

CHAIR'S WELCOME



The next ENVI committee meeting will take place on [10-11 July 2017](#) in Brussels. This week we will hold important votes, through which we will send a strong signal of our commitment to combating Climate Change.

We will vote on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) into the 2030 climate and energy framework. Up to this date, the Kyoto Protocol has ensured that the LULUCF sector does not yield extra Greenhouse Gas emissions. However, the Kyoto Protocol will expire at the end of 2020 and as such, governance for the LULUCF sector needs to be further developed within the EU, which this legislative framework does.

In a similar vein, the strong growth in GHG emissions from the aviation sector risks undermining the EU's efforts to effectively tackle climate change. To address this we will also vote on limiting the scope for aviation activities (ETS in the aviation sector).

We will discuss a draft opinion on the General Budget of the European Union for the Financial Year 2018. This will give ENVI Members a chance to examine and debate the budget's impact on the files and topics under the remit of our committee.

Finally, in the context of the upcoming Estonian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, an exchange of views with Mr Siim Kiisler, Estonian Minister of the Environment, and Mr Jevgeni Ossinovski, Estonian Minister of Health and Labour will take place. They will present their Presidency's agenda in the fields of the environment and public health. ENVI members will be able to raise key questions on the Presidency's priorities.

Follow our discussions live and get involved in the debate at <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/envi/home.html>

[Adina-Ioana Vălean](#)

MEETING ITEMS

Votes:

- Inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry into the 2030 climate and energy framework
- Continuing current limitations of scope for aviation activities and to prepare to implementing a global market-based measure from 2021
- Procedural rules in the field of environmental reporting
- Restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment
- Legitimate measures to protect whistle-blowers acting in the public interest when disclosing the confidential information of companies and public bodies
- Objection pursuant to Rule 106: on GMO soybean DAS-68416-4

Considerations:

- Definition, presentation and labelling of spirit drinks, the use of the names of spirit drinks in the presentation and labelling of other foodstuffs and the protection of geographical indications for spirit drinks
- General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2018 - all sections
- Accelerating Clean Energy Innovation

Exchange of views:

- with Mr Siim Kiisler, Minister of Environment, Estonian Presidency
- with Mr Jevgeni Ossinovski, Minister of Health and Labour, Estonian Presidency
- with Mr Geert Dancet, Executive Director of ECHA
- with the Commission on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes
- Report back on the mission to the 71st session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC71) of the International Maritime Organization

Next meeting of the ENVI Committee

30-31 August 2017 (Brussels); For future meetings see [2017 meeting dates](#).

Watch online

Watch the Committee meeting live on the [EP web site](#) or on [Europarl TV](#). Past meetings are available via the [EP Live multimedia library](#) and you can also download the extracts of speeches.

More information

Contact the ENVI Secretariat: envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu or visit the [website](#) of the ENVI Committee.

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Further information sources

The EP Policy Departments [publish](#) studies, notes, information notes and workshop proceedings; to contact them, write to Poldep-Economy-Science@europarl.europa.eu. The EP Library regularly prepares briefings summarising information related to topical subjects. Find the latest updates via the links [briefings](#) and [blog](#).

VOTES

Procedural rules in the field of environmental reporting

Vote on draft report (see [meeting documents](#))

Attempts to streamline reporting obligations started with the **Standardised Reporting Directive (SRD) 91/692/EEC**, which introduced a three-year reporting cycle for all covered legislation. The content was laid down in sector specific questionnaires via implementing acts. After several repeals, 33 legislative acts with references to the SRD remain in force, although most of these **references have become obsolete and have no more legal effect**.

The Commission published its **SRD repeal package** on 15 December 2016 and consists of three initiatives amongst which, most importantly, this proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council, which repeals the SRD and amends six legal acts,

The rapporteur agrees with the purpose and approach of the Commission. 30 amendments in total were tabled in ENVI.

Rapporteur: [Gambús \(EPP\)](#)

Shadows: [Paolucci \(S&D\)](#), [Demesmaeker \(ECR\)](#), [Federley \(ALDE\)](#), [Flanagan \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [D'Ornano \(ENF\)](#)

Continuing current limitations of scope for aviation activities and to prepare to implementing a global market-based measure from 2021

Vote on draft report (see [meeting documents](#))



The Commission adopted its proposal for a Regulation amending the 2003 ETS Directive with respect to aviation on 3 February 2017. It suggests extending the existing derogation beyond 2016 until there is clarity about the new global market-based measure (GMBM)

scheme.

Exemption for small emitters “non-commercial flights” remain until 2030 and there is a review clause whereby the COM needs to report back to EP and Council on relevant developments.

