

Words by the Chair



Dear colleagues,

With the Easter break over, ITRE will immediately go through a packed agenda for its upcoming Committee meeting.

The Committee will commence its work on the 'electricity files' from the Clean Energy Package. It will hold a first exchange of views on Risk-preparedness in the electricity sector, on the new ACER regulation and on the Directive and Regulation on the internal market in electricity. These files are intrinsically linked and crucial to the well-functioning of the Union's electricity market. EU Energy policy will also be discussed during the meeting with Mr. Janez Kopač, Director of the Energy Community Secretariat as well as with MPs from the Energy Community Contracting Parties.

ITRE will also consider its draft report on a Space Strategy for Europe and its draft opinion on Rules on copyright and related rights applicable to certain online transmissions and programmes. There will also be a consideration of the amendments tabled to the implementation report on the assessment of Horizon 2020, which is currently going through the Committee stage.

The Committee will hold several key votes across its various remits. It will adopt the reports on Wi-Fi4EU, on the Digitisation of European Industry and on the

Risk-preparedness in the electricity sector

Exchange of views

Rapporteur: [Flavio Zanonato](#)

ITRE will commence its work on the proposal on Risk Preparedness in the electricity sector. This proposal is part of the "Clean Energy Package" and is intrinsically linked to the proposals for a Directive and Regulation on the Electricity market and the revised ACER Regulation. The main aims of the Commission's proposal are the establishment of a common methodology for assessing crisis scenarios, the implementation of regular monitoring of security of electricity supply as well as pre-planned and coordinated reactions during an eventual crisis.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Consideration of draft report: 10-11 July 2017*
- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 8 September 2017*
- *Consideration of amendments: 11-12 October 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 27-28 November 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (recast)

Exchange of views

Rapporteur: [Morten Helveg Petersen](#)

ITRE will hold a first exchange of views on the proposal for a revised Regulation Establishing a European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER). The proposal forms part of the "Clean Energy Package". As such it is closely linked to other files of the package, in particular those related to electricity market revision, which are also discussed for the first time in ITRE during this Committee meeting. It aims to update the ACER Regulation to reflect new tasks given to the Agency by energy legislation adopted since the Agency's establishment and to align it with changes to electricity market rules, which are proposed in the context of the Clean Energy Package.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Consideration of draft report: 10-11 July 2017*
- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 6 September 2017*
- *Consideration of amendments: 11-12 October 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 28 November 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Directive and regulation on the internal market in electricity

Exchange of views

Rapporteur: [Krišjānis Kariņš](#)

ITRE will hold an exchange of views on the Commission's proposals for a regulation and directive on the internal market for electricity. The proposals aim to overhaul and modernize the general framework of electricity markets in Europe with the aim of improving

European Gigabit society and 5G. It will also adopt its opinion to the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and the outcome of the inter-institutional negotiations on Energy labelling. The latter is a major success for ITRE's work in the Energy sector as it concludes a key piece of legislation from the so-called 'Gas Package'.

ITRE will also welcome the general Rapporteur for the Union's 2018 general budget, Mr Siegfried Mureşan, for an exchange of views on how ITRE priorities can be reflected in Parliament's position on the 2018 budget.

Finally, the Committee will also hold a joint committee meeting with IMCO on online platforms.

Jerzy Buzek

competitiveness and flexibility in an increasingly decentralized electricity system. Meeting the EU's climate targets will require a further increase of electricity produced by renewable energy sources, which will in turn require new solutions in grid balance management, such as better use of ICT. Another important aspect will be the financing of this energy transition; a question that poses great challenges for the EU and the Member States. ITRE rapporteur Krišjānis Kariņš (EPP) will present his initial views on these and other topics and discuss them with other ITRE Members before presenting his draft report in early July.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Consideration of draft report: 10-11 July 2017*
- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 7 September 2017*
- *Consideration of amendments: 11-12 October 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 27-28 November 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

A Space Strategy for Europe

Consideration of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Constanze Krehl](#)

ITRE will hold an exchange of views on Ms Constanze Krehl's (S&D) draft report on the Space Strategy for Europe. The rapporteur broadly welcomes the Commission's approach and, amongst other issues, stresses the importance of ensuring continuity of EU space programmes and providing adequate funding for space in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

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Recent publications:

Study on: [EU Energy Independence, Security of Supply and Diversification of Sources](#)

At a Glance: [Cyber Security Strategy for the Energy Sector](#)

At a Glance: [European Leadership in 5G](#)

Periodicals: [Civil Law Rules on Robotics - Thematic Digest](#)

Study on [European Energy Industry Investments](#)

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 26 April 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 21-22 June 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Rules on the exercise of copyright and related rights applicable to certain online transmissions of broadcasting organisations and retransmissions of television and radio programmes

Consideration of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Angelika Mlinar](#)

The draftsperson for the ITRE opinion, Angelika Mlinar (ALDE), will present her draft report. JURI is the lead committee for this file. The Draftsperson supports the Commission's general approach to extend the country-of-origin principle to "ancillary" online services of broadcasters to facilitate licencing of copyrights and related works. She supports the provisions regarding the extension of mandatory collective rights management, but would like to extend the scope to retransmissions over the open internet when subject to a controlled environment – where the user is registered or verified, for example.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 27 April 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 21-22 June 2017*
- *Vote in JURI (lead committee): September 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

