



Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 13 - 12-13 OCTOBER 2016

Digitising European Industry

Exchange of views

Rapporteur: Reinhard Bütikofer

ITRE will hold an exchange of views on the Commission Communication on Digitising European Industry. The rapporteur, Mr Bütikofer (Greens), will present his preliminary vision for the draft report. The Commission proposes creating a dynamic framework for the coordination and the mobilisation of resources and stakeholders; co-investing in boosting Europe's digital innovation capacities through partnerships in digital technologies value chains, digital innovation hubs in all regions and prioritising standards; providing appropriate legislative framework conditions (on free flow of data, data ownership and on autonomous systems and IoT) and, finally, preparing the workforce for the digital transformation.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- Consideration of draft report: 28 November 2016
- · Deadline for tabling amendments: 1 December 2016, 12.00
- Vote in ITRE: March 2017
- · Vote in plenary: April 2017

Rules for Wholesale Roaming Markets

Consideration of draft report

Draftsperson: Miapetra Kumpula-Natri

ITRE will discuss Ms Kumpula-Natri's (S&D) draft report on the Wholesale Roaming Regulation. Whereas the Commission proposed a single wholesale price cap for data for a five-year period, the rapporteur is proposing a glidepath, with a wholesale price cap that drops year on year, to take account of the falling unit price of data.

The European Parliament and Council decided in the TSM Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2015 /2120) that retail roaming surcharges would be abolished as of 15 June 2017. At the same time, however, they recognised that this abolition would not be sustainable without changes to the rules for wholesale roaming markets. The purpose of this Regulation is therefore to make changes to those rules, in order that retail roaming surcharges can be abolished as of 15 June 2017.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- Deadline for tabling amendments: 13 October 2016, 18.00
- Vote in ITRE: 29 November 2016
- Vote in plenary: tbc

Words by the Chair



Dear colleagues,

The digital world is increasingly shaping the physical world, and as policy makers we have to keep up with the fast pace of change. preparation Successful European industry for the digital age will be crucial for Europe's competitiveness in the coming years, so this week's discussion of the Commission's Communication on "Digitising European industry" is very timely. Also in the digital field, we will discuss the European Cloud Initiative, about getting the most out of the data economy. The goal of abolishing roaming surcharges will come a step closer as we discuss the draft report on the Wholesale Roaming file. Moreover the Commission will present the new draft Telecoms Code, which will set the ground rules for the digital economy for the next decade.

There will also be a number of very important votes this week, including those on the circular economy package, ETS, intergovernmental agreements in the field of energy as well as the security of gas supply.

Jerzy Buzek

European Cloud Initiative

Consideration of draft report

Rapporteur: Jean-Luc Schaffhauser

This communication accompanies the European Strategy for Digital Industrial Leadership. It proposes a European Cloud Initiative as a means to maximise the sharing of data, increase the capacity to exploit data, ensure a wide data utilisation across research, public and private sector, support data infrastructure and its interconnection. As solutions it presents a European Open Science Cloud, the development of a European large-scale high-performance computing infrastructure, a flagship initiative on quantum technologies and enabling access to these infrastructures through cloud technologies.

The rapporteur's draft report is critical of the Commission communication, pointing out security and data governance issues as well as the definition of European-based companies. He proposes to reject the Commission communication on the European Cloud Initiative. An animated exchange of views in ITRE is to be expected.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- Deadline for tabling amendments: 20 October 2016, 12.00
- Vote in ITRE: January 2017
- Vote in plenary: tbc

Amending Decision 2008/376/EC on the adoption of the Research Programme of the Research Fund for Coal and Steel and on the multiannual technical guidelines for this programme

Consideration of draft report

Rapporteur: Jerzy Buzek

ITRE Chair will present his draft report on this NLE proposal, on which the European Parliament needs to be consulted before Council deliberates. As he is not dealing with this report in his personal capacity but as the Chair of the committee on industry, research and energy, he estimates that he should not prejudge the position of the committee in this draft report.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- Deadline for tabling amendments: 17 October 2016, 12.00
- Vote in ITRE: 29 November 2017Vote in plenary: December (tbc)

Measures to safeguard the security of gas supply

Adoption of draft report

Rapporteur: Jerzy Buzek

ITRE will vote on a mandate to start inter-institutional negotiations with the Slovak presidency on the proposed Security of Gas supply Regulation.

