

Newsletter September 2019



Petitions on plastics

The Members examined several petitions on plastics, specifically on a possible prohibition of micro plastics in cosmetics and clothing products, on water pollution through micro plastics, on measures to reduce plastic waste in general and on plastic packaging.

The Committee decided to keep most petitions open, ask the European Commission for updates, monitor the

implementation of the Strategy on Plastics and the Directive on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment in the Member States and inform Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety of the citizens' concerns.

Petitions on consumer rights in financial services

The Petitions Committee has received numerous complaints from Bulgarian citizens alleging, amongst others, that the Bulgarian enforcement procedure foreseen in the Code of Civil Procedure is incompatible with Directive 93/13/EEC on unfair terms in consumer contracts, as interpreted by the CJEU.

After an extensive debate, the Members have decided to keep the petitions open, wait for the results of the infringement procedure, send a letter to the Bulgarian Permanent Representation expressing their concerns about the consumers' situation and requesting further information, and forward these petitions to Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection and Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs.



Next PETI meeting: 2 - 3 October 2019

See [agenda](#), [documents](#) and [live broadcast](#)



Petition 0202/2018 on seating allocation policies of low cost airlines

The petitioner complains that some low cost airlines deliberately separate groups of passengers and families, especially those with small children, by routinely allocating seats in different rows in a bid to force them to pay to sit together.

The Commission pointed out that, although commercial practices of airlines are not regulated, the latter must comply with EU safety regulations.

The Members decided to keep the petition open and send it to Committee on Transport and Tourism for an opinion.

Petition 0611/2018 on US duties for ripe olives from Spain

The Committee examined a petition on US anti-dumping and countervailing duties on imports of Spanish ripe olives, which will be charged to U.S. consumers when buying ripe olives from Spain. Members stressed that the protectionist and disproportionate measures imposed by the US are not only harming Spanish farmers from the olive sector, but they could also create a very dangerous precedent in the WTO and put at risk the CAP.

The Committee decided to keep the petition open and follow closely the WTO process concerning the anti-dumping and countervailing duties imposed on ripe olives from Spain.



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