



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

2012/2044(INI)

28.3.2012

AMENDMENTS

1 - 54

Draft opinion
András Gyürk
(PE480.801v01-00)

on 20 main concerns of European citizens and business with the functioning of
the Single Market
(2012/2044(INI))

AM_Com_NonLegOpinion

Amendment 1
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Subheading 1

Draft opinion

Energy bills

Amendment

Single Market for Energy

Or. en

Amendment 2
Andreas Mölzer

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Recalls that the EU legislation in force *protects* the rights of consumers and *provides* a solid foundation for a competitive European energy market; however, it has not yet been transposed properly into national legislation in several Member States;

Amendment

1. Recalls that the EU legislation in force *is intended to protect* the rights of consumers and *provide* a solid foundation for a competitive European energy market; however, it has not yet been transposed *adequately or* properly into national legislation in several Member States;

Or. de

Amendment 3
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Regrets that the free movement of services, accounting for 70 % of the Union's GDP, is severely constrained by administrative obstacles and diverging

national rules; urges therefore for a fully implemented and extended Service Directive covering all services in a modern knowledge-based economy;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. ***Calls on the*** Member States to ***accelerate the implementation of this EU legislation,*** and asks the Commission to undertake vigorous monitoring of the transposition of these rules;

Amendment

2. ***Urging all*** Member States to ***fully implement the third energy package and other related EU legislation respecting agreed deadlines;*** asks the Commission to undertake vigorous monitoring of the transposition of these rules;

Or. en

Amendment 5
Ioan Enciu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

2a. Recalls that the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union, art. 194, establishes that the Union policy on energy shall be driven by a spirit of solidarity between Member States; points out that the completion of the internal market of energy should take into account the structural socio-economic differences of the European regions and should not impose burdens on Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 6
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. Urgent action is needed, nationally and at EU level to remove planning and regulatory barriers to investments in energy infrastructure to release the potential of the single market;

Or. en

Amendment 7
Ioan Enciu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2b. Calls on the Commission to promote urgent measures aimed at overcoming the energy infrastructural imbalances existing in the European Union that represent an obstacle to the completion of the internal energy market and the achievement of the Europe 2020 goals;

Or. en

Amendment 8
Ioan Enciu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Urges the Member States to provide NRAs with the powers and resources needed to exercise their duties, e.g. monitoring and proper customer complaint handling; asks the Commission and ACER to propose recommendations on how the NRAs' supervisory powers could be improved;

Amendment

3. Urges the Member States to provide NRAs with the powers and resources needed to exercise their duties, e.g. monitoring and proper customer complaint handling; asks the Commission and ACER to propose recommendations on how the NRAs' supervisory powers could be improved; ***calls on the Commission to promote improvements to the coordination and the exchange of best practices and information among NRAs, national and European competent authorities;***

Or. en

Amendment 9
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

3a. Emphasises the fact that significant differences exist between energy bills, depending on the supplier, with regard to the quantity and quality of information provided to European energy consumers and emphasises that it is essential to provide consumers with timely and adequate information on consumption and pricing so that they can choose the energy supplier they wish;

Or. ro

Amendment 10
András Gyürk

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Points out that the active participation of consumers *is* needed in order to benefit from the dissemination of smart energy systems; stresses the need to promote transparent billing and the dissemination of effective and comprehensive price comparison tools, as well as easy and fast supplier switching;

Amendment

4. Points out that the active participation of consumers ***and consumer information campaigns will be*** needed in order to benefit from the dissemination of smart energy systems; ***calls on the Member States to promote smart meters which provide consumers with clear view on their energy consumption. Emphasises that the European gas and electricity prices shall be reasonable, transparent and easily comparable;*** stresses the need to promote transparent billing, ***standard format of invoices*** and the dissemination of effective and comprehensive price comparison tools as well as easy and fast supplier switching;

Or. en

Amendment 11
Ioan Enciu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Points out that the ***active*** participation of consumers is needed in order to benefit from the dissemination of smart energy systems; stresses the need to promote transparent billing and the dissemination of effective and comprehensive price comparison tools, as well as easy and fast supplier switching;

Amendment

4. Points out that the participation of consumers is needed in order to benefit from the dissemination of smart energy systems ***in particular with regard to renewable energies and energy efficiency-oriented facilities;*** ***calls on the Commission to stimulate and enable the participation of consumers in the realizations of smart energy systems, in particular through the elaboration of accessible, efficient and transparent funding schemes;*** stresses the need to promote transparent billing and the dissemination of ***clear,*** effective and

comprehensive price comparison tools, as well as easy and fast supplier switching;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Zigmantas Balčytis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Points out that the active participation of consumers is needed in order to benefit from the dissemination of smart energy systems; stresses the need to promote transparent billing and the dissemination of effective and comprehensive price comparison tools, as well as easy and fast supplier switching;