The rapporteur proposes **22 amendments**. She suggests to limit the derogation until end of 2020 and to earmark revenues for climate change. She sets a timeline for the review and details as to what it needs to cover as a minimum. She also stresses the need for enhanced transparency the International Civil Aviation Organization’s work on the GMBM preparation and implementation. 10 compromises have been agreed that cover all main points and consolidate the majority position around: limiting the derogation until end of 2020 earmarking of revenues for climate change, increasing auctioning of allowances from 2021 from 15% to 50%; detailing the content and the timetable for the Commission review.

Rapporteur: [Girling \(ECR\)](#)

Shadows: [Liese \(EPP\)](#), [Dance \(S&D\)](#), [Gerbrandy \(ALDE\)](#), [Kyllönen \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Eickhout \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [D'Ornano \(ENF\)](#)

Inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry into the 2030 climate and energy framework (LULUCF)

Vote on draft report (see [meeting documents](#))



This legislative proposal is part of the climate package presented by the Commission on 20 July 2016. It proposes to integrate greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) into the 2030 climate and energy framework, from 2021 onwards.

In addition to the 15 amendments tabled by the rapporteur, a further 277 amendments have been tabled by ENVI Members to the Commission’s proposal. Opinions have been received from three Committees: DEVE, ITRE and AGRI.

A total of 15 compromise amendments have been negotiated and cover the most contentious issues including the reference period for the forest reference levels, the value of the cap for the use of forest management credits to offset emissions from other land use activities under the LULUCF Regulation, and the EU governance system for the review of forest reference levels.

Rapporteur: [Lins \(EPP\)](#)

Shadows: [Brannen \(S&D\)](#), [Wiśniewska \(ECR\)](#), [Torvalds \(ALDE\)](#), [Flanagan \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Javor \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Evi \(EFDD\)](#), [Jalkh \(ENF\)](#)

Legitimate measures to protect whistle-blowers acting in the public interest when disclosing the confidential information of companies and public bodies

Vote on draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))

The purpose of the JURI INI report is to reflect on how to balance the legitimate actions of whistleblowers in the public interest and the protection of sensitive information. The JURI report would feed into a possible Commission proposal to strengthen the protection of whistleblowers in EU law, expected by the end of the year.



The Rapporteur particularly stresses that whistleblowers play a key role in reducing public health, environment and food safety risks, and that protecting them will encourage further disclosure of such dangers. He also urges the Commission to put forward a proposal for a protection directive. 103 amendments were tabled. 8 compromise amendments have been elaborated.

Rapporteur: [Flanagan \(GUE/NGL\)](#)

Shadows: [Turcanu \(EPP\)](#), [Childers \(S&D\)](#), [Barekov \(ECR\)](#), [Bearder \(ALDE\)](#), [Javor \(Greens/EFA\)](#)

Objection on GMO soybean DAS-68416-4

Consideration and vote on draft motion for resolution (see [meeting documents](#))

The draft measure provides that an authorisation should be granted to the products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified soybean DAS-68416-4, pursuant to the Regulation (EC) No

1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The objectors oppose the draft measure on the grounds that it exceeds the implementing powers provided for in the basic act. They state that the draft decision a GM soybean variety which is tolerant to glufosinate-ammonium-based herbicides as well as 2,4-D herbicides, which were covered in their recent objections to the maize and cotton GMOs.

In addition, they recall that many critical comments on , inter alia, the lack of studies on the effect of GM soybean on human and animal health were submitted by Member States during the three-month consultation period. They believe that it is contrary to the precautionary principle to continue authorising new GMO varieties, especially if the proposals are never supported by a majority of Member States.

Co-rapporteurs: [Pietikäinen \(EPP\)](#), [Kadenbach \(S&D\)](#), [Mazuronis \(ALDE\)](#), [Boylan \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Staes \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Evi \(EFDD\)](#)

Restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment (RoHS)

Vote on the provisional agreement resulting from interinstitutional negotiations (see meeting documents)



The initial RoHS Directive, restricting the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment (Directive 2002/95/EC or RoHS 1) was replaced in 2011 by the current Directive (Directive 2011/65/EU, or RoHS 2). On 26 January 2017, the Commission adopted a proposal amending the scope of RoHS 2.

On 21 June 2017, the Parliament and the Council reached a provisional overall agreement, which provides that secondary market operations for electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) that were newly covered by RoHS will be ensured, as well as the use of spare parts for such equipment, if they are put on the market before 22 July 2019. Specific provisions concerning reused spare parts recovered from electrical and electronic equipment were also included. Furthermore, the Commission will have to provide to the applicant, the Member States and the Parliament a timeline for the adoption of its decisions on exemptions from the substance restrictions in EEE. The agreement was endorsed by Coreper on 28 June 2017.