A large majority of political groups have agreed on a set of 65 compromise amendments, covering the whole text of the proposed Regulation. The compromise text is broadly in line with the structure and approach proposed by the Commission. Thus, the regional approach and the composition of regions would be left untouched. However the compromise text foresees, in addition, the establishment of so-called emergency supply corridors to complement and facilitate the regional approach. Furthermore, the compromise text amends the definition of "protected customer" as well as provisions on supply standard, risk assessments, preventive action plans, emergency plans and solidarity measures to be taken in the event of an emergency. Finally, the text aims at reinforcing the role of energy efficiency measures in ensuring the security of gas supply.

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A

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Next ITRE meeting: 9-10 November 2016, Brussels

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

· Vote in plenary: tbc

Establishing an information exchange mechanism with regard to intergovernmental agreements and non-binding instruments between Member States and third countries in the field of energy and repealing Decision No 994/2012/EU

Adoption of draft report

Rapporteur: Zdzisław Krasnodębski

ITRE will vote on the draft report on Intergovernmental Agreements in the field of energy (IGAs).

231 amendments have been tabled to the Commission's proposal, including the original 28 amendments making up the draft report of Mr. Krasnodębski (ECR). A total of 23 compromise amendments have been agreed upon between the rapporteur and the shadow rapporteurs. This file is part of the "Energy security Package" presented by the Commission in February this year, as a necessary step to enhance EU energy security. Negotiations with the Council are expected to start not long after the vote in ITRE.

ITRE will also vote on a mandate to start inter-institutional negotiations with the Slovak presidency.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Vote in plenary: tbc

Circular economy:

- Directive amending Directives 2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles, 2006/66/EC on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators, and 2012/19/EU on waste electrical and electronic equipment
- Directive amending Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste
- Directive amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste
- Directive amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste

Adoption of draft opinions

Draftpersons: Pavel Telička, Miroslav Poche and João Ferreira

On 13 October 2016, ITRE will be voting four opinions as part of the circular economy package for which ENVI is the Lead Committee: the Waste Framework Directive; the Landfill Directive; the Packaging Waste Directive; and the Directives on end-of-life vehicles, batteries and accumulators and waste electrical and electronic equipment. All four opinions are supportive of the circular economy, which should help to stimulate innovation in terms of products and industrial processes whilst making use of waste as a resource. In all four opinions, ITRE proposes a list of economic instruments and other measures to promote a shift to a more circular economy. ITRE will vote on several compromises such as: marine pollution, food waste, bio waste, waste oils, a harmonized methodology for data collection based on a harmonised format and on the feasibility of a one-stop shop for administrative procedure for shipments of waste. The final vote in ENVI is scheduled to take place in November.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- Vote in main committee (ENVI): 8 November 2016
- Vote in plenary: tbc

Cost-effective emission reductions and low-carbon investments

Adoption of draft opinion

Draftperson: Fredrick Federley

After the Paris Agreement on Climate Change of December 2015, which was quickly ratified by the European Union last week following adoption by the European Parliament, the EU policy on climate change, energy and industrial policy related to those subjects is again on the agenda.

The European Commission issued its legislative proposal modifying the emissions trading system (ETS) already before the Climate Conference in Paris, showing that the EU was fully involved in the process and already working towards 2030, with modifications of the existing ETS legislation for the period 2021 to 2030, going to a 43 greenhouse gas emission reduction target in 2030. The Commission proposal, largely inspired by the European Council Conclusions has been examined by ITRE and 756 amendments have been introduced. ITRE has an enhanced cooperation with the ENVI Committee on a limited number of recitals and articles.

