

Newsletter

June 2017

Editorial by Karima Delli



The long anticipated legislative road package has finally arrived. The European Commission's proposals will keep the Transport and Tourism Committee of the European Parliament busy for the next months. And with six legislative proposals, passionate debates can be expected!

Social, environmental and digital issues are at the core of this legislative package. The mission of our parliamentary committee is now to amend it as well as possible in order to meet the challenges of today: a fair Europe protecting working conditions of employees, a Europe caring for the environment and for our future generations; a Europe leading in innovation and efficiency.

Following the presentation of this project by Commissioner Bulc earlier this month, we will have an exchange of views with DG MOVE after summer, preceding a joint hearing with the EMPL committee on working conditions for mobile workers. We have also scheduled a public hearing in November on access to markets as well as on social questions and the road charging system.

These occasions for debate should kickstart the legislative process and allow the TRAN Members in charge of these files to rise up to the challenges and present their reports in January 2018.

For the TRAN Committee the work on the road package has only just begun!

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Regulation repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 1101/89, Regulation (EC) No 888/2000 and (EC) No 685/2001 (inland waterways and road transport) COM(2016)0745

Adoption of draft report

- Rapporteur: Mrs Karima Delli (Greens)
- Ordinary legislative procedure, report
- Vote in TRAN: 38 in favour, 1 against, 0 abstention
- Vote in Plenary: September 2017

EU Emissions trading system (ETS)

Adoption of draft opinion

The draft opinion was adopted by 33 votes in favour, 5 against and 1 abstention.

- Rapporteur: Mrs Jacqueline Foster (ECR)
- Ordinary legislative procedure, opinion
- Vote in TRAN: 33 in favour, 5 against and 1 abstention
- Vote in ENVI: 11 July 2017
- Vote in Plenary: tbd

Driving licences and periodic training of drivers of certain road vehicles

Consideration of draft report

Mr Lundgren (EFDD) presented his draft report, which, apart from a couple of modifications addressing specific problems linked to driving in the extreme weather conditions, drivers' learning during gainful employment and counterfeiting and traffic of illegal licences, is very close to the Council's general approach. He also proposed to add a couple of exemptions extending to small, local transport and using alternatively fuelled vehicles.

The Commission's original proposal aims at updating and addressing a few shortcomings in the otherwise effective Directive 2003/59/EC on the initial qualification and periodic training requirements for professional drivers of trucks and buses. The purpose of the Directive is to raise standards among new drivers, to maintain and improve the professional skills of existing truck and bus drivers and to lay down standards on professional skills to ensure fair competition throughout the EU.

The vote is scheduled only in October but the Committee is hopeful it can still reach a consensus with the Estonian presidency before the end of 2017

- Rapporteur: Mr Peter Lundgren (Greens)
- Ordinary legislative procedure, report
- Deadline for amendments: 27 June
- Vote in TRAN: 12 October 2017
- Vote in Plenary: tbd

Promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources

Consideration of draft opinion

The draftsman presented his draft opinion, proposing a higher target for renewable energy, more stringent sustainability criteria for first generation biofuels and stronger incentives for the use of advanced biofuels and renewable electricity.

During the debate, many issues were raised such as the need for a gradual transition between first generation and advanced biofuels, the desired amount of flexibility for Member States for reaching the targets, the possibilities for aviation to use renewable energy and the urgency to adapt the existing refuelling/recharging infrastructure.

- Rapporteur: Mr Bas Eickhout (Greens/EFA)
- Ordinary legislative procedure, opinion
- Vote in TRAN: 25 September
- Vote in ITRE: 11/12 October 2017
- Vote in Plenary: tbd



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A European Strategy for Low-Emission Mobility Strategic

Consideration of amendments

The Rapporteur and the Shadow Rapporteurs underlined the complexity of the file and the link with ENVI, associated under Rule 54, with certain exclusive competences.

They referred to the 479 AMs submitted stressing as main issues to be agreed upon:

- the approach on aviation emissions, within ICAO and the EU position;
 - the implications of “technology neutrality”;
 - the question of biofuels;
 - the effects of new technologies on manufacturers;
 - the need for a holistic view and a pragmatic approach, taking into consideration the public health, as well as the impact on consumers and tackling the multi-modal transportation, including public transport, etc.
- Rapporteur: Mr Bas Eickhout (Greens/EFA)
 - Own initiative procedure, report
 - Vote in TRAN: 25 September
 - Vote in plenary: tbd

Cross-border parcel delivery services

Consideration of amendments

The Rapporteur stressed that the regulation is meant to deal with the cross-border delivery of parcels and that the objectives are to improve the service for customers and to bring more transparency on tariffs.

