

Words by the Chair



Dear colleagues,

In this meeting, we will tackle some of the most crucial topics in ITRE's remit. In the field of energy, several key files will be under discussion, including the governance of the Energy Union and energy efficiency. Both are elements of the 'Clean Energy for all Europeans' package of legislative proposals. A hearing on the package will follow, its panels focusing on energy market design and on the challenge of integrating renewables into the market. We will also discuss building blocks of the digital single market, with debates on the draft reports on the new Electronic Communications Code and the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications and a discussion on the report on promotion of Internet connectivity in local communities. Last but not least, research and innovation will also feature in the meeting, as we both take stock of Horizon 2020 and look ahead to the ninth framework programme.

Jerzy Buzek

Governance of the Energy Union

Exchange of views

Rapporteur: [Claude Turmes](#)

On 23 March, ITRE will hold a first exchange of views on the proposal for a regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union. The proposal is part of the legislative package 'Clean Energy for all Europeans', which the Commission presented on 30 November 2016. The meeting will provide a first occasion for the rapporteur for ITRE's report, Mr TURMES, and for the shadow rapporteurs to present their main ideas on the Commission's proposal.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Consideration of draft report: 21-22 June 2017*
- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 27 June 2017*
- *Consideration of amendments: 4 September 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 11-12 October 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Energy efficiency

Exchange of views

Rapporteur: [Adam Gierek](#)

The Commission proposal on energy efficiency is supported by all stakeholders and applicable to all sectors of our economy from the energy generation to its final consumption. The last Paris agreement on climate change objectives has confirmed the importance of the role of energy efficiency as a key element to achieve the EU's GHG reduction objectives.

Alongside this evidence, the first priority remains to address and develop energy efficient solutions taking into account the specificities of each Member State for a competitive EU industry and affordable and safe energy for the citizens with a particular focus on avoiding energy poverty.

Mainly during this first exchange of views the following items, among others, will be discussed: changes in the whole energy value chain such as changing consumer preferences, reaping the benefit of technological progress like metering, assessment of the level of energy efficiency ambition, statistics of energy usage in Member States, focus on energy savings or energy intensity and bringing about a market and financing conditions capable of incentivising energy-efficient solutions and services.

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- *Consideration of amendments: 4 September 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 11-12 October 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

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In-Depth Analysis on ["European Leadership in 5G"](#)

Study on ["Boosting Building Renovation: What Potential and Value for Europe?"](#)

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European Global Navigation Satellite System Gns Agency (GSA)

If it's March, it must be Munich [More](#)

Next ITRE meeting:
24-25 April 2017, Brussels

Promotion of Internet connectivity in local communities

Exchange of views

Rapporteur: [Carlos Zorrinho](#)

In his draft report presented in February, Mr Carlos Zorrinho (S&D) proposed 18 amendments to the Commission's proposal. After the consideration of the draft report, a further 107 amendments were tabled.

A number of amendments highlight the rapporteur's view that local wireless connectivity should be free of charge and free from restrictions and of a high speed.

Some amendments request that the list of public entities be extended, and many stress the principle of geographical balance. Other crucial issues concern geographically remote areas with poor internet connectivity and data protection.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in ITRE: 24-25 April 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

European Electronic Communications Code (Recast)

Consideration of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Pilar del Castillo Vera](#)

On 22 March the Parliament will consider its draft report on the proposal for a directive establishing the European Electronic Communications Code (Recast – del Castillo report). The draft report will be considered in English and the deadline for tabling amendments is on 4 April. The consideration of the amendments will take place on 11 May and the opinion giving Committees for this proposal are IMCO, CULT, JURI and LIBE. The vote in ITRE is expected to take place next 11 July 2017.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 4 April 2017*
- *Consideration of amendments: 11 May 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 10-11 July 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications

Consideration of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Evžen Tošenovský](#)

On March 22 ITRE will be considering the draft report of Evžen Tošenovský on the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC). The main thrust of the Commission proposal is to convert BEREC into an EU Agency. The Board of Regulators would become the Management Board of the Agency, whilst the Office would also be subsumed into the Agency, with the current Administrative Manager becoming the Executive Director.

