

JURI Report

Meeting of 21 - 22 February 2018

At this meeting the Committee on Legal Affairs will exchange views with Mrs Tsetska Tsacheva, the Minister of Justice, and Mr Boil Banov, the Minister of Culture, on the programme and priorities of the Bulgarian Presidency within the area of the Committee competence. The Committee will also hold a public hearing on collective redress in the EU on 21 February and the workshop on text and data mining on 22 February.

The meeting of the Committee on Legal Affairs will commence with the consideration of the draft report on three-dimensional printing, followed by consideration of amendments on the opinion on work-life balance for parents and carers. Afterwards, the Committee will consider the draft report on the 2017 EU Justice Scoreboard. The morning session will conclude with a public hearing.

In the afternoon, the Committee will consider the amendments tabled on the draft report on a statute for social and solidarity-based enterprises and will also consider the draft report on monitoring the application of EU law 2016. The rapporteurs, Evelyne Gebhardt and Axel Voss, will report back to the Committee on the progress of the ongoing trilogue negotiations on contracts for the supply of digital content, while the Chair will report on the progress of the negotiations on certain online transmissions of broadcasting organisations and retransmissions of television and radio programmes. The afternoon will conclude with in the camera items.

On 22 February, after the exchange of views with the Bulgarian Presidency, the Committee will vote, including on the two opinions on European services e-card. The meeting will conclude with a workshop.



HEARING

The Committee on Legal Affairs will hold a public hearing on 'Collective redress in the EU: the state of play and next steps' on 21 February 2018. This hearing will bring together MEPs, Commission representatives, stakeholders and an academic expert with a view to discussing the recently published Commission report on the implementation of the 2013 Recommendation on collective redress mechanisms, as well as any follow-up actions to the report.

The 2013 Recommendation established principles in relation to violations of rights granted under Union law across all policy fields and in relation to both injunctive and compensatory relief. It follows from the Recommendation that all

Member States should have collective redress systems at national level that comply with the same basic principles throughout the Union, taking into account their legal traditions and safeguarding against potential abuse. Paragraph 41 of the Recommendation mandates the Commission to assess its implementation on the basis of practical experience, considering in particular its impact on access to justice, the right to obtain compensation, the need to prevent abusive litigation, the functioning of the single market, SMEs, the competitiveness of the EU economy, and consumer trust. It should also be assessed whether further measures to consolidate and strengthen the Recommendation's horizontal approach should be proposed.

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FEBRUARY/2018

NEXT MEETING
26-27 MARCH 2018

JURI
Website

EPRS

LATEST ANALYSES

[The European Agenda on Migration](#)

[The impact of Brexit on the legal status of European Union officials and other servants of British nationality](#)

[Legal analysis with focus on Article 11 of the proposed Directive on Copyright in the Digital Market](#)

[Strengthening the Position of Press Publishers and Authors and Performers in the Copyright Directive](#)

[The state of implementation of the EU Succession Regulation's provisions on its scope, applicable law, freedom of choice, and parallelism between the law and the courts](#)

VOTES

Opinion on media freedom and media pluralism



Increasing concerns over the gradual curtailment of media freedom and pluralism in several Member States of the European Union have been voiced in the last decades by policymakers. However, a consensus has not been reached yet on the precise actions that should be taken to address the problem and ensure a sustainable, long-term improvement in the state of media freedom and pluralism in the EU.

Article 11 of the Charter on Fundamental Rights of the European Union expressly calls for respect of media freedom and pluralism. According to Article 51 of the Charter, the provisions of the Charter apply directly to cases where the Member States act within the scope of Union law.

Member States' obligation to ensure media pluralism consists of, on the one hand, refraining from any interference that would distort the market, and on the other, of enacting the necessary legislation to ensure that a plurality of opinions exists in the media market.

At the meeting of 24 January 2018, the rapporteur for opinion, Heidi Hautala, presented her draft opinion. The main areas of focus of the draft opinion were the concentration of media ownership, the safeguarding of editorial independence, the decriminalisation of defamation offences, Union-wide protection for whistle-blowers in the context of investigative journalism, and, finally, the fight against 'fake' news.

At this meeting, the Committee on Legal Affairs will vote on the 100 amendments tabled and adopt the final opinion.