Amendment

4. Points out that ***in some EU Member States, consumers have hitherto been unable to choose electricity suppliers freely and pay a competitive and fair price for electricity***; points out that the active participation of consumers is needed in order to benefit from the dissemination of smart energy systems; stresses the need to promote transparent billing and the dissemination of effective and comprehensive price comparison tools, as well as fast and easy supplier switching;

Or. It

Amendment 13
Fiona Hall

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Points out that the active participation of consumers is needed in order to benefit from the dissemination of smart energy systems; stresses the need to promote transparent billing and the dissemination of effective and comprehensive price comparison tools, as well as easy and fast supplier switching;

Amendment

4. Points out that the active participation of consumers is needed in order to benefit from the dissemination of smart energy systems; stresses the need to promote transparent ***and accurate*** billing ***based on actual consumption*** and the dissemination of effective and comprehensive price comparison tools, as well as easy and fast

supplier switching; *emphasises that comprehensive advice and training should be provided to consumers to ensure their active participation;*

Or. en

Amendment 14
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Encourages the establishment of a common methodology and a common, comprehensive and easy-to-use format for energy-related bills, with a minimum level of information that suppliers should include when billing, to allow consumers to understand the content of their energy bills anywhere in the EU and thus to use energy more economically and efficiently;

Or. ro

Amendment 15
Bendt Bendtsen

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Points to the positive results obtained in certain Member States where energy savings requirements imposed on energy companies have led to many advantages results, including the more widespread use of smart electricity meters for the benefit of consumers;

Or. da

Amendment 16
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4b. Draws attention to the importance of measures to increase energy efficiency, especially in the building sector; calls on the Member States to ensure a sufficient number of energy auditors are in place so that the energy audit is accessible to all consumers; calls on the Member States and the Commission, in the future multi-annual financial framework, to ensure resources for the financing of energy efficiency measures in the building sector and, especially, in the housing sector; calls on the Member States and the Commission to develop a legal framework to encourage and ensure the involvement of energy suppliers in implementing measures to increase the energy performance of buildings;

Or. ro

Amendment 17
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Subheading 2

Draft opinion

Amendment

Internet and telephone services

Digital Single Market

Or. en

Amendment 18
Ioan Enciu

Draft opinion
Subheading 2

Draft opinion

Internet and telephone services

Amendment

Internet, **telephone** and **mobile** telephone services

Or. en

Amendment 19
Ioan Enciu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Calls on the Commission to monitor the market and address legislative gaps ***should they arise***;

Amendment

5. Calls on the Commission to monitor the market and address legislative gaps ***constituting impediments to the full completion of the digital and telecommunication internal market***;

Or. en

Amendment 20
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Reminding that a Digital Single Market, where services can flow freely on a 500 million consumer market, is a crucial driver for competitiveness and economic growth, providing highly-qualified jobs and facilitating EU's convergence into a knowledge driven economy;

Amendment 21
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5b. Points out that a European market with nearly 500 million people connected to high-speed broadband would act as a spearhead for the development of the internal market; stresses the need to connect the digital agenda with the provisions of new services such as e-trade, e-health, e-learning, e-banking and e-government services;

Or. en

Amendment 22
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5c. Calls for the establishment of a 'one-stop-shop' for VAT in each Member State in order to facilitate cross-border e-commerce for SMEs and entrepreneurs;

Or. en

Amendment 23
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5d. Stresses the urgent need for the EU to provide business and consumers with confidence and means to trade online in order to increase cross-border trade; therefore calls for simplification of licensing systems and the creation of an efficient framework for copyright;

Or. en

Amendment 24
Ioan Enciu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

Amendment

6. Calls on the Member States to implement the EU telecommunications legislation in a timely fashion, and asks the Commission to penalise non-implementation;

6. Calls on the Member States to implement the EU telecommunications legislation in a timely fashion, and asks the Commission to ***closely examine this implementation process and to*** penalise non-implementation;

Or. en

Amendment 25
Ioan Enciu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Points out that a roaming-free Europe for mobile telecommunication should be a goal of the European Union, to be urgently achieved, as a mean to complete the digital and telecommunication internal market, trigger the competition

among service providers by enabling the entrance of new companies, enforce consumers' rights and provide a consistent and resilient digital and telecommunication platform for the EU;

Or. en

Amendment 26
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Urges the Member States to ensure that NRAs have the resources enabling them to monitor and penalise unequal quality of service, and that consumer feedback is taken into account;

Amendment

7. Urges the Member States to ensure that NRAs have the resources enabling them to monitor and penalise unequal quality of service, and that consumer feedback is taken into account; ***calls on the Member States to launch information campaigns to make consumers aware of their rights in order to increase their negotiating power in relation to communications service providers;***