According to the Commission, its proposal will provide BEREC with an appropriate and efficient governance structure, mandate and the tools it needs to ensure a consistent implementation of the regulatory framework. Another aspect of the proposal is to align BEREC's structure and governance, operation, programming and accountability with the Joint Statement of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on decentralised agencies of 19 July 2012 - the so-called "Common Approach".

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 30 March 2017*
- *Consideration of amendments: 11 May 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 10-11 July 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Assessment of Horizon 2020 implementation in view of its interim evaluation and the Framework Programme 9 proposal

Consideration of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Soledad Cabezón Ruiz](#)

Presentation of the draft report by the rapporteur and exchange of views in ITRE Committee. The implementation report is based on the analytical work done by the ITRE H2020 Working Group, different studies and documents provided by the Commission and EP services, two fact-finding missions, a Public Hearing of ITRE committee and numerous meetings with stakeholders. More than three years after the launch of H2020, Parliament will develop its position on the interim evaluation of H2020 and a vision of the future FP9.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 31 March 2017*
- *Consideration of amendments: 24-25 April 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 29-30 May 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Internet connectivity for growth, competitiveness and cohesion: European gigabit society and 5G

Consideration of [amendments](#)

Draftsperson: [Michał Boni](#)

250 amendments have been tabled on to the report on the European gigabit society and 5G. With a view to the preparation of the compromise amendments, the rapporteur Michał Boni (EPP) will discuss with the shadows and the rest of ITRE members the main political points of the report. The amendments tabled cover a large number of topics, among them how to ensure investments for a rapid deployment of 5G infrastructure, the fight against the digital divide, the social aspects of a gigabit society and the management of radio-spectrum.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in ITRE: 24-25 April 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry into the 2030 climate and energy framework and amending Regulation No 525/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council on a mechanism for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and other information relevant to climate change

Consideration of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Marisa Matias](#)

The draftsperson for the ITRE opinion, Marisa Matias (GUE), will present her draft opinion on Land use, land use change and forestry, also known as LULUCF. ITRE will provide an opinion for the lead committee ENVI. The Rapporteur is supportive of the overall aim of the proposal but would like to strengthen the ambition of the legislation, namely by reducing the flexibility to transfer emission reductions between LULUCF and the Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR) as well as within LULUCF accounting periods. The Rapporteur would also like to stress certain areas of ITRE competence, such as space or research policy.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 27 March 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 11 May 2017*
- *Vote in ENVI (lead committee): 22 June 2017 (tbc)*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Copyright in the Digital Single Market

Consideration of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Zdzisław Krasnodebski](#)

ITRE will be considering the draft opinion of Mr KRASNODEBSKI (ECR) on Copyright in the digital single market. JURI is the lead committee and ITRE is one of the opinion-giving committees, under Rule 53, alongside IMCO and CULT. In his draft opinion, Mr Krasnodebski focuses primarily on Article 3, concerning text and data mining. Overall, the Rapporteur wishes to widen the Art. 3 exception to include not only research organisations but also public, private entities and individuals. Mr Krasnodebski also believes that TDM should not be limited only for research purposes.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 28 March 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 11 May 2017*
- *Vote in JURI (main committee): 19-20 June 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Participation of the Union in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) jointly undertaken by several Member States

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Draftsperson: [Sofia Sakorafa](#)

ITRE will vote on its draft report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the participation of the Union in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) jointly undertaken by several Member States. A total of 208 amendments were tabled to the text of the Commission and an agreement was reached on 7 compromise amendments covering most of the text.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in IMCO (main committee): 24-25 April 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions by Member States from 2021 to 2030 for a resilient Energy Union and to meet commitments under the Paris Agreement and amending Regulation No 525/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council on a mechanism for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and other information relevant to climate change

Adoption of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Benedek Jávor](#)

ITRE will vote on the opinion to the Effort Sharing Regulation proposal, dossier lead by the ENVI Committee. 171 amendments have been tabled to the Commission proposal. The rapporteur, Benedek JAVOR, has suggested to the shadows 16 proposals for compromise amendments.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in IMCO (main committee): 24-25 April 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

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

Adoption of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Hans-Olaf Henkel](#)

ITRE will vote on the European standards – implementation of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 report lead by IMCO. ITRE committee is associated committee under rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure with exclusive competences on the following ICT standardisation priorities: cloud computing, 5G, cybersecurity and data as well as innovation and research aspects of the Joint Standardisation Initiative. ITRE has shared competences on standards for Internet of Things.