Rapporteur: [Válean \(EPP\)](#)

Shadows: [Kadenbach \(S&D\)](#), [Dohrmann \(ECR\)](#), [Huitema \(ALDE\)](#), [Kyllönen \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Rivasi \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#), [D'Ornano \(ENF\)](#)

CONSIDERATIONS

Definition, presentation and labelling of spirit drinks

Consideration of draft report (see [meeting documents](#))

This proposal aligns EU legislation on spirit drinks with the Lisbon Treaty. It contains minor technical adjustments in order to address shortcomings in the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 and replaces the existing procedures for the management of geographical indications. The wording and structure changes, and the few technical adaptations, do not affect the substance of the law and this reason, no impact assessment was considered necessary.



In her draft report, the Rapporteur supports the alignment of the legislation on spirit drinks to the Treaty of Lisbon. However, she considers it important that the prerogatives Parliament already had under legislation in force be maintained in any alignment process. The rapporteur welcomes the work done by the Commission but feels that certain amendments are necessary in order to safeguard these rights.

Rapporteur: [Ayuso \(EPP\)](#)

Shadows: [Melior \(S&D\)](#), [Piecha \(ECR\)](#), [Müller \(ALDE\)](#), [Boylan \(GUE\)](#), [Staes \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#), [D'Ornano \(ENF\)](#)

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2018 - all sections

Consideration of draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))

On 30 May 2017 the Commission proposed a Draft Budget (DB) for 2018 of EUR 161 billion, focused on jobs, investments, migration and security. Commissioner Öttinger stressed that the DB 2018 may be the last one for 28 Member States. An indicative listing of the budget lines under the remit of ENVI is available in a separate file.

In her draft opinion, the Chair particularly stresses that every effort should be made to reach the 20 % target of climate-related funds, and calls for sufficient resources to be allocated to the protection of biodiversity. She particularly disapproves of staff reductions in agencies under ENVI's remit, which could negatively impact their work. The Chair also recalls that pilot projects and preparatory actions (PP-PAs) should receive adequate funding throughout their life cycle, so that they can reach their full potential.

The Chair commits to table herself budgetary amendments restoring the DB 2018 for each line under ENVI's remit for which the Council will propose cuts.

Rapporteur: [Válean \(EPP\)](#)

Shadows: [Kadenbach \(S&D\)](#), [Girling \(ECR\)](#), [Jääteenmäki \(ALDE\)](#), [Flanagan \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Eickhout \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#), [D'Ornano \(ENF\)](#)

Accelerating Clean Energy Innovation

Consideration of draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))

On 30 November 2016, the Commission published a Communication on a "Accelerating Clean Energy Innovation" (COM(2016)763), which lays out a strategy for the EU to boost private investment in clean energy innovation.

- EU-level policy and regulatory frameworks – i.e. the revision of the post-2020 strategies on cars/vans and on lorries.
- EU targeted financial instruments to lower the risk of private investments via public loans, equity investment and financial guarantees;
- Horizon 2020 funding for mission-oriented research;

The rapporteur has focused his opinion on the following key points: enhancing citizens' access to low-carbon innovative solutions and focusing low-carbon efforts towards public services; developing a detailed roadmap for phasing out of fossil fuels and redirecting financing from fossil fuel subsidies toward low-carbon innovation; closing the gap between achieving universal energy access by 2030 and the current rate of progress.

Rapporteur: [Eck \(GUE\)](#)

Shadows: [Patriciello \(EPP\)](#), [Tănăsescu \(S&D\)](#), [Gerbrandy \(ALDE\)](#), [Rivasi \(Greens/EFA\)](#)

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

Exchange of views with Mr Geert Dancet, Executive Director of ECHA



The annual exchange of views is part of the regular dialogue between the Executive Director of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and the European Parliament. This gives Members an opportunity to discuss the Agency's Work Programme and its strategic objectives until 2018. He will also report on progress on the implementation of the Biocides and REACH regulations within the present and future work programmes.

Mr Dancet's visit will also present an opportunity to discuss the consequences of the draft budget 2018 for ECHA and MEPs will also take stock of the work accomplished so far and look into ECHA's future role in light of its 10th anniversary this year.

Exchange of views with Mr Siim Kiisler, Minister of Environment, Estonian Presidency



Estonia took over the Presidency from Malta on 1 July 2017. The Estonian Presidency is willing to push forward EU policy to deliver on the Paris targets. Therefore, it committed to make substantial progress on all **climate policy** files – emissions trading system (ETS), the effort sharing Regulation (ESR), land-use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF), and **ETS aviation**.

The **waste package** currently on the table is one of the fundamental

pillars of a resource-efficient circular economy. Negotiations are ongoing and the Presidency said it is committed to find an agreement by the end of the Presidency.

