikäinen \(EPP\)](#), [Androulakis \(S&D\)](#), [Dohrmann \(ECR\)](#), [Jäättteenmäki \(ALDE\)](#), [Hazekamp \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#), [D'Ornano \(ENF\)](#)

CONSIDERATIONS

Energy efficiency

Consideration of draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))



This proposal to amend Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency is part of the Commission's "Clean Energy" package. As its key element, the proposal expands the timeline of the existing legal framework and intends to establish a 30% energy efficiency target for 2030 at EU level.

In her draft opinion, the Rapporteur proposes measures that would lead to a projected 47% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in the EU compared to 1990 levels. She further stresses the need to pursue these efforts beyond 2030 towards reaching net carbon neutrality by 2050. The Rapporteur further focuses on energy security, as well as on energy poverty, for which she proposes that Member States be obliged to require a significant share of measures to be implemented in affected households and social housing. She also tackles legal loopholes and cases of Member State negligence.

Rapporteur: [Guteland \(S&D\)](#)

Shadows: [Belet \(EPP\)](#), [Wiśniewska \(ECR\)](#), [Mazuronis \(ALDE\)](#), [Konečná \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Javor \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#), [Goddyn \(ENF\)](#)

Legitimate measures to protect whistle-blowers acting in the public interest when disclosing the confidential information of companies and public bodies

Consideration of draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))

The Council of Europe defines a "whistleblower" as any person who reports or discloses information on a threat or harm to the public interest in the context of their work-based relationship, whether it be in the public or private sector. The purpose of the JURI INI report is to reflect on how to balance the legitimate actions of whistleblowers in the public interest and the protection of sensitive information. The JURI report would feed into a possible Commission proposal to strengthen the protection of whistleblowers in EU law, expected by the end of the year.



In the draft opinion, the Rapporteur particularly stresses that whistleblowers play a key role in reducing public health, environment and food safety risks, and that protecting them will encourage further disclosure of such dangers. He also urges the Commission to put forward a proposal for a protection directive, stressing that environmental crimes, which may result in health and food issues, should fall within the scope of any EU instrument protecting whistleblowers.

Rapporteur: [Flanagan \(GUE/NGL\)](#)

Shadows: [Turcanu \(EPP\)](#), [Childers \(S&D\)](#), [Barekov \(ECR\)](#), [Bearder \(ALDE\)](#), [Javor \(Greens/EFA\)](#)

EXCHANGES OF VIEWS

Implementation of environmental legislation - Presentation of Action Plan for nature, people and the economy; Birds and Habitats Directives



In 2014, the Commission launched a Fitness Check of the two Nature Directives. This evaluation showed that both Directives are fit for purpose as part of the EU biodiversity policy, but achieving their objectives and realising their full potential will

depend upon proper implementation. The Nature Action Plan, which was published by the Commission on 27 April this year, follows up on these conclusions.

The exchange of views will be an opportunity to monitor the implementation of the legislation and identify the areas that need improvement. Members tabled 45 questions, the vast majority of which relate to the recently published Nature Action Plan, with some questions directly concerning the implementation of the Birds and the Habitats Directives.

In view of the rather high number of questions and the overlaps in content, the Commission will answer all questions in a presentation with a focus on the Action Plan. Follow-up questions will then be raised by Members.

Exchange of views with Mr Frans Timmermans, First Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Better Regulation, Inter-Institutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights as part of the structured dialogue

On 12 June, the ENVI Committee will hold an extraordinary meeting in Strasbourg in order to exchange views with the Vice-President in charge of Better Regulation, Inter-Institutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights as part of the annual structural dialogue exercise.



The implementation of the Circular Economy Action Plan, including the upcoming Plastics Strategy and the Sustainable Development Goals should be discussed.

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT

Recent Publications

- [Briefing on the UN Ocean Conference - June 2017](#)
- [Briefing on circular economy with focus on waste and renewable energy and sustainable bioenergy in Estonia](#)
- [Proceedings of the workshop on "Supporting the market for secondary raw materials"](#)

Upcoming Publications

- Proceedings of the workshop on EU action to combat marine litter
- Study on Green Public Procurement and the EU Action Plan for the Circular Economy

To request a hard copy of any publication please contact:
Poldep-Economy-Science@ep.europa.eu

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

European Environment Agency ([EEA](#))



European bathing water quality in 2016 To help citizens make informed choices, the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the European Commission publish the annual European bathing water quality report. The information contained in this edition - which covers bathing water quality in 2016 in the EU Member States, Albania and Switzerland - indicates where good quality bathing water is likely to be found in 2017. [More](#)

European Chemicals Agency ([ECHA](#))



ECHA has published five documents that will help registrants preparing dossiers that cover nanoforms ahead of the 2018 REACH registration deadline. The documents include two new pieces of guidance as well as recommendations and updates of the existing guidance on nanomaterials. All these documents have been developed to give the best possible support to registrants of substances that include nanoforms. [More](#)

European Food Safety Authority ([EFSA](#))



EFSA has published a statement addressing stakeholder concerns related to the EU assessment of glyphosate and the "Monsanto papers". The statement describes the process of the scientific assessment of glyphosate, focusing on the role of

industry and observers. It concludes that there are no grounds to suggest that industry improperly influenced the EU assessment of glyphosate. [More](#)

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control ([ECDC](#))



Communicable diseases are not always caused by contacts with humans but can also be water or foodborne or originate from contacts with animals. Starting in 2015 ECDC has introduced a Food and Waterborne Diseases and Zoonoses Programme (FWDEEP), an exchange programme intended for public health experts covering diseases such as the Legionnaires' disease and Creutzfeldt-Jakob. [More](#)

European Medicines Agency ([EMA](#))



Regulatory guidance for industry to prepare for the UK's withdrawal from the EU. EMA and the European Commission publish guidance in a series of Q&As to help pharmaceutical companies to prepare for the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union. The guidance relates to both human and veterinary medicines. [More](#)

About the editor

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