

European standards - implementation of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012

Exchange of views

Rapporteur: [Hans-Olaf Henkel](#)

ITRE will hold its first exchange of views on the European policy on standardisation. IMCO is the lead committee on this implementing report, ITRE is associated with exclusive competences. ITRE will focus on the ICT standardisation priorities and the parts of the Joint Standardisation Initiative related to innovation. The rapporteur, Mr Hans-Olaf Henkel (ECR), and the shadows will share their first ideas on how to use standardisation to increase the competitiveness of European industry and how to use it as a platform for further innovation.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Consideration of draft report: 12 January 2017*
- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 17 January 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: tbc*
- *Vote in main Committee (IMCO): tbc*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Addressing geo-blocking and other forms of discrimination based on customers' nationality, place of residence or place of establishment within the internal market

Consideration of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Eva Kaili](#)

ITRE will be considering the draft opinion of Ms. Eva Kaili (S&D) on the forthcoming report on 'Addressing geo-blocking and other forms of discrimination based on customers' nationality, place of residence or place of establishment within the internal market', for which IMCO is the lead committee.

In her draft opinion, the ITRE draftsperson, focuses on the impact of geoblocking on companies and commercial activities, and after-sales services. Furthermore, she addresses issues like means of payment, payer identity, validity of means of payment and customer authentication. Another relevant point raised concerns the bodies which will be responsible for ensuring cross border cooperation with bodies in other Member States.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 14 November 2016, 12.00*
- *Vote in ITRE: 12 January 2017*
- *Vote in main Committee (IMCO): 24 April 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Words by the Chair



Dear colleagues,

This meeting, ITRE will hold exchanges of views with three Commissioners. On Wednesday, we will receive Vice-President Šefcovič and Commissioner Bieńkowska, as part of the Structured Dialogue, which allows Parliament to follow closely and scrutinise the work of the executive. No doubt, they will touch upon the Space Strategy for Europe, which was published at the end of October and which will be the subject of a public hearing on Thursday. The Committee will also welcome Commissioner Moedas, for an exchange of views on PRIMA, which is a partnership for the Mediterranean Area designed to develop novel solutions for sustainable water management and food production.

In addition, the Committee will hold exchanges of views on European standardisation and on the contentious issue of geo-blocking. It will also vote on the draft report on the proposal for the use of the 470-790 MHz frequency band in the Union, which is intimately related to the digital single market package.

Jerzy Buzek

Use of the 470-790 MHz frequency band in the Union

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Patrizia Toia](#)

ITRE will vote on a mandate to start inter-institutional negotiations with Council on the proposed Decision on the use of the 700 MHz band.

A large majority of political groups have agreed on a set of 27 compromise amendments covering the whole text of the proposed Decision. The compromise text would set a deadline of 2020 for Member States to make the 700 MHz band available for wireless broadband, while allowing the possibility to delay this deadline for two years for duly justified reasons. The compromise text also provides for the possibility of compensation to cover the costs of migrating broadcasting services to the sub-700 MHz band.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Exchange of views on Space strategy with Mr Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President for the Energy Union, and Ms Elżbieta Bieńkowska, Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, as part of the Structured Dialogue

Mr Šefčovič, Vice-President of the Commission, and Ms Bieńkowska, Commissioner, will be present in the ITRE Committee as part of the Structured Dialogue between the European Parliament and the Commission. The most recently published communication for which they are both responsible is the Space Strategy for Europe, which is intended to set the scene for space policy over the next ten to fifteen years and allow Europe to promote its position as a leader in space, increase its share on the world space markets, and seize the benefits and opportunities offered by space, in an international space context that is changing fast.

Exchange of views on PRIMA with Mr Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, as part of the Structured Dialogue

As part of the Structured Dialogue, Mr Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation has been invited to the ITRE committee to present the latest Commission proposal in the field of research: The PRIMA Art. 185 which aims at stronger cooperation and alignment of R&I policies in the participating countries especially on water provision, food systems, climate change challenges and migration in the Mediterranean area. So far, five Art. 185 initiatives have been established which have been running under FP7 and have been renewed under H2020. No entirely new Art. 185 initiative has been proposed for about 10 years. The novelty with PRIMA is that a large number of third countries are participating in the joint programme.

