

CHAIR'S WELCOME



The next ENVI meetings will take place on the [19th of October](#), in Brussels, and on the [23rd of October](#), in Strasbourg.

We will discuss and vote on an objection against the highly sensitive act renewing the approval in the EU for glyphosate. Glyphosate-based pesticides are used as herbicides in agriculture, horticulture and in some non-cultivated areas. MEPs discussed the EU risk assessment of the herbicide glyphosate, in the light of the so-called "Monsanto Papers", with

experts in a public hearing earlier this week, on 11 October. We will then discuss and vote on objections against GMOs (soybean, oilseed rapes, and maize). In the context of the widespread use of chemical pesticides, we will also vote on an opinion on the prospects and challenges for the EU apiculture sector, calling for further surveillance and research to be carried out to identify the possible causes of the reduction in life expectancy of queen bees.

The EU is currently highly dependant on certain imported protein crop commodities (mainly genetically-modified soya), due also to a reduced cropping diversity on European farms. For the purpose of preparing a European strategy on the promotion of protein crops, we will discuss a draft opinion on this topic, which stresses the benefits and merits of protein crop cultivation, supports the existing initiatives to boost non-genetically modified soya production, as well as the establishment of transparent product labelling systems.

In view of the new multiannual financial framework post-2020, we will discuss a draft opinion on the reform of the European Union's system of own resources; the draft opinion underlines the need for additional investments in the period 2020-2030 to achieve a sustainable, circular and low-carbon economy and deliver on the commonly agreed Energy Union targets.

On Monday in Strasbourg, we will hold a vote on an opinion to the Renewable energy directive, which proposes increasing the EU's level of ambition to 45% renewable energy sources in 2030, fast transition to

renewable energy being of key importance to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

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:

- Objection pursuant to rule 106: active substance glyphosate
- Objection pursuant to Rule 106: Genetically modified soybean 305423 x 40-3-2 (DP-3Ø5423-1 x MON-Ø4Ø32-6)
- Objection pursuant to Rule 106: genetically modified oilseed rapes MON 88302 x Ms8 x Rf3 (MON-883Ø2-9 x ACSBNØØ5-8 x ACSBNØØ3-6), MON 88302 x Ms8 (MON-883Ø2-9 x ACSBNØØ5-8) and MON 88302 x Rf3 (MON-883Ø2-9 x ACSBNØØ3-6)
- Objection pursuant to Rule 106: genetically modified maize 1507 (DAS-Ø15Ø7-1)
- Protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work
- Prospects and challenges for the EU apiculture sector
- Promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (on 23 October)

Considerations:

- Reform of the European Union's system of own resources
- A European Strategy for the promotion of Protein Crops - Encouraging the production of protein and leguminous plants in the European agriculture sector
- 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

Exchange of views:

- with the Commission on ICAO's CORSIA developments

Next meeting of the ENVI Committee

6 November (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.

Subscription

To receive the ENVI newsletter, please send an email with the subject "newsletter" to envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu. To sign up for ENVI committee press releases or for media enquiries, please write to envi-press@europarl.europa.eu

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 European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) provides research publications in the area of environment, public health and food safety. You can find all the latest publications on the European Parliament website's [Think Tank](#) pages.

VOTES

Promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources

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



The ENVI Committee will vote on the opinion on the recast of the Renewable Energy Directive (lead Committee ITRE). The recast is a part of the so-called Winter Package of eight legislative proposals aiming to set EU energy and climate framework after 2020. ENVI was granted

exclusive competence on sustainability criteria (Articles 26-28), the cap on biofuels from food and feed crops (Article 7) and annex IX listing feedstock for advanced biofuels as well as annexes: V, VI, VIII, X and several definitions. Shared competence applies to Article 25 on transport which lays down incorporation obligations, with the exception of GHG emission saving threshold and paragraphs 3(b) and 6, which are in ENVI exclusive competence. Approximately 1200 amendments were tabled representing a wide variety of proposals: specific target for transport, the cap on first generation biofuels, blending obligations, the use of waste based fossil fuels, inclusion in the calculations of indirect ILUC impacts, different approach to the sustainability criteria for forest biomass and general RES targets at EU and national levels.