130 Amendments were tabled to the draft opinion. The rapporteur, Hans-Olaf Henkel (ECR) and the shadows have agreed on 10 compromise amendments.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in IMCO (main committee): 30 May 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

European Agenda for the collaborative economy

Adoption of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Dario Tamburrano](#)

ITRE will vote on its opinion on Collaborative Economy, in which it is involved under Rule 54. A total of 113 amendments were tabled to the draft report and an agreement was reached on 14 compromise amendments covering most of the text.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in IMCO (main committee): 25 April 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

ITRE mission to the 11th Meeting of Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Mexico (6-8 December 2016), Debriefing

The IGF is a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance issues, such as the Internet's sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development.

The 11th Annual Meeting of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) took place from 6-9 December 2016 in Guadalajara, Mexico with the theme: "Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Growth".

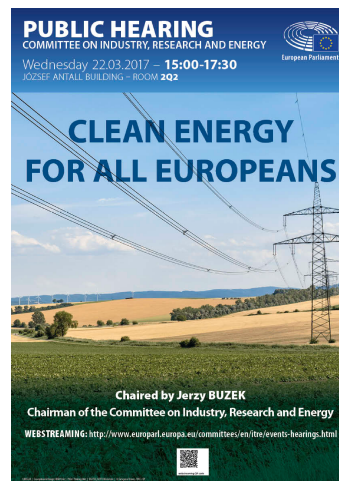
The European Parliament delegation worked side by side with the European Commission delegation arguing strongly for:

- an open and independent Internet as a global, common resource, together with non-discriminatory access to information, knowledge and culture;
 - improved Internet access and connectivity all over the world;
 - using the Internet and digital technologies to meet the Sustainable Development Goals and improving the integration of digital technologies in development assistance;
 - the need to find global solutions to ensure better online privacy and cybersecurity while allowing law enforcement authorities to effectively investigate and fight cybercrime;
 - the need to formulate policy responses to the changes brought about by the digital economy and its impact on the future of work and jobs and to ensure fair competition and user protection in the digital sphere.
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Public hearing on "Clean energy for all Europeans"

ITRE public hearing on 'Clean Energy for All Europeans' follows the publication of a European Commission legislative package of the same name.

The hearing will concentrate on the electricity market and renewable energy aspects, such as electricity trading, grid investments, renewable energy sustainability and combatting energy poverty. The hearing will also consider the role of new services and technologies, for example demand response and wider up-take of electro-mobility as well as 'prosumers' and new local energy communities. Members of the ITRE committee will have an opportunity to have a dialogue with various stakeholders and to gather expertise on future electricity market design and renewable energy.



Study on "The European Implementation Assessment on Horizon 2020", presentation by the EPRS experts

In May 2016, the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) of the European Parliament decided to undertake an implementation report on Horizon 2020. MEP Soledad Cabezon Ruiz (S&D, Spain) was appointed rapporteur. Implementation reports for European Parliament committees are routinely accompanied by European implementation assessments, drawn up by the Ex-Post Impact Assessment Unit of the Directorate for Impact Assessment and European Added Value, within the European Parliament's Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services.

The [study](#) has been finalised. The authors will report back to ITRE committee on their main findings.

Feedback on ongoing negotiations (SoS, Buzek)

The Chair, who is also Rapporteur on this file, will report back from the ongoing negotiations with Council. So far, 2 trilogues have taken place, during which some progress has been made, particularly on the solidarity mechanism to be applicable in the event of gas supply disruptions. On other provisions, including on regional cooperation on information exchange, there are still significant differences between the positions of Council and Parliament, which will be addressed at the next trilogue on 27 March.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

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