Or. ro

Amendment 27
András Gyürk

Draft opinion
Paragraph 8

Draft opinion

8. Calls on NRAs and consumer organisations to provide a clear and transparent overview of the telecommunications services and prices offered to consumers;

Amendment

8. Calls on NRAs and consumer organisations to provide a clear and transparent overview of the telecommunications services and prices offered to consumers. ***Recommends that prices for telecommunication services (for example voice, SMS, data) should appear***

in a uniform price per minute, price per SMS, price per MB format in order to facilitate the comparison of the services offered, and in order for bundles to be comparable. Such comparison should include other elements, such as minimum term and penalties which can also influence the price. Emphasizes that customers should be able to access all information usage related to their service options free of charge. In order to limit the effects of bill-shock and encourage consumer-awareness, consumers should be allowed to be able to set up usage limits not only for roaming services, but also for domestic services, especially data, as many times they are not aware of the effect of their usage on their bills;

Or. en

Amendment 28
Bendt Bendtsen

Draft opinion
Paragraph 8 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

8a. Calls on Member States to take the necessary steps to facilitate access for smaller operators to the mobile services market, which is today characterised by a few dominant actors;

Or. da

Amendment 29
András Gyürk

Draft opinion
Paragraph 9

Draft opinion

9. Calls on the Commission to improve SMEs' access to capital markets by streamlining information and making funding procedures easier;

Amendment

9. Calls on the Commission to improve SMEs' access to capital markets by streamlining information and making funding procedures easier; ***Urges the Member States to foster SMEs' participation in public procurement by launching electronic procurement procedures, simplifying administration, reducing red tape, dividing procurements into lots and accelerating payments to subcontractors;***

Or. en

Amendment 30
Ioan Enciu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 9

Draft opinion

9. Calls on the Commission to improve SMEs' access to capital markets by streamlining information and making funding procedures easier;

Amendment

9. Calls on the Commission to improve SMEs' access to capital markets by streamlining information and making funding procedures easier, ***more efficient and more transparent;***

Or. en

Amendment 31
Zigmantas Balčytis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 9 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

9a. points out that the participation of EU companies in cross-border public procurement remains very low, and EU

companies, particularly SMEs, face difficulties participating in cross-border public procurement due to the different and complicated administrative procedures that exist; welcomes the public procurement reform proposed by the Commission and considers that setting common principles at the EU level and flexible, clear and simple public procurement rules would enable companies, above all, SMEs, to better exploit the opportunities offered by cross-border public procurement;

Or. lt

Amendment 32
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Paragraph 9 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

9a. Calls on Member States and the Commission to facilitate investment opportunities for innovative start-ups by removing obstacles that hinders the emergence of an EU wide venture capital market;

Or. en

Amendment 33
Zigmantas Balčytis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 9 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

9b. Emphasises that it is essential to establish an EU-wide public e-procurement system, which would ensure

greater transparency and competitiveness, and would allow public money to be used more efficiently;

Or. It

Amendment 34
Ioan Enciu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10

Draft opinion

10. Calls on the Member States to create 'one-stop shops' by means of which SMEs can apply for European, national and local funds.

Amendment

10. Calls on the Member States to create 'one-stop shops' by means of which SMEs can apply for European, national and local funds; *stresses the importance of 'one-stop shops' as fundamental starting points to attract and enable private investments in the field of research and energy and calls on the Commission to reinforce the measures for further simplification and transparency of the European, national and local financing frameworks.*

Or. en

Amendment 35
András Gyürk

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10

Draft opinion

10. Calls on the Member States to create 'one-stop shops' by means of which SMEs can apply for European, national and local funds.

Amendment

10. Calls on the Member States to create 'one-stop shops' by means of which SMEs can apply for European, national and local funds; *Urges the Member States to facilitate SMEs' access to funds by simplifying the rules of data submission and to promote online data repositories for certificates and other supporting*

documents.

Or. en

Amendment 36
Krišjānis Kariņš

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10

Draft opinion

10. Calls on the Member States to *create* ‘one-stop shops’ by means of which SMEs can apply for European, national and local funds.

Amendment

10. Calls on the Member States to *evaluate the creation of* ‘one-stop shops’ by means of which SMEs can apply for European, national and local funds, *bearing in mind that ‘one-stop shops’ have greater added value when they are created at the expense of existing administration, and thus do not increase expenses for the taxpayer.*

Or. en

Amendment 37
Bendt Bendtsen

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10

Draft opinion

Calls on the Member States to *create ‘one-stop shops’* by means of which SMEs can apply for European, national and local funds.