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

Consideration of [amendments](#)

Rapporteur: [Soledad Cabezón Ruiz](#)

On 25 April ITRE will be considering the amendments to Mrs Soledad Cabezón Ruiz's (S&D) report on the assessment of Horizon 2020 implementation in view of its interim evaluation and the Framework Programme 9 proposal. This report falls under the remit of the

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Next ITRE meeting:
29-30 May 2017, Brussels

implementing reports of the European Parliament. 200 amendments have been tabled by different Members. The next step will be to find compromises where possible in order to ensure a balanced outcome.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in ITRE: 29-30 May 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: June/July 2017*

Energy efficiency labelling

Vote on the text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations

Rapporteur: [Dario Tamburrano](#)

On 25 April ITRE will vote on the text agreed during inter-institutional negotiations with the Maltese Presidency of the Council on the Energy Efficiency Labelling Regulation.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Promotion of Internet connectivity in local communities

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Carlos Zorrinho](#)

On 25 April ITRE will vote on Mr Zorrinho's report on promotion of Internet connectivity in local communities (WIFI4EU). ITRE is the lead committee and REGI, BUDG and TRAN committees have provided opinions under Rule 53. A total of 108 amendments have been tabled to the report and 13 compromise amendments have been agreed upon.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Digitising European industry

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Reinhard Bütikofer](#)

ITRE will vote on the draft report on Digitising European Industry. EMPL, IMCO, TRAN and CULT have provided opinions for this file. 332 amendments have been tabled to the draft report proposed by the rapporteur, Reinhard Bütikofer (Greens) and 33 compromise amendments covering most of the text have been agreed upon. The report addresses the impact of the digitalisation on the industrial production system, which affects industry, consumers and workers in different ways; and it proposes policy and legislative approaches to best benefit from the digitalisation.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

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

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Michał Boni](#)

ITRE will vote on the draft report on European gigabit society and 5G. IMCO, TRAN, REGI and CULT have provided opinions for this file. 250 amendments have been tabled to the draft report proposed by the rapporteur, Michał Boni (EPP). The rapporteur and the shadows have agreed on 26 compromise amendments. The report is part of the telecom package and address how to ensure an efficient rollout of 5G solutions and how best make the European society to benefit from high levels of connectivity.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union

Adoption of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Jerzy Buzek](#)

On 25 April ITRE will vote on Mr Buzek's opinion on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union. The opinion amends the parts of the proposal where ITRE has exclusive competence: the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), the Telecom guidelines Regulation, the Space surveillance and tracking support framework. A total of 29 amendments have been tabled to the draft opinion.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in CONT/BUDG (lead committees): 11 May 2017*
- *Vote in plenary: tbc*

Feedback from negotiations (Security of gas supply / J. Buzek and PRIMA / S. Sakorafa)

Security of gas supply

The rapporteur will report back to the ITRE Committee on the latest developments in the negotiations on the proposal for a regulation on the Security of gas Supply. During the last trilogue on 27 March, the negotiations progressed in a number of areas. However, an overall agreement was not possible due to divergent views, in particular on rules on information exchange and transparency. The remaining points will be addressed during the next trilogue foreseen to take place on Wednesday, 26 April with the objective to reach an overall agreement.

PRIMA

On April 7, the ITRE negotiating team, together with Maltese Presidency and the Commission, successfully concluded the negotiations on PRIMA. This will be the first Public to Public Partnership that targets a specific geographical area and which includes the participation of neighbouring EU countries. During negotiations, Parliament particularly defended access to water as a human right, the openness and transparency of the P2P and the importance that PRIMA projects respect fundamental rights and observe the principles acknowledged in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. During this month's meeting, the ITRE Rapporteur, Ms. Sofia SKAORAFI (GUE), will debrief the Committee on the outcome of the negotiations.

ITRE Priorities in 2018 Budget: Exchange of views with Mr Siegfried Mureşan, EP rapporteur on 2018 budget

The ITRE Committee will welcome the General Rapporteur of the European Parliament for the European Union's general budget for the year 2018. Mr Siegfried Mureşan. Mr Mureşan will give an overview of the general approach of the European Parliament in this year's budgetary procedure and hold an exchange of views with ITRE Members on how ITRE priorities could be reflected in the European Parliament's overall position on the 2018 budget.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for amendments on budget lines: 13 June 2017, 12.00*
- *Vote in ITRE on budget lines: 11 July 2017*
- *Deadline for amendments on budget resolution: 5 September 2017, 12.00*
- *Vote in ITRE on budget lines: 25 September 2017*

Exchange of views with Energy Community

ITRE will hold an exchange of views with Janez Kopač, Director of the Energy Community Secretariat and national Parliamentarians from Energy Community Contracting Parties. The Director of the Energy Community will give an introductory presentation of the organisation's work and progress made so far in the implementation of the EU energy acquis. Furthermore, he will outline his views on the Energy Community's role in the EU's Clean Energy Package. This will be followed by a discussion and debate with Members and Parliamentarians of Energy Community contracting Parties.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

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