Other key environment priorities of the Estonian Presidency include:

- **eco-innovation**, as a key element in the transition to a circular economy.
- The **Paris Agreement**. The Presidency's priority is to uphold multilateralism by fortifying a broad-based international alliance.
- The **COP 23** in November. The EU must remain decisive and speak with one voice on these critical matters.

Exchange of views with Mr Jevgeni Ossinovski, Minister of Health and Labour, Estonian Presidency

The key health priorities of the Estonian Presidency include:

- In the framework of the Digital Single Market, Estonia would like to promote cooperation and coordination on e-health cross-border cooperation in order to create the necessary preconditions for a wider use and cross-border movement of health data.
- EU Alcohol Strategy: Estonia aims to further develop the discussion between Member States on reducing the harm caused by alcohol.
- In the legislative area, Estonia aims at a negotiating mandate on veterinary medicines in fall.



Exchange of views with the Commission on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes

This year, Directive 2010/63/EU on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes is up for review. It lays down rules on the 'three Rs', i.e. the replacement and reduction of the use of animals in procedures and the refinement of the breeding, accommodation, care and use of animals in procedures.

The Commission was invited to discuss the progress in the revision of the Directive. It should be reminded that animal welfare falls within the competence of the AGRI Committee.

Report back on the mission to the 71st session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (IMO MEPC71) of the International Maritime Organization

The aim of this mission was to continue following the Marine Environment Protection Committee (IMO) process and inform Members' better on the IMO's work, especially as regards the reduction of GHG emissions from ships. Discussions on air pollution, energy efficiency, the data collection system and HFOs in the Arctic were also included in the agenda.

Participating Members will report back to the Committee on their mission, which was important to the European Parliament in view of the implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change.

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT

Recent Publications

- [Briefing for ENVI delegation to IMO MEPC71](#)
- [Proceedings of the workshop on EU action to combat marine litter](#)
- [Briefing on the UN Ocean Conference - June 2017](#)
- [Briefing on circular economy with focus on waste and renewable energy and sustainable bioenergy in Estonia](#)
- [Study on Green Public Procurement and the EU Action Plan for the Circular Economy](#)

Upcoming Publications

- Briefing on biofuels for ENVI delegation to Porto Maghera refinery

To request a hard copy of any publication please contact:
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NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

European Environment Agency (EEA)



Air pollution in Europe: Countries struggle to meet emission limits due to emissions from agriculture and transport. Eleven EU Member States breached air pollution ceilings in 2015 mostly due to high emissions from agricultural and transport sources, according to new data and a briefing released by the European Environment Agency. The briefing includes information on countries' 2015 emissions and national ceilings for different pollutants. [More](#)

European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)



ECHA's Forum for Exchange of Information on Enforcement decided on a seventh major enforcement project which will focus on checking duties related to REACH registration and registrations of intermediates. [More](#) The ECHA Forum also reviewed the experience with a pilot project where inspectors in 17 European countries have checked compliance with the authorisation obligations under REACH for the use and placing on the market of 13 substances of very high concern with sunset dates in 2015. Inspections in companies that used or placed the substances on the market showed a rate of non-compliance of 10.7 % and 8.9 % respectively. [More](#)

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)



Beekeepers, scientists, policy-makers and other relevant parties are to set up a European bee partnership that could transform the way bee health is assessed in the EU. The pledge was the main outcome of a major scientific meeting held in Brussels on 26 June 2017 entitled "Towards a European Bee Partnership" which was focused on how to improve the collection and sharing of data on bees.

EFSA co-hosted the meeting which was held as part of the European Parliament's annual Week of Bees and Pollination. [More](#)

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)



ECDC is satisfied with the Commission's new action plan against antimicrobial resistance. ECDC Director, Dr. Andrea Ammon said: „ECDC welcomes this renewed effort to tackle the increasing threat posed by antimicrobial resistance and highlights once more its commitment to support both the European Commission and the EU Member States in their initiatives to address this issue. She added: “It’s not too late to turn the tide on antimicrobial resistance, but we need to make sure that we act now”. [More](#)

European Medicines Agency (EMA)



EMA and the European Network for Health Technology Assessment (EUnetHTA) have established a single gateway for requests for parallel consultations with EMA and HTA bodies in the Member States on evidence-generation plans to support decision-making on marketing authorisation and health technology assessment. The previous tool required medicine developers to contact Member States' HTA bodies individually. The new platform will increase problem solving ability; improve coordination with, and greater participation of HTA bodies, as a result of the creation of an Early Dialogue Working Party and an Early Dialogue Secretariat at EUnetHTA; streamline logistics for the requesters. These advantages are expected to lead to more robust outcomes resulting from the parallel consultation on evidence-generation plans for pharmaceuticals. [More](#)

About the editor

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