Rapporteur: [Eickhout \(Greens/EFA\)](#)

Shadows: [Petir \(EPP\)](#), [Leinen \(S&D\)](#), [Wiśniewska \(ECR\)](#), [Torvalds \(ALDE\)](#), [Kyllönen \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#)

Objection pursuant to Rule 106: active substance glyphosate

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

Commission Directive 2001/99/EC included glyphosate as an active substance in Annex I to Council Directive 91/414/EEC. The approval of the active substance glyphosate expires on 15 December 2017. An application for the renewal of the inclusion of the active substance glyphosate in Annex I to Council Directive 91/414/EEC was submitted.

The Committee for Risk Assessment of the European Chemicals Agency adopted its opinion, concluding by consensus that on the basis of the information currently available, no hazard classification for carcinogenicity is justified for glyphosate.

The objectors consider that the Commission's draft implementing regulation fails to ensure a high level of protection of both human and animal health and the environment, that it fails to apply the precautionary principle, and that it exceeds the implementing powers provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. They call on the Commission to withdraw the draft implementing regulation and submit a new one in line with the requirements laid down by Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. The objectors also call on the Commission to adopt necessary measures to phase out the active substance glyphosate in the European Union until no later than 15 December 2020, ensuring that no use of glyphosate is authorised after that date.

Co-rapporteurs: [Poc \(S&D\)](#), [Konečná \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Eickhout \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#), [Ries](#)

Shadows: [Goddyn \(ENF\)](#)

Objections pursuant to Rule 106: Genetically modified soybean, oilseed rapes and maize

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

Pioneer Overseas Corporation submitted an application for the placing on the market of foods, food ingredients, and feed containing, consisting of, or produced from 305423 × 40-3-2 soybean to the national competent authority of the Netherlands. The draft decision authorises the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified soybean 305423 × 40-3-2 (DP-3Ø5423-1 × MON-Ø4Ø32-6).



Monsanto Europe S.A. and Bayer CropScience N.V. submitted an application for the placing on the market of foods, food ingredients and feed containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified oilseed rape MON 88302 × Ms8 × Rf3 to the national competent authority of the Netherlands. The application also covered products consisting of it or containing it for other uses than food and feed as any other oilseed rape, with the exception of cultivation and, for those uses, all sub-combinations of the single genetic modification events constituting oilseed rape MON 88302 × Ms8 × Rf3. The draft decision authorises the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified oilseed rapes MON 88302 × Ms8 × Rf3, MON 88302 × Ms8 and MON 88302 × Rf3, for the uses listed in the application.

Pioneer Overseas Corporation and Dow AgroSciences Ltd jointly submitted to the Commission an application for renewal of the authorisation for the placing on the market of food and feed containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified maize 1507. The draft decision renews that authorisation.

The Objectors consider, amongst others, that the residues from spraying with the complementary herbicides were not assessed, and that since the application of the complementary herbicides is part of regular agricultural practice in the cultivation of herbicide-resistant plants, it can be expected that residues from spraying will always be present in the harvest and are inevitable constituents

The objectors also recall that democratic legitimacy can only be ensured by providing, at the very least, that when no opinion is delivered by the Food Chain and Animal Health Standing Committee, the Commission proposal is withdrawn, a procedure which already exists for some other Standing Committees.

Co-rapporteurs: [Staes \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Balas \(S&D\)](#), [Boylan \(GUE\)](#), [Evi \(EFDD\)](#), [Pietikainen](#), [Mazuronis](#)

Shadows: [Huitema \(ALDE\)](#)

Prospects and challenges for the EU apiculture sector

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



The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) is preparing an own-initiative report on the prospects and challenges for the EU apiculture sector, for which the rapporteur is Norbert Erdős (EPP).

