



INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY

ITRE Newsletter

ITRE

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR



This week we will hold very important exchanges of views with Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President for Energy Union, and Miguel Arias Cañete, Commissioner for Climate Action & Energy.

In these first debates since the roll-out of the Energy Union, Vice-President Šefčovič will present in more detail the forthcoming steps in the implementation of the strategy, while Commissioner Cañete will present the busy legislative and non-legislative energy and climate policy agenda for 2015. The importance of such direct discussions cannot be overestimated, and they will certainly help us maintain a strong involvement of the EP in the creation of the Energy Union.

Several other areas high on ITRE's agenda will be tackled this time, with the vote on TTIP opinion and the discussion on the EFSI opinion. In addition to this, we will exchange views on Earth observation satellite data and consider amendments on green growth opportunities for SMEs.

Wishing you a most fruitful session,

[Jerzy Buzek](#)

data, which have a very wide range of applications in many other sectors of the economy.

Green growth and Business Opportunities for SMEs

(Rapporteur: [Philippe De Backer](#))



Consideration of amendments

In the meeting on 23 March the Committee will consider the amendments that have been tabled to the draft report of Mr De Backer on "Green growth opportunities for SMEs".

In total, Members have tabled 183 amendments many of which put emphasis on the support for green economy and circular economy.

Moreover, amendments stress the importance of improving resource efficiency, the need for simple and accessible sources of information, the need to facilitate start-ups and spin-offs through collaboration with research institutes, universities and vocational training establishments.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Vote in ITRE: 14 April 2015

Vote in Plenary: 18 May 2015

MEETING OF 23-24 MARCH 2015

Dissemination of Earth observation satellite data for commercial purposes

(Rapporteur: Constanze Krehl)

Exchange of views



The ITRE Committee will hold a first exchange of views on the issues of the dissemination of Earth observation data.

The aim of the Commission proposal is to strengthen the growing market in such

Investment Plan Package

(Draftsperson: [Kathleen Van Brempt](#))



Consideration of amendments

The Committee will be considering the amendments tabled to the Draft Opinion on the Regulation setting up the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) (2015/0009(COD) and the accompanying Amending Budget (2015/2011(BUD), for which BUDG and ECON are the lead Committees.

ITRE is an Associated Committee with exclusive competences. 492 amendments



were tabled to the Draft Report on the Regulation and 14 were tabled to the Draft Report on the Amending Budget.

The Draft Opinion focused primarily on the areas on which ITRE has exclusive competences, namely Article 5.2 (Areas of Investment), Article 18 (proposed cuts from Horizon 2020) and Article 19 (proposed cuts from the Connecting Europe Facility) of the Regulation. The amendments tabled are more varied in scope and deal also with those parts which were not originally amended by the Draftsperson.

Amongst other positions, in her Draft Report, the Draftsperson has expressed her support for EFSI as a much-needed instrument to overcome the investment gap created by the financial crisis and agreed that for the markets to trust EFSI it needs to be solidly backed by an EU Guarantee to come from the EU Budget. However, she categorically disagreed with the Commission that money for the Guarantee Fund should be taken from Horizon 2020 and the Connecting Europe Facility, particularly because this would mean taking money from programmes which have been the result of long negotiations and which target the same areas as EFSI.

This position has been supported by the relevant amendments tabled to the Regulation.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Vote in ITRE: 14 April 2015

Resource efficiency: moving towards a circular economy

(Draftsperson: [Benedek Javor](#))

[Consideration of a draft opinion](#)



The legislative proposal relating to the circular economy (also called waste-package) as proposed by the former Commission, was withdrawn by the present Commission who promised to come forward with an improved proposal.

As the ENVI Committee had already started to draw up an own-initiative report on the

circular economy this work is foreseen to be continued.