For the vote which will take place on 13 October in ITRE and probably in December in ENVI, the rapporteur has proposed a limited number of compromise amendments (which concern blocks of texts since the parts are so related to each other that by separating them the risk of imbalances might occur).

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- Vote in main committee (ENVI): 8 December 2016
- Vote in plenary: tbc

Civil Law Rules on Robotics

Adoption of draft opinion

Draftperson: Kaja Kallas

ITRE will vote on its opinion to JURI committee's own-initiative report 'Civil Law Rules on Robotics'. The ITRE Rapporteur is Ms. Kallas (ALDE). Amongst other issues the draft opinion considers the impact that the fast growing sector of robotics will have on European industries, on SMEs and on research and innovation policy. The rapporteur has stressed that any future regulation should be designed so that it does not stifle innovation and allows Europe to maintain and develop its competitive status in robotics.

A total of 75 amendments have been tabled to the draft opinion. Agreement has been reached on 9 compromise amendments, covering almost all of the amendments.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- Vote in main committee (JURI): 29 November 2016
- Vote in plenary: tbc

Feedback from ongoing trilogues (Rule 73.4) - Energy Efficiency Labelling

Rapporteur: Dario Tamburrano

The rapporteur, Mr Tamburrano (EFDD), will debrief the Committee on the state of play of the informal trilogue negotiations on Energy Efficiency Labelling.

European Electronic Telecommunications Code (Telecoms Framework Review), Presentation by Claire Bury, Deputy Director-General of DG Connect

The Commission published its long-awaited Telecoms Framework Review on 14 September 2016, and proposed the creation of a "European Electronic Communications Code". The new Code would streamline existing telecoms rules, currently spread across several laws, into one single law. It would also create new rules to make it more attractive for companies to invest in future-proof high-quality network infrastructures, with the main aim of ensuring connectivity for all. The Review also includes changes to the BEREC Regulation. Claire Bury, Deputy Director-General of DG Connect, will present the new Code and debate its objectives with Members.

Innovative Medicines Initiative joint undertaking: Example of Horizon 2020 implementation, Presentation by Pierre Meulien, Executive Director IMI

The presentation by and the exchange of views with IMI Executive Director Pierre Meulien follows the ITRE policy to regularly gather information on the Horizon 2020 programme implementation. IMI is one of several PPPs that implements part of H2020 according to Article 187. IMI2 was set up mid 2014 after successful negotiation of the European within a package of several Public private and public-public partnerships. The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) works to improve health by speeding up the development of the next generation of medicines, particularly in areas where there is an unmet medical or social need, such as antimicrobial resistance, Alzheimer's disease, and diabetes. It delivers results by facilitating collaboration between the key players involved in healthcare research, including universities, pharmaceutical companies, other companies active in healthcare research, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), patient organisations, and medicines regulators. IMI is a partnership between the EU and the European pharmaceutical industry. Through the IMI 2 programme, it has a €3.3 billion budget for the period 2014-2024. Of this: €1.638 billion (half the budget) comes from Horizon 2020; €1.425 billion is committed to the programme by EFPIA companies; up to €213 million can be committed by other life science industries or organisations that decide to contribute to IMI 2 as members or Associated Partners in individual projects.



Towards an #mHealth Framework for Europe



Joint Public Hearing ITRE/ENVI on "Towards an mHealth Framework for Europe"

On 13 October, ITRE and ENVI are organising a public hearing to look at the development of mobile Health in Europe and its potential for ensuring better prevention and monitoring through health and well-being apps. It will also look at some of the challenges, such as the issues of interoperability and use of big data. European Commissioner for Health, Vytenis Andriukaitis, will give the keynote speech and four external experts from government, academia and industry will present their views.

The European Commission has been active in mHealth, publishing a Green Paper, holding a public consultation, paving the way for an industry-led code of conduct on mobile health apps as well as funding research activities in the domain under Horizon 2020. With this hearing the European Parliament wishes to engage in a multi-stakeholder dialogue on overcoming the barriers to better integrated care.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

European Parliament

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