In her draft opinion, the ENVI rapporteur, Mireille D'Ornano (EFDD), highlights the importance of bees and the beekeeping sector. She calls for further surveillance and research to be carried out in order to identify the possible causes of the reduction in life expectancy of queen bees. She also calls for more support to be provided for the development of biological pesticides and for the fight against fraudulent apiculture products placed on the EU market. The rapporteur also considers that the Common Agricultural Policy should not encourage intensive farming practices, so as to provide a better living environment for bees.

111 amendments were tabled to the draft opinion covering all the key elements addressed in the draft opinion.

Rapporteur: [D'Ornano \(EFDD\)](#)

Shadows: [McGuinness \(EPP\)](#), [Dalli \(S&D\)](#), [Piecha \(ECR\)](#), [Bearder \(ALDE\)](#), [Konečná \(GUE\)](#), [Rivasi \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Goddyn \(ENF\)](#)

CONSIDERATIONS

Reform of the European Union's system of own resources

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

The Committee on Budgets (BUDG) own-initiative report will prepare Parliament's view on the new multiannual financial framework post-2020, ahead of the Commission legislative proposal on the matter. The report also allows the Parliament to react to the recommendations regarding the future financing of the EU in the 'Monti Report' (Report on the future financing of the EU, December 2016).

The Rapporteur stresses that significant additional investments are required in the period 2020-2030 to boost the transition towards a sustainable, circular and low-carbon economy and deliver on the Energy Union targets. He is convinced that tangible progress on these key EU policies requires a thorough reform with a view to a more effective EU budget based on genuine own resources, with a direct and transparent link to investments in projects with clear European added value for citizens and companies. The Rapporteur also analyses the possible new own resources put forward by the Monti Report, linked to the environment and climate.

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

Shadows: [Androulakis \(S&D\)](#), [Jäättteenmäki \(ALDE\)](#), [Konečná \(GUE\)](#), [Eickhout \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#)

A European Strategy for the promotion of Protein Crops

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

The stated aim of AGRI's initiative report is to discuss the merits of protein crops and how to raise the self-sufficiency of the EU, prepare a European

strategy on the promotion of protein crops and consider how the post-2020 CAP could contribute to more cultivation and use of protein crops. The background of this report is the EU's dependence on imported protein crop commodities (mainly genetically-modified soya) and the reduced cropping diversity on European farms.



The Rapporteur believes that the promotion of protein crop cultivation is a powerful tool in the transition towards more sustainable agri-food systems, supporting a shift from input-intensive crop monoculture towards diversified agro-ecological systems. He discusses the numerous benefits and merits of protein crops, and supports to the objectives of the European Soya Declaration as well as other initiatives to boost non-genetically modified soya production, and other protein crop cultivation in Europe. He is also in favour of the establishment of transparent product labelling systems based on certified production standards, such as the Danube Soya and Europe Soya standards.

Rapporteur: [Hölvényi \(EPP\)](#)

Shadows: [Melior \(S&D\)](#), [Dohrmann \(ECR\)](#), [Jäättteenmäki \(ALDE\)](#), [Flanagan \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Häusling \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#)

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

Exchange of views with the Commission on ICAO's CORSIA developments



Although aviation was included under the EU ETS in 2008, it has never been applied in its original scope due to challenges by third countries to European legislation being applicable to their airlines. To this end and in view of stimulating the ICAO (International Civil

Aviation Organization) process to agree a global measure to tackle emissions from aviation, the EU provisions with regards to flights to and from 3rd countries has been so far twice suspended, in 2013 and 2014.

In October 2016, ICAO agreed on a Resolution for a global market-based measure (GMBM) to address the growth in international aviation emissions globally from 2021 through an offsetting system (CORSIA - the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation), aimed at enabling the aspiration goal of stabilising international aviation emissions at 2020 levels.

Following a number of ICAO meetings that have taken place, the Commission will present to the committee the recent developments in ICAO with a particular focus on the recommendations on CORSIA by the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP) steering group and the Second ICAO Conference on Aviation and Alternative Fuels.