Amendment

Calls on the Member States to *use existing structures and the creation of ‘one-stop shops’ to simplify and facilitate access to information* by means of which SMEs can apply for European, national and local funds.

Or. da

Amendment 38
Andreas Mölzer

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10

Draft opinion

10. Calls on the Member States to create ‘one-stop shops’ by means of which SMEs can apply for European, national and local funds.

Amendment

10. Calls on the Member States ***to follow the fundamental single point of contact principle*** to create ‘one-stop shops’ by means of which SMEs can apply for European, national and local funds.

Or. de

Amendment 39
Zigmantas Balčytis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10a. Points out that differences in the regulation of e-signatures in the Member States remain a major obstacle to the proper functioning of the EU Single Market, particularly the provision of services; considers that it is essential to establish a single system for the recognition of e-signatures throughout the EU.

Or. lt

Amendment 40
Gunnar Hökmark

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10a. Calls on Member States and the Commission to secure agreements enabling SMEs to operate all over Europe and commercialise their ideas by granting them better access to markets and reducing red tape.

Or. en

Amendment 41
Seán Kelly

Draft opinion
Sub-heading and paragraph 10 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

E-commerce

10a. Calls on Member States to rapidly implement the Consumer Rights Directive and calls on the Commission use all means available to stimulate the greater penetration of e-commerce as a normal business practice, for both business-to-consumer and business-to-business transactions.

Or. en

Amendment 42
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Subheading 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

Single Market for Services

Or. ro

Amendment 43
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10a. Stresses the fact that e-government is especially beneficial for citizens and SMEs from the EU, with advantages due to reduced administrative costs, as citizens and SMEs are often confronted with insurmountable obstacles when operating at a cross-border level in the EU;

Or. ro

Amendment 44
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10b. Points out that the major obstacles to cross-border access to public administration e-services relate to the use of electronic signatures and identification and the lack of compatibility of e-government systems at EU level; calls on the Commission to revise its Directive on electronic signatures to ensure their mutual recognition;

Or. ro

Amendment 45
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10c. Emphasises the fact that e-government applications should be reviewed, and, if necessary, modified to be also accessible to non-resident users; emphasises the fact that compatibility is necessary at a local, regional and national level, as well as at EU level;

Or. ro

Amendment 46
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10d. Calls on the Member States to use ICT tools to improve transparency and accountability, reduce administrative burdens, improve administrative processes, reduce carbon dioxide emissions, save public resources and to contribute to a more participatory democracy, while at the same time strengthening the level of trust and confidence;

Or. ro

Amendment 47
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 e (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10e. Emphasises the fact that national public e-procurement systems should advance in order to facilitate cross-border services, to ensure the realisation of an internal market for services and to fully apply the Services Directive;

Or. ro

Amendment 48
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 f (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10f. Regrets the fact that the legislative proposal aimed at ensuring the full accessibility of public sector websites by 2015 has been deferred; welcomes the roadmap for digital inclusion and calls for the implementation of the Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) for e-government portals;

Or. ro

Amendment 49
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 g (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10g. Draws attention to the fact that it is still difficult for passengers to book and buy tickets for multimodal journeys within the EU and calls on the Commission,

Member States and companies in the transport sector to ensure the creation of an integrated multimodal ticketing system by 2015;

Or. ro

Amendment 50
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 h (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10h. Welcomes the significant growth of e-commerce and draws attention to consumers' concerns about transaction security; calls on the Member States and the Commission to strengthen the legislative framework that protects consumers using e-commerce and to develop a framework that promotes the certification of e-commerce websites, financial institutions and public institutions, in terms of security, so that consumers can have confidence when they access these websites;

Or. ro

Amendment 51
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 i (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10i. Draws attention to the importance of developing European standards, which is absolutely necessary both for the realisation of the Single Market and for increasing the international

competitiveness of the EU; calls on the Commission to ensure easier access to European standards for SMEs and micro-enterprises;

Or. ro

Amendment 52
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 j (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10j. Welcomes the initiative on e-invoicing, which aims to transform e-invoicing into the predominant billing method in the EU by 2020, as well as the decision of the Commission to create the European Multi-Stakeholder Forum on eInvoicing (EMSFEI);

Or. ro

Amendment 53
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 k (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10k. Emphasises the substantial benefits offered by e-invoicing (shorter payment periods, fewer errors, more efficient VAT collection, reduction in printing and shipping costs and the integrated processing of commercial activities) and invites industry and European Standardisation Organisations to continue their efforts to promote convergence towards a common data model for e-invoicing;

Amendment 54
Silvia-Adriana Țicău

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 I (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10I. Emphasises the importance of legal certainty, a clear technical environment and open and compatible solutions for e-invoicing, based on legal requirements, commercial operations and common technical standards, in order to facilitate its widespread adoption.