The Draftsperson of ITRE's opinion to ENVI, Mr Javor, believes that, in order to tackle global challenges and the EU's resource dependency, it is essential that energy and resource efficiency form the basis of European industrial renewal so that the EU can maintain its competitiveness in the future, recreate manufacturing capacity and generate jobs for highly skilled workers. Industrial design is also an important element to avoid spoiling resources.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Deadline amendments: 26 March 2015, 12.00

Vote in ITRE: 7 May 2015



Copyright and related rights in the information society

(Draftsperson: [Jose Blanco Lopez](#))

[Consideration of a draft opinion](#)

Mr Blanco López (S&D) will present his draft opinion on the implementation of Directive 2001/29/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 on the harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the information society (Infosoc Directive).

The draft opinion acknowledges the need to review the Directive in order to ensure appropriate remuneration for copyright holders and appropriate protection of these rights in a changing and constantly evolving technological environment, which brings both opportunities and challenges and stresses that protection of copyright and related rights must respect technological neutrality.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Deadline amendments: 25 March 2015, 12.00

Vote in ITRE: 14 April 2015

**Reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants**(Draftsperson: [Adam Gierek](#))[Adoption of a draft opinion](#)

This proposal is part of the Clean Air Policy Package and aims to review and update existing EU legislation (Directive 2003/35/EC) to address the highly significant remaining health risks and environmental impact posed by air pollution in the Union.

In total, 124 amendments have been tabled to the draft opinion.

**Investment for jobs and growth**(Draftsperson: [Neoklis Sylikiotis](#))[Adoption of a draft opinion](#)

ITRE will vote on this opinion to the REGI committee report intended to respond to the Commission's Sixth report on economic, social and territorial cohesion investment for jobs and growth.

In total, 92 amendments were tabled to the draft opinion.

Recommendations to the EC on negotiations for TTIP(Rapporteur: [Jerzy Buzek](#))[Adoption of a draft opinion](#)

On 24 March the Committee will vote on the draft opinion and amendments on the European Parliament's recommendations to the European Commission on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).

In total, 215 amendments have been tabled to the draft opinion of Mr Buzek.

The opinion and most of the amendments are supportive of a specific energy chapter in the TTIP.

The opinion also recommends a specific chapter on SMEs and calls for a level playing field with equal and transparent access based on reciprocity, for EU service companies operating in the US market.

Human resources for the monitoring of wholesale energy markets by ACER[Adoption of an oral question](#)

ITRE Coordinators decided to mandate the ACER contact group to formulate, on behalf of ITRE, a question for oral answer with debate to the Commission concerning ACER's lack of human resources, which appears to make it impossible for the agency to fulfil its statutory mandate to monitor wholesale energy markets in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1227/2011 (REMIT).

The contact group agreed on a draft question, which is put to the vote in ITRE and will subsequently be tabled to plenary in April or May by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee.

Conclusion of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol[Adoption](#)

The Commission proposal provides the basis for the conclusion of the Doha Amendment by the European Union and sets out the terms of the joint fulfilment of the commitments by the European Union, its Member States and Iceland. The ratification Decision enables the EU, as a Party to the Kyoto Protocol, to ratify the Doha amendment. It also sets out the terms according to which the EU, its Member States and Iceland will fulfil the 20% emissions reduction commitment jointly. The formal entry into force of the Doha Amendment is an important objective for the European Union.

The Commission would like Member States to take the necessary steps to complete their domestic ratification processes by not



later than 16 February 2015. Once they have finalised their own ratification processes, Member States together with the EU, will simultaneously deposit their instruments of acceptance to enable simultaneous entry into force for all of them. This should take place well before the Paris Climate Change Conference at the end of 2015.

On the international level, the Doha amendment will enter into force when it has been ratified by three quarters of Parties to the Protocol (144 of the 192 Parties).

The European Union is a Party to the Protocol in its own right, as are all Member States and Iceland.

The implication of the European Parliament in the ratification is based on Article 218 TFEU (consent procedure) and thus limited to yes or no.

On 24 March the ITRE Committee will have a single vote on the Doha Amendment. The result will be transmitted to the ENVI as Committee responsible.



