

Words by the Chair



Dear Colleagues,

The first of our two committee meetings this month will be held in Strasbourg. ITRE will have the pleasure of welcoming Commissioner Elżbieta Bieńkowska to discuss two very important Commission proposals. The first is the Programme for European Defence Industrial Development. This 2-year programme will not only have significant budget but will also, for the first time, provide EU-wide coordination for the EU defence industry. The second proposal is the recent Commission communication on a renewed EU Industrial Policy. For our Committee this is a very important document that the Commission prepared in direct response to the requests from the Parliament earlier this year.

During our meeting in Strasbourg, ITRE will also consider its draft opinion on the digital trade strategy. Our Committee feels the responsibility of giving its opinion on this issue since an increasingly digitalised international trade has a direct impact on EU industries and SMEs as well as the citizens.

ITRE will also adopt its reports on the European Electronic Communications Code, on BEREC and on the Bio-Based Industries Joint-Undertaking. Moreover, the Committee will vote on its opinions on the Regulation on Privacy and Electronic

Towards a digital trade strategy

Consideration of [draft opinion](#)

Rapporteurs: [Reinhard Bütikofer](#)

ITRE will be considering the draft opinion of Reinhard Bütikofer (Greens) on the INTA own-initiative report entitled 'Towards a digital trade strategy'. The purpose of this report is to outline the Parliament's position on digital trade issues and new e-commerce initiatives at the WTO, as the issue of digital trade has not been sufficiently addressed to date. ITRE is providing an opinion as it is the competent committee for the Union's industrial policy and related measures, as well as for the digital agenda. The Rapporteur stresses that the EU must develop strategies to harness the benefits of digital technology for its citizens, businesses and consumers, ensure fair market access and protect the fundamental rights of citizens. At the same time the deployment of infrastructure adequate in coverage, quality and security is crucial to implement those strategies. He also focuses on the social aspects and impact of digital trade.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 3 October 2017*
- *Vote in ITRE: 6 November 2017*
- *Vote in INTA: 22-23 November 2018*
- *Vote in Plenary: tbc*

European Electronic Communications Code (Recast)

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Pilar del Castillo Vera](#)

This draft report has received 1517 amendments and the compromise amendments negotiated cover the majority of the report. The opinion-giving Committees for this proposal are IMCO, CULT, JURI and LIBE. The final report for this proposal together with the negotiating mandates will be voted in Strasbourg on 2 October. The interinstitutional negotiations are then likely to kick-off soon after.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary: tbc*

Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Evžen Tošenovský](#)

The committee will vote on a package of compromise amendments on the BEREC report. The aim of the compromises is to maintain the basic structure of BEREC, which has proved to be successful, whilst at the same time introducing various improvements to strengthen the operation of the Board of Regulators and the BEREC Office itself.

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A

Recent publications:

Study: [The Potential of Electricity Demand Response](#)

At a glance: [Policy Departments' Monthly Highlights - July 2017](#)

Briefing: [Study in focus: Review of EU-third country cooperation on policies falling within the ITRE domain in relation to Brexit](#)

Study: [Review of EU-third country cooperation on policies falling within the ITRE domain in relation to Brexit](#)

Study: [Workshop: Facilitating external trade via border management](#)

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

ACER Work Programme for 2018 is available online [More](#)

The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

BEREC publishes study on Net Neutrality regulation in Chile, India and USA [More](#)

European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)

Commissioner Mariya Gabriel meets ENISA Executive Director and staff for a discussion on Cyber Security in Europe [More](#)

European Global Navigation Satellite System Gns Agency (GSA)

GNSS Experts to talk about the value of raw measurements at ION GNSS+ 2017 [More](#)

Next ITRE meeting:

11-12 Octobre 2017, Brussels

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary: tbc*

Establishing the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Miroslav Poche](#)

ITRE will vote on Mr Poche's (S&D) report on amending the Council regulation establishing the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking where certain modifications to the financial contribution management are proposed. 25 amendments have been tabled and 3 compromises have been agreed upon.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary: 23-26 October 2017*

Respect for private life and the protection of personal data in electronic communications and repealing Directive 2002/58/EC (Regulation on Privacy and Electronic Communications)

Adoption of [draft opinion](#)

Rapporteur: [Kaja Kallas](#)

The ITRE committee is giving an opinion on the Commission proposal on e-privacy and will adopt its position at its meeting of 2 October. The proposal is a key part of the establishment of the Digital Single Market, and the committee will vote on a series of compromise amendments that address the essential aspects of the proposal.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in LIBE: 11 October 2017*
- *Vote in Plenary: tbc*

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

Adoption of [draft opinion](#)

Rapporteur: [Jerzy Buzek](#)

ITRE will vote on Mr Buzek's (EPP) opinion on the resolution accompanying the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2018. 27 amendments have been tabled and 2 compromise amendments suggested.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in BUDG: 10 October 2017*
- *Plenary session: 23-26 October 2017*

Exchange of views with Commissioner Elżbieta Bieńkowska on EU's Industrial policy and in particular on the Defence Industrial Development Programme

The ITRE committee will have an exchange of views with Commissioner Bieńkowska on the Commission's proposal for a Programme for European Defence Industrial Development, which is planned to cover the years 2019-2020, with a budget of EUR 500 million for the two-year duration. The ITRE rapporteur is Ms Grossetête (EPP). In addition to this, discussions are expected on the Commission's recently-published communication on a renewed EU Industrial Policy Strategy, which was requested by Parliament in its resolution of July 2017.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

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