Discussions were held on different aspects, including on fundamental aspects like the object of the regulation (only Universal Service Providers or all parcel service delivery providers) or the length and the type of the information to be provided to national regulatory authorities by the respective parcel delivery providers.

- Rapporteur: Lucy Anderson (S&D)
- Ordinary Legislative procedure, report
- Vote in TRAN Committee: 11 July 2017
- Vote in Plenary: tbd

Promoting multimodality and innovative financing

Exchange of views with European Coordinators

The European TEN-T Coordinators, Mr Péter Balázs and Mr Kurt Bodewig, presented the progress made in the implementation of the North Sea - Mediterranean and the Baltic - Adriatic core network corridors. They

highlighted upcoming actions aimed at promoting multimodality throughout the TEN-T and ensuring adequate financing of the needed investments in the TEN-T in the years to come.

Members inquired about the state-of-play of the cross-border projects in the corridors, progress in the coordination of Member States actions and connecting to Western Balkan countries. Speakers also pointed out that Ireland needs to remain fully connected within the TEN-T under any Brexit scenario.

Regarding the financing of the TEN-T, Members underlined the need for a careful analysis of the effectiveness of the present instruments for funding transport infrastructure investments in order to ensure an adequate financing framework for the further development of the TEN-T beyond 2020.



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Road package

Exchange of views with Commissioner Mrs Bulc

The Commissioner presented the mobility package with main focus on competitive and fair mobility, as well as on road charging. The Commission proposed to amend a serie of legislation on market access and social rights for truck drivers and amendments to the Eurovignette Directive and the Interoperability Directive to introduce regulations for distance based road charging systems for trucks and cars. The cooperation on enforcement among Member States would also be strengthened.

In the debate, Members raised questions about next steps in terms of planning, asked for explanations of newly proposed rules on cabotage, light commercial vehicles and enforcement. Many Members highlighted importance of smart tachographs for efficient enforcement of new rules. In this regard, they were critical to long deadlines for retrofitting trucks with smart tachographs. Some Members questioned proposed changes in rules governing cabotage. It was also stressed that we need to find a right balance between market and social aspects of the package with a focus on making implementable rules.

Road transport safety: Technical roadside inspection (COM(2017)0099) and Access to the occupation of road transport operator (COM(2017)0116)

Scrutiny - presentation by DG MOVE

Members raised concerns about the decrease in number of checks on EU roads that questions the efficient implementation of EU legislation. They expressed hopes for the future when a new system of technical roadside inspections, based on a risk rating of hauliers, would be introduced. Members also used this opportunity to ask questions on smart tachographs and cabotage, which are issues related to the mobility package.

Delegated Regulation on EU-wide multimodal travel information and CEF Programme support action

Scrutiny - presentation by the Commission

The Commission presented the final text adopted on 31st of May. The Parliament has two months to object.

In accordance to this delegated act, Member States will grant via National Access Points (NAP) access and exchange of public and private travel and traffic data for travel planning across all modes of transport. Its objective is to ensure compatibility, interoperability and continuity for the deployment and operational use of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) and to make EU-wide multimodal travel information services accurate and available across borders.

The CEF Programme Support Action was enacted to support an early implementation of multimodal travel information services which apply to the Core TEN-T network including urban nodes. The action will support both public transport data conversion to European interoperable standards and the use of standardized interfaces to link directly different travel information services. The CEF Programme Support Action has a budget of 5 millions split among Member States by

direct grants. The funding should begin from January 2018 and activities must be completed by 2022.

Passenger night trains in Europe: the end of the line?

Presentation by Policy Department: Mr Dick Dunmore, Steer Davies Gleave

The number of passenger night trains offering sleeping accommodation operated within Europe has declined rapidly since 2010, a tendency that Transport and Tourism Committee would like to reverse.

The study presented how the sector operate, the current viability of night trains, the future challenges and proposed recommendations as monitoring the sector, reducing infrastructure charges and making subsidy more flexible.

Members representing different political groups took the floor considering the study as an interesting approach to evaluate the difficulties and the challenges for this sector. They supported the recommendations to guaranty the viability of the night trains. Environmental considerations (contribution to climate change and fair taxation for the different transport systems) were mentioned by different MEPs to support EU initiatives in favour of this transport modality.