Next steps in the implementation of the Energy Union Strategy, Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President for Energy Union

On 25 February the Commission adopted its strategy for the creation of an Energy Union. The main goal of this strategy is to give EU consumers - households and businesses - secure, sustainable, competitive and affordable energy. The Energy Union strategy is built around five mutually-reinforcing and closely interrelated dimensions: Energy security, Internal energy market, Energy efficiency, Decarbonising the economy and Research, innovation and competitiveness.

Vice-President ŠEFČOVIČ will present the forthcoming steps in the implementation of the strategy. The strategy foresees fifteen action points. Amongst other things, during this debate the ITRE Committee will be

interested to know more about the scope and exact timing of the next legislative and non-legislative initiatives which would allow ITRE an adequate strategic planning with a view to prioritising its work.

Forthcoming energy and climate policy measures, Miguel Arias Cañete, Commissioner for Climate Action & Energy



Commissioner ARIAS CAÑETE recently discussed with ITRE the measures foreseen by the Commission to increase interconnectivity (10 February 2015).

This time the Commissioner will present and discuss with Members the forthcoming energy and climate policy initiatives foreseen in the context of the recently adopted Energy Union Strategy. Commissioner ARIAS CAÑETE will make a presentation outlining forthcoming energy and climate policy measures.

One objective for ITRE would be to obtain from the Commissioner more detailed information on the scope, content, form and timing of initiatives for 2015.

Conference on Research/Innovation and EU Neighborhood

The Directorate General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission is organising, in cooperation with AFET and ITRE committees, a conference entitled 'Building Together Knowledge-oriented and Forward-looking EU Neighborhood. Developing A Common Knowledge and Innovation Space'.

The conference will take place on 31 March 2015 in JAN 2Q2 in the European Parliament in Brussels.

The main objective of the event is to illustrate the results of the research and innovation cooperation between the EU and its neighbours towards the achievement of a Common Knowledge and Innovation



Space as well as to identify future prospects for cooperation in this field.

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

ACER publishes European Register of Market Participants and List of Standard Contracts and stands ready for REMIT data collection from Organised Market Places and ENTSO transparency platforms. [More](#)

Subscribe to ACER news [here](#)

The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

Main outcomes from the BEREC Accessibility workshop. [More](#)

European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)

Call for papers: Annual Privacy Forum 2015. [More](#)

European Global Navigation Satellite System Gns Agency (GNSS)

GSA Set to Launch 4th GNSS Market Report in Munich. [More](#)

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A

- Study on [EU Industrial policy: assessment of recent developments and recommendations for future policies](#)
- Briefing note on ['Ocean Research in Horizon 2020: The blue growth potential'](#)
- In in-depth analysis ['EU Energy Governance for the Future'](#)
- Study on ['Recovery of Rare Earths from electronic wastes'](#)
- Study on ['TTIP Impacts on European Energy Markets and Manufacturing Industries'](#)

Upcoming publications:

- Proceedings on Workshop on Cross-competition among information (digital) platforms.
- Study on "Open innovation in industry, including 3D printing"

To contact the Policy Department A or to subscribe to its newsletter please write to: Poldep-Economy-Science@europarl.europa.eu or visit [Policy Department Intranet](#) (NEW)

COMING SOON

Upcoming reports votes

- Green growth opportunities for SMEs - 14/04

Upcoming opinion votes

- Copyright and related rights in the information society - 14/04
- Limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants - 14/04
- Protection of undisclosed know-how and business information (trade secrets) against their unlawful acquisition, use and disclosure - 14/04
- Investment Plan Package - 14/04

Amendments deadlines:

- Copyright and related rights in the information society- 25/03
- Resource efficiency: moving towards a circular economy - 26/03



Watch online

The Committee meetings are web-streamed and can be watched live on the [EP website](#) or on [Europarl TV](#). Past meetings can be watched or extracts downloaded via the [EP Live Multimedia Library](#). Speeches and presentations held during ITRE meetings are available on the [ITRE website](#).

ITRE Newsletter

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Further information

For further information please contact: itre-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu or visit [ITRE website](#).

Next ITRE meetings:

14 and 20 April 2015 in Brussels

This Newsletter is produced in advance of ITRE Committee meetings by the Committee Secretariat.

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