Procedures: [2017/2209\(INI\)](#)

Rapporteur for opinion:

Heidi Hautala

Administrator:

Zampia Vernadaki

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Consideration of a draft

report: 24.01.2018

Deadline for AMs: 30.01.2018

Adoption in JURI: 22.2.2017

LEGAL BASIS (Rule 39)

Organic production and labelling of organic products

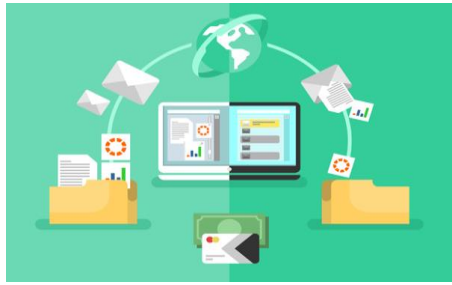


By letter of 1 February 2018, the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) asked the Committee on Legal Affairs (JURI), pursuant to Rule 39(2) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure (RoP), to provide it with an opinion on the appropriateness of the deletion of Article 42 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) from the legal basis of the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007. The original proposal by the Commission was based on Articles 42 and 43(2) TFEU. As a result of

the negotiations between Parliament and the Council, the legal basis was changed in the sense that Article 43(2) TFEU was retained as the only legal basis of the proposal.

At this meeting, the Committee on Legal Affairs will adopt an opinion on the appropriate legal basis for the proposal.

Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council introducing a European services e-card and related administrative facilities



The proposal for a regulation on a European services e-card, presented jointly with a proposal for a directive on the same subject, is complementary to other policy initiatives in the context of services announced in the Single Market Strategy to prevent the introduction of barriers to cross-border service provision at national level.

Through the e-card, service providers will be able to avoid administrative obstacles such as uncertainty as to which requirements apply, filling-in disparate forms in foreign languages, translating, certifying or authenticating documents, and non-electronic procedural steps.

The proposal provides for the following:

- where a service provider plans to provide a service temporarily cross-border, the e-card would be issued by the home Member State. The host Member States would be able to object to issuance of the e-card where the Services Directive already allows them to do so under one of the overriding reasons of public interest. Once issued, the e-card would allow the service provider to provide services on a temporary cross-border basis in the host Member State;
- where a service provider plans to provide services through a branch, agency or office in another Member State, the e-card is issued by the host Member State. In this case the service provider would still request the e-card with its home country authorities, who would check that the service provider is established on its territory in line with its applicable rules. However, in a second step the home Member State authorities would initiate a process with the relevant host country administration to allow the latter to verify if the requesting service provider meets its host country regulatory requirements in compliance with the Services Directive.

The European services e-card would also:

- offer technical facilities to facilitate compliance with administrative formalities related to posting of staff into the territory of those Member States that have communicated to the Commission that they wish to make use of the Internal Market Information System for this purpose;
- include rules to facilitate obtaining insurance coverage for services provided across borders.

The European services e-card would apply in a first stage to business services and construction services, insofar as the related activities already fall under the Services Directive.

This proposal also includes review clauses for future consideration of the effectiveness of the European services e-card, including as regards compliance with the formalities necessary for the posting of workers.

At the meeting of 20-21 November 2017, the rapporteur for opinion presented her draft opinion with a recommendation to reject the Commission proposal and a debate on the amendments tabled took place in January. The vote on the draft opinion is scheduled at this meeting.

Procedure: 2016/0403(COD)

Rapporteur: Evelyne Gebhardt

Administrator: Andrea Scrimali

Committee responsible: IMCO

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Exchange of views: 12-13.07.2017

Consideration of a draft opinion: 20-21.11.2017

Deadline for amendments: 1.12.2017

Consideration of amendments: 24.01.2018

Adoption JURI: 21-22.02.2018

Adoption IMCO: 21-22.03.2018

Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the legal and operational framework of the European services e-card introduced by Regulation [ESC regulation]



The proposal for a directive lays down a legal and operational framework for the European services e-card (ESC), as introduced by the ESC Regulation (see previous item). It sets out the rules governing access and exercise of service activities by holders of an e-card.