ACER Presentation of annual Market Monitoring Report and exchange of views

The Third Energy Package tasks the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) with monitoring the internal markets for electricity and gas. For this purpose, the Agency prepares an annual market monitoring report in close cooperation with the European Commission, National Regulatory Authorities, and other relevant organisations. The legal basis for the Agency's market monitoring duties is in Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No. 713/2009. Mr Alberto Pototschnig, the Agency's Director and Lord Mogg, Chair of the Board of Regulators will present to the ITRE Committee the newly released 2016 edition of the Market Monitoring, which analyses the progress towards the implementation of the Third Energy Package and the completion of the internal energy market.

European Court of Auditors (ECA), Exchange of views with Mr. Alex Brenninkmeijer, Member of the Court; ECA Annual Report 2015 (Chapters on Competitiveness and Growth and Horizon 2020)

The European Court of Auditors (ECA) published on 16 October their Annual Report 2015. The report examines how the EU budget has been collected and spent in 2015, including reliability of the accounts, the regularity of income and spending and getting results from the budget. Mr. Alex Brenninkmeijer, Member of the Court, will present to ITRE Members the main findings of the report concerning 'Competitiveness for growth and jobs' and Horizon 2020 framework programme for research and innovation.

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A

Recent publications:

Briefing on ["Digital Union"](#)

Briefing on ["Energy Policy"](#)

At a glance on ["Energy Union: Key Decisions for the Realisation of a Fully Integrated Energy Market"](#)

Workshop on ["Bringing EU-Turkey Trade and Investment Relations Up to Date?"](#)

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

Implementation of Network Code on Capacity Allocation Mechanisms well on track, but not yet completed [More](#)

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The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

BEREC Newsletter 10/2016 is out! [More](#)

European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)

ENISA's support to EU and National strategies for information security presented at IT workshop [More](#)

European Global Navigation Satellite System GnsS Agency (GNSS)

BQ Aquaris X5 Plus Smartphone Officially Galileo-Ready [More](#)

Next ITRE meeting:
28-29 November 2016, Brussels

Visit to ITER in Cadarache (24 October 2016), Debriefing

A delegation of Members from the ITRE Committee visited the ITER site at Cadarache. The ITER project aims at making the transition from experimental studies of plasma physics to full-scale electricity-producing fusion power plants. The project is funded and run internationally by seven member entities: the EU, India, Japan, China, Russia, South Korea and the United States. Members met Bernard Bigot, Director General of the ITER International Organisation, and Johannes Schwemmer, Director of Fusion for Energy, the Agency responsible for the project at EU level.

Workshop on Energy poverty

ITRE is holding a workshop to look at the energy poverty problem in the European Union. The aim of the workshop is to provide expert information on the state of play in the field of energy poverty. Furthermore, it should tackle possible policy initiatives in connection with the ongoing work on legislative packages related to the Energy Union, especially the upcoming reviews of the Energy Efficiency Directive, the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and a review of the electricity market design. The invited experts will provide the academic perspective on energy poverty landscapes in the European Union and will present results of two studies on energy poverty commissioned by the ITRE Committee. In its December 2015 resolution, 'Towards a European Energy Union', the Parliament asked the Commission to present a communication on energy poverty, which would include a definition and indicators of energy poverty, and be accompanied by an action plan on its eradication.



Public Hearing on "A Space Strategy for Europe"

On 10 November, ITRE will hold a hearing on the Space Strategy for Europe, which the Commission published at the end of October. The Strategy focuses on maximising the benefits of space for society and the economy, by making the most of the EU space programmes, Galileo and Copernicus; ensuring that Europe's space industry continues to be globally competitive and innovative; reinforcing Europe's autonomy in accessing and using space in a secure and safe environment; and strengthening Europe's role as a global actor and promoting international cooperation. Parliament will play a key role in discussions on the strategy.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

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