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/601977/IPOL_STU\(2017\)601977_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/601977/IPOL_STU(2017)601977_EN.pdf)



Recent events:

Agreement with the Maltese EU Council Presidency on the revised rules on passenger ship safety standards, inspections and passenger registration

The European Parliament reached a preliminary agreement with the Maltese EU Council presidency on the revised rules on passenger ship safety standards, inspections and passenger registration. Those three files are part of a broader review of EU legislation, which aims to make travelling by sea safer while simplifying the rules and cutting administrative costs.

All three Rapporteurs expressed their satisfaction with the agreements reached.



Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (ALDE, ES), Rapporteur for rules on the registration of ship passengers, stressed that the new rules on digital reporting of the passenger data will guarantee a better intervention of rescue services in case of accident.



Dominique Riquet (ALDE, FR), rapporteur for rules on inspections of ro-ro ferries and high-speed passenger craft said that the agreement would lead to a reinforced and simpler system of inspections for the safe operation of those ships by ensuring that the mandatory two inspections per year are carried out on a regular basis.



Daniela Aiuto (EFDD, IT), rapporteur for safety rules and standards for passenger ships was pleased that those new rules would help to maintain and improve safety while making their application simpler and more transparent.

TRAN committee will vote on the outcome of last week's negotiations at the next committee meeting on 11 July.

Visit to Paris Charles de Gaulle airport - Paris Air Show

The Chairwoman, Karima Delli accompanied by representatives of the TRAN Committee, the French Parliament and Airports Council International visited Paris Charles de Gaulle airport (Groupe ADP) and the Paris Air Show at Le Bourget on 21st of June.

Important issues related to airport development and constraints were touched upon, as Brexit, security policy, environmental issues and connectivity between airports and urban centres.



The group visited some essential airport facilities, as the Collaborative Decision Making room, a system put in place to ensure the sharing in real-time of information between all aviation partners in order to ensure traffic flows smoothly in normal and difficult situations, the control tower and the Biomass plant.

The afternoon was dedicated to the visit of the Paris Air Show, meeting major enterprises of the aviation sector (Airbus, Thales, Safran, Dassault-Aéronefs). A particular attention was also given to start-ups specialised in innovation and digitalisation, gathered under the Paris Air Lab initiative.

Next TRAN Committee meeting: planned draft agenda - To be confirmed

Monday 10 July, afternoon

- Budget 2018 (opinion to BUDG) - presentation of draft opinion
- INI Report on Saving Lives: Boosting Car Safety in the EU - presentation of draft report
- Multilateral Agreement on the establishment of a European Common Aviation Area (ECAA) - consideration of draft report
- International ocean governance: an agenda for the future of our oceans (Opinion to ENVI) - consideration of draft opinion
- Opinion (to JURI) on the alignment of the regulatory procedure with scrutiny (RPS) to the TFEU - consideration of draft opinion

Tuesday, 11 July, morning

- Multilateral Agreement on the establishment of a European Common Aviation Area (ECAA) - vote
- Proposal for a Regulation on cross-border parcel delivery services - vote
- Presentation by the Estonian Minister for Economic Affairs and Infrastructure, Mrs Kadri Simson, on the priorities of the Estonian Presidency
- Tourism Task Force: Presentation by Commissioner Bienkowska of Tourism policy

Tuesday, 11 July, afternoon

- Hearing: "The impact of Brexit on aviation"
- Presentation by DG MOVE of CEF call results 2016

Meeting room: JAN 6Q2

Useful links

TRAN website: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/TRAN>

Policy Department Publication in the European Parliament:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/supporting-analyses.html>

European Aviation Safety Agency newsletters: <http://easa.europa.eu/communications/general-publications.php>

European Railway Agency newsletters: <http://www.era.europa.eu/Communication/Newsletter>

European Maritime Safety Agency newsletters: <http://www.emsa.europa.eu/news-a-press-centre/newsletters.html>

SESAR Joint Undertaking news: <http://www.sesarju.eu/newsroom/all-news>

Innovation & Networks Executive Agency: <http://ec.europa.eu/inea/en>

DG MOVE newsletter: <http://ec.europa.eu/transport/newsletter>

Slovak Presidency of the Council: <http://www.eu2016.sk/en>



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