In particular, this proposal:

- sets the scope of this Directive as including the business and construction services listed in its Annex;
- clarifies the evidentiary value, throughout the Union, of an ESC in relation to establishment in the home Member State of the provider, from where it expands operations by making use of the e-card;
- details the effects of the ESC as proof of the ability of the e-card holder to provide services in the territory of the host Member State, either temporarily or through a branch, agency or office located therein;
- determines the validity of the ESC to be indefinite in time, unless suspended, revoked or cancelled, and encompassing all of the territory of the host Member State;
- determines that the application for an e-card should be submitted to the coordinating authority of the home Member State;
- safeguards the right of Member States to invoke overriding reasons of public interest;
- describes procedural steps for issuing an ESC for providing services through establishment in the form of branches, agencies or offices. The coordinating authority of the host Member State provides information on the requirements applicable on its territory in order for access to be granted. The applicant needs to prove the necessary compliance. If no decision is taken by the coordinating authority of the host Member State after a proper due process with the applicant and despite an alert to react, the e-card is issued;
- provides the right of redress against decisions by coordinating authorities of the home or host Member State(s);
- introduces a 'once-only principle' at domestic level, under which information and documents in the possession of home Member State authorities need not be supplied again by the applicant for an ESC;
- lists events occurring in the host Member State which must trigger suspension or revocation of an ESC.

At the meeting of 20-21 November 2017, the rapporteur for opinion presented her draft opinion with a recommendation to reject the Commission proposal and a debate on the amendments tabled took place in January. The vote on the draft opinion is scheduled for this meeting.

Procedure: [2016/0402\(COD\)](#)

Rapporteur: Evelyne Gebhardt

Administrator: Andrea Scrimali

Committee responsible: IMCO

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Exchange of views: 12-13.07.2017

Consideration of a draft opinion:
20-21.11.2017

Deadline for amendments:
1.12.2017

Consideration of amendments:
24.01.2018

Adoption JURI: 21-22.02.2018

Adoption IMCO: 21-22.03.2018

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT REPORT

Monitoring the application of EU law 2016



In his draft report the rapporteur, Kostas Chrysogonos, stresses that effective application and implementation of EU law by the Member States is essential if the European Union is to meet its political objectives. The report encourages the EU institutions to fulfil their duty to respect primary EU law when establishing the provisions of secondary and soft law, developing policies, and signing agreements or treaties with institutions outside the EU, and also to fulfil their duty to assist Member States by all means available in their efforts to transpose EU legislation in all areas and to respect the values and principles of the Union.

Moreover, the report stresses the obligation of the EU institutions to respect the Charter of Fundamental Rights when adopting secondary law, and emphasises that the EU has been set up as a Union based on the rule of law and respect for human rights (Article 2 TEU). It reiterates that careful monitoring of the acts and omissions of Member States and EU institutions is of the utmost importance.

The Committee on Legal Affairs traditionally draws up every year its response to the annual report by the Commission on the monitoring of the application of EU law. While Member States are responsible for the transposition of directives and the correct application of EU law, it follows from Article 22 of the Treaty on European Union that the Commission has the responsibility for monitoring whether the Member States' laws and their practical application are in compliance with EU law. For this purpose Articles 258 and 260 TFEU empower the Commission to bring actions, if necessary, against a Member State before the Court of Justice for infringements. The European Parliament, in turn, has both a responsibility to politically 'monitor the monitoring' by the Commission, as well as an interest in ensuring that the legislation it adopts becomes reality in the Member States.

At this meeting, the rapporteur will present his draft report.

Procedure: 2017/2273(INI)

Rapporteur: Kostas Chrysogonos

Administrator: Valeria Ghilardi

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Opinion: PETI, FEMM, ENVI, AFCE

Consideration of draft report: 21-22.02.2018

Deadline for amendments: 28.02.2018

Consideration of amendments: 26-27.03.2018

JURI vote: 24.04.2018

SUBSIDIARITY (RULE 42)

The following reasoned opinion received from national parliaments will be announced in the meeting:

Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1073/2009 on common rules for access to the international market for coach and bus services - COM(2017)0647 -2017/0288(COD)

Dáil Éireann

Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 92/106/EEC on the establishment of common rules for certain types of combined transport of goods between Member States

the Swedish Parliament

Proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2009/73/EC concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas

the French Senate



The 2017 EU Justice Scoreboard

In the European Union, enforcement of law before courts remains largely a matter of national procedural rules and practice. National courts are also Union courts. It is therefore for the proceedings before them to ensure fairness, justice and efficiency as well as effective application of Union law.

The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial, as enshrined in Article 47 of the Charter and in Article 6 ECHR, constitutes one of the fundamental guarantees for respect for the rule of law and democracy. Although the Member States are party to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECHR), experience has shown that that alone does not always provide a sufficient degree of trust in justice systems of other Member States. The extent of mutual trust is very much dependent on a number of parameters, which include, inter alia, mechanisms for safeguarding the rights of the claimant or the defendant while guaranteeing access to courts and justice.

