



A WORD FROM THE CHAIR



This week's committee meeting sees the culmination of a great deal of our legislative work for this term. In order to be in time for the final plenary votes in April, we will be voting on a number of important files.

In the telecoms field, we will vote on the political agreements reached on the new Regulation for electronic ID and trust services (Ulvskog report) and the new Directive on broadband cost reduction (Herczog report).

The Regulation on e-ID will boost trust and convenience in cross-border electronic transactions, which is crucial in order to promote innovation and stimulate competition in electronic service. The Directive on broadband cost reduction will make broadband infrastructure cheaper to build by enabling broadband firms to share plans and costs with firms in other sectors, such as gas, sewage and transport sectors. Given that high-speed broadband infrastructure is the backbone of the digital single market, reducing the cost of rolling out broadband networks is key to Europe's global competitiveness. We will also vote on the del Castillo report concerning the Telecoms package.

In the research field, we will vote on the political agreements reached on the Innovation Investment Package, relating to implementation of Horizon 2020. The package includes six public-private partnerships in innovative medicines, aeronautics, electronics, bio-based industries, fuel cells and hydrogen, and air traffic management; and four public-public partnerships between the Commission and Member States on new treatments against poverty-related diseases, measurement technologies for industrial competitiveness, support for high tech SMEs, and solutions for the elderly.

[Amalia Sartori](#)

MEETING OF 17-18 MARCH 2014



The Nuclear Safety of nuclear installations

(Rapporteur: [R. Jordan](#))

Consideration of amendments

The draft Council directive aims to amend the 2009/71/EURATOM directive establishing a Community framework for the nuclear safety of nuclear installations.

In addition to Commission proposal and in order to take fully in to account the lessons learned from the Fukushima nuclear accident and the outcomes of the subsequent Stress Tests, the Rapporteur welcomes the proposal of the Commission to strengthen the current regulatory framework.

Furthermore 215 amendments have been introduced and 7 compromise amendments have been suggested.

The amendments mainly address: the definition of the level of safety, the transparency and information of the public, the safety objective for nuclear installations and its implementation, the methodology for siting, design, construction, commissioning, operation and decommissioning of nuclear installations, the on-site emergency preparedness and response in case of radiological emergency and the periodic self-assessments and peer reviews of the nuclear installations.

Finally, the amendments call for a new legal basis and a new role for the European Commission and for the Nuclear Safety Regulator Group (ENSREG) as established by Commission.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

[Vote in plenary: April 2014](#)



Telecom package

(Rapporteur: [V.P. del Castillo](#))

Adoption of a [draft report](#)

On Tuesday 18 March the Committee will vote on the Telecom package.



Members tabled a total of 830 amendments to the proposal and 7 compromise amendments have been suggested.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Vote in plenary: April 2014



High-speed electronic communications networks

(Rapporteur: [E. Herczog](#))

Adoption of a [draft report](#)

Following an agreement between Parliament and Council, the outcome of the negotiations on this draft Directive will be put to the vote.

The draft Directive seeks to make it cheaper to build broadband infrastructure by making it easier for broadband firms to access the existing infrastructure of other networks (such as gas, electricity, sewage, transport), and to access information on those networks, in order to lay fibre broadband.

The Directive will also make sure that new buildings and buildings that undergo major renovation are high-speed-broadband ready.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Vote in plenary: April 2014



Electronic transactions in the internal market

(Rapporteur: [M. Ulvskog](#))

Adoption of a [draft report](#)

The Parliament and the Council reached an agreement on the proposal for a regulation on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market at the trilogue of 25 February 2014.

The proposed regulation aims to make it easier and safer to identify oneself, sign documents and check the authenticity of online documents when the parties are in different EU countries.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Vote in plenary: April 2014

Horizon 2020 - Innovation and Investment Package (PPPs and P2Ps)

Adoption of consolidated texts

Following an agreement between Parliament and Council, the outcome of the negotiations on this package will be put to the vote.

Joint Undertakings under Article 185 TFEU

- **Supporting research performing small and medium-sized enterprises**

(Rapporteur: [M. Ransdorf](#))

Relevant study: [SMEs Participation under Horizon 2020](#)

- **European Metrology Programme**

(Rapporteur: [N. Tzavela](#))

- **Clinical Trials Partnership Programme**

(Rapporteur: [V. Ford](#))

- **Active and Assisted Living**

(Rapporteur: [C. Turmes](#))

Joint Undertakings under Article 187 TFEU

- **Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 Joint Undertaking**

(Rapporteur: [T. Riera Madurell](#))

- **Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking**

(Rapporteur: [L. van Nistelrooij](#))

- **ECSEL Joint Undertaking**

(Rapporteur: [P. Rubig](#))

- **Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking**

(Rapporteur: [C. Ehler](#))

- **Fuel Cells and Hydrogen 2 Joint Undertaking**

(Rapporteur: [V.T. Panayotov](#))



- **SESAR Joint Undertaking**

(Rapporteur: [B. Thomsen](#))

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Vote in plenary: April 2014

**Shift2Rail**

(Rapporteur: [J. Andrés Barea](#))

Adoption of a [draft report](#)

The Committee will vote on the draft report of Ms Andrés-Barea.

Members tabled a total of 167 amendments, many in line with the outcome of the negotiation on the innovation investment package.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Vote in plenary: April 2014

Current interest in EU energy policy

The Committee will have an exchange of view with Mr Dominique Ristori, who was appointed new Director General of Directorate-General Energy (DG ENER) as from January 2014.

Prior to his current posting, he was Director-General of the Joint Research Centre (JRC).

The primary aim for the Committee will be to get to know the new Director-General and exchange views on issues of current interest in EU energy policy, such as the completion of the internal energy market and the implementation of the 2030 climate and energy package.

Members are also likely to discuss potential energy policy priorities and initiatives of the Commission for 2014.

Implementation of Horizon 2020: Commission update on the state of play of association and cooperation agreements

The Commission will give ITRE committee an update on the state of play of the association and cooperation agreements under Horizon 2020 which is part of ITRE's implementation scrutiny of the H2020 programme.

2nd interim evaluation of the risk-sharing financial facility (RSFF): Presentation by the Commission including recommendations for Horizon 2020 implementation

The Risk Sharing Finance Facility (RSFF), jointly developed by the European Commission and the European Investment Bank, is a debt facility providing loan finance to private and public entities for the support of additional investments in Research, Development and Innovation.

Following the 1st interim evaluation report of 2010, the 2nd interim evaluation report of the RSFF by the independent Expert group (IEG) will be presented in ITRE committee which will include also recommendations for the Horizon 2020 implementation.

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES**The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)**

ACER finds market efficiency being affected by existing bidding zones configuration

[More](#)

The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

International Roaming BEREC Benchmark Data Report April 2013 – September 2013

[More](#)

European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)

Large scale UDP attacks: the 2014 trend and how to face it

[More](#)



European Global Navigation Satellite System Gnss Agency (GNSS)

European Global Navigation Satellite Systems (EGNSS) such as EGNOS and Galileo can provide the flexible, low cost solutions that are needed by the transport sector

[More](#)

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A

Recent Publications:

[Study on 'The Impact of the Oil Price on EU Energy Prices'](#)

[Study on 'Mapping Smart Cities in the EU'](#)

[Study on 'How to Build a Ubiquitous EU Digital Society'](#)

[Study on 'SMEs participation under Horizon 2020'](#)

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Next ITRE meetings:

7 April 2014, Brussels

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