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT

Recent Publications

- [Study on Implementing the Paris Agreement – New Challenges in View of the COP 23 Climate Change Conference](#)
- [Briefing on climate and energy policies in Poland](#)
- [Briefing on the 1st Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on mercury](#)
- [Study on Green Public Procurement and the EU Action Plan for the Circular Economy](#)

Upcoming Publications

- *Workshop proceedings on "An Urgent Strong Antimicrobial Action Plan"*
- *Workshop proceedings on "Autoimmune diseases – modern diseases"*

- *Workshop proceedings on "Complementary and alternative therapies for patients today and tomorrow"*
- *Workshop proceedings on "First results of the LIFE programme 2014-2020"*

Upcoming Events

- *Workshop on "Limits and potential of the public health programme", 22.11.2017*

To request a hard copy of any publication please contact:

Poldep-Economy-Science@ep.europa.eu

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

European Environment Agency (EEA)



Landscapes in transition — An account of 25 years of land cover change in Europe. Accelerating rates of construction, changing demographics, technological changes, and climate change are some of the key drivers influencing the use of Europe's vast landscapes. The report published says that the continent's land use increasingly sees striking changes and conflicts over land demand which will require reconciling place-based management and macro policies to foster responsible land use. [More](#)

European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)



Sustainability is increasingly important on industry's agenda but chemicals management is often not directly linked to companies' sustainability strategies. According to the study commissioned by ECHA, companies still see chemicals management mainly in the context of staying compliant with all regulations relevant to them. Compliance with chemicals legislation is seen by companies as the baseline providing a "licence to operate" in their business fields, but they do not link this work directly to their sustainability strategies. [More](#)

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)



EFSA has launched a public consultation on its draft scientific opinion on dietary reference values (DRVs) for sodium. In particular, it is seeking feedback on the way it plans to select and use evidence in its assessment. As part of the assessment, systematic literature reviews will be conducted on the relationship between sodium intake and health outcomes such as cardiovascular disease and bone health. EFSA's Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies (NDA) has developed a

protocol describing the steps to be followed for the collection, selection, appraisal and integration of the evidence. [More](#)

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)



Measles outbreaks continue to occur in a number of EU/EEA countries, and there is a risk of spread and sustained transmission in areas with susceptible populations. New data published on 13 October 2017 by ECDC in the Communicable Disease Threat Report (CDTR) show that from January 2016 to October 2017, nearly 19 000 measles cases were reported in the EU, including 44 deaths. The CDTR also shows that the highest number of cases in 2017 were reported in Romania (7 570), Italy (4 617) and Germany (891). The spread of measles across Europe is due to suboptimal vaccination coverage in many EU/EEA countries. A more in-depth analysis of the situation can be found in the monthly and biannual measles and rubella surveillance monitoring reports of October 2017. [More](#)

European Medicines Agency (EMA)



EMA's first public hearing on valproate. Patients, carers, doctors, pharmacists and academia shared their experience with valproate - a medicine that treats epilepsy, bipolar disorder and migraine - at the first public hearing held by the EMA on 26 September 2017. "The European Parliament insisted on including public hearings in the EU law on medicines safety," said Linda McAvan, Member of the European Parliament. "The positive experience from EMA's first public hearing confirms that giving patients a platform to tell their story was the right thing to do." [More](#)

About the editor: European Parliament, Directorate General for Internal Policies of the Union, Secretariat of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety - Responsible administrators: Silvia Cannalire, Ioana-Alice Postu. Responsible assistants: Irena Aramina, Elise Hancotte.

Legal disclaimer: The items contained herein are drafted by the ENVI Committee Secretariat and are provided for general information purposes only. The content is indicative and subject to changes. The opinions expressed in this document are the sole responsibility of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position of the ENVI Committee. The newsletter contains links to websites that are created and maintained by other organisations. The ENVI Committee does not necessarily endorse the views expressed on these websites.