On 10 April 2017 the Commission published the 2017 EU Justice Scoreboard, which gives a comparative overview of the quality, independence and efficiency of justice systems in the European Union. Unlike previous editions, the 2017 Scoreboard looks into consumers' access to justice and the channels used to lodge complaints against companies. It also shows the length of criminal court proceedings relating to money-laundering offences.

This own-initiative report is a response to the Commission's 2017 EU Justice Scoreboard. At this meeting, the rapporteur, Jytte Guteland, will present her draft report.

Procedures: 2018/2009(INI)

Rapporteur: Jytte Guteland

Administrator: Zampia Vernadaki

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Exchange of views in the presence of the Commission: 24.01.2018

Consideration of a draft report: 22.02.2018

Deadline for AMs: 06.03.2018

Consideration of AMs: 26.03.2018

Adoption in JURI: 24.04.2018

Three-dimensional printing, a challenge in the fields of intellectual property rights and civil liability



Three-dimensional printing (3D printing) is considered an important component of the 'new industrial revolution.' The potential of 3D printing to transform production and services in Europe is considerable. It can induce more local production and customisation of manufacturing while also stimulating the worldwide commercialisation of creative designs. In the framework of European research funding, 3D printing has been identified as one of the technologies that will drive forward the development of future products and services. Under the last round of research funding, which ran from 2007 to 2013, the Union spent over EUR 160 million on over 60 research projects in 3D printing, and funding

continues under Horizon 2020, the funding round that runs from 2014 to 2020.

However, 3D printing also raises challenges, related notably to civil liability and intellectual property rights. Who is responsible if a 3D-printed product injures someone, or for defective products? The designer? The owner of the printer? The maker of the printer? What will the effects be on protected designs and on the trademark system? Will the patent system be affected, and will there be implications on the copyright of computer programs? The Committee on Legal Affairs, as the committee responsible for civil liability and intellectual property rights, has been authorised to draw up an own-initiative report on 'Three-dimensional printing, a challenge in the fields of intellectual property rights and civil liability' and has appointed Joëlle Bergeron as rapporteur.

Procedure 2017/2007(INI)

Rapporteur: Joëlle Bergeron

Administrator: Henrik Kjellin - Magnus Nordanskog

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Exchange of views: 11.04.2017

Presentation of draft: 12.07.2017

Consideration of a draft report: 21-22.02.2018

Deadline for AMs: 27.02.2018

JURI vote: 26-27.03.2018

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS

Statute for social and solidarity-based enterprises



On 29 September 2016, the Committee on Legal Affairs was authorised to draw up an own-initiative legislative report on a 'Statute for social and solidarity-based enterprises'. The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) was associated under Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure. The committees agreed that the Committee on Legal Affairs would be responsible for all aspects relating to the legal status of social and solidarity-based enterprises, including denomination, form, structure, capital, statutes, and any other matter falling within the field of company law, and that the Committee on

Employment and Social Affairs would deal with those aspects relating to the recognition, support and promotion of this type of enterprises, their social impact and their contribution to the Europe 2020 strategy, including boosting employment and growth, solidarity and social cohesion. A hearing on the subject was held at the committee meeting of 22 March 2017. The hearing brought together five experts in the field who, inter alia, provided an overview of the current state of the legislation in Europe on social and solidarity-based enterprises. At the meeting of 7 December 2017, the rapporteur presented his draft report. 165 amendments have been tabled to it. At this meeting, the committee will consider the amendments tabled. The committee will vote after EMPL has adopted its opinion.

Procedures: 2018/2009(INI);

Rapporteur: Jiri Mastalka

Administrator: Francisco Ruiz-Risueno

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Draft report: 07.12.2017

Deadline for AMs: 06.03.2018

JURI vote: 14-15.05.2018

Work-life balance for parents and carers



This proposal for a directive is part of a package of measures which aims at addressing women's under-representation in employment and at supporting their career progression by means of improved conditions in order to enable them to reconcile their professional and personal responsibilities.

In 2015 the employment rate for women aged 20-64 stood at 64.3 %, compared to 75.9 % for men. The gender employment gap in the labour market is most acute for parents and people with other caring responsibilities. On average in 2015, the employment rate of women with one child under 6 years of age was

nearly 9 % less than women without young children, and in several countries this difference went over 30 %.

Furthermore, women are much more likely to assume the role of informal carers for elderly or dependent relatives than men, and they are also far more likely to work part-time due to caring responsibilities.

In 2016, the incidence of part-time work differed significantly between men and women: 31.4 % of women aged 20-64 employed in the EU-28 worked on a part-time basis, a much higher proportion than the corresponding share for men (8.2 %).

This proposal does not diminish the level of protection offered by the EU acquis. Rather, it enhances existing rights and introduces new ones for both women and men, thereby addressing the issue of equal treatment and equal opportunities in today's labour market, promoting non-discrimination and fostering gender equality.

At this meeting, the Committee on Legal Affairs will examine amendments which have been tabled to the draft opinion.

Procedure: 2017/0085(COD)

Rapporteur: Joëlle Bergeron

Administrator: Valeria Ghilardi

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Exchange of views:
09.10.2017

Consideration of the draft opinion: 21.11.2017

Deadline for amendments:
01.12.2017

Consideration of amendments: 21-22.02.2018

REPORTING BACK TO COMMITTEE

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



Forming part of the copyright package that the Commission presented on 14 September 2016, this proposal for a regulation aims to promote the cross-border provision of online services ancillary to broadcasts. It also seeks to facilitate digital retransmissions over closed networks of TV and radio programmes originating in other Member States, primarily by making the so-called 'country of origin' principle applicable to such services. Under this principle, communication to the public for the purposes of copyright and related rights would be deemed to occur solely in the Member State in which the broadcasting organisation has its principal establishment. The proposal also attempts to address difficulties related to the clearance of rights, so as to allow broadcasters and operators of retransmission services to offer wider access to TV and radio programmes across the EU.

An arrangements for the application of the procedure on associated committee in Rule 54 had been agreed with the Committee on Culture and Education (CULT) for the entirety of the proposal. The Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) and the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) issued opinions on this dossier.

A first exchange of views on the dossier was held at the JURI meeting in March 2017. At the public hearing on 4 May 2017, the Committee heard different expert perspectives on the proposal from the Commission and stakeholders representing public service media, commercial television, business and academia. The Committee considered the draft report at its meeting on 30 May 2017. The rapporteur at the time, Tiemo Wölken, and the shadow rapporteurs also held a meeting on 12 July 2017 with Commission Vice-President Ansip, Commissioner Vestager and Estonian Minister of Justice Urmas Reinsaulu to discuss the relationship between this dossier and the Commission's competition case involving Sky pay-TV and Hollywood studios, which relates to cross-border access to pay-TV. The Commission's position is that since the competition case is limited to a certain fact base scenario relating to specific actors when it comes to contractual restrictions and passive sale, and whereas the proposal for a regulation is a regulatory measure of general scope, the two dossiers are unrelated and there is therefore no need to await the final outcome of the competition case before moving on with the examination of the proposed regulation in the Parliament and the Council.

It could also be noted that, in November 2017, the IMCO committee reached an agreement in principle with the Council and the Commission on the general geo-blocking regulation, which aims at ensuring cross-border access for consumers of products and services on-line and to thus abolish geo-blocking practices. According to the agreement, the regulation does not include copyright protected works, including audiovisual works, but the Commission agreed to make a declaration on the review clause, which among other things includes the following (added emphasis):

"As part of the evaluation, it will also perform a substantive analysis of the feasibility and potential costs and benefits arising from any changes to the scope of the Regulation, in particular with regard to the *possible deletion of the exclusion of electronically supplied services the main feature of which is the provision of access to or use of copyright protected works or other protected subject matter* from Article 4(1)(b) where the trader has the required rights for the relevant territories, taking due account of the likely impacts any extension of the scope of the Regulation would have on consumers and businesses, and on the sectors concerned, across the European Union. The Commission will also carefully analyse whether in *other sectors, including those not covered by Directive 2006/123/EC* which are also excluded from the scope of the Regulation pursuant to its Article 1(3), such as services in the field of transport and *audio-visual services*, any remaining unjustified restrictions based on nationality, place of residence or place of establishment should be eliminated."

The 330 amendments tabled to the draft SatCab report and the opinions adopted in the other committees were considered at the JURI meeting on 7 September 2017. A number of meetings of the rapporteur and shadow rapporteurs were then held in an attempt to agree on compromise amendments. Following several such meetings it became clear that it would not be possible to find compromises which would enjoy wide support amongst the groups. A number of compromises supported by S&D, GUE, Greens and EFDD, and corresponding alternative compromises supported by EPP, ECR and ALDE were therefore put to the vote. As a result of the vote, most of the alternative compromises were adopted, including on the most central

Procedure: 2016/0284(COD)

Rapporteur: Pavel Svoboda

Administrator: Magnus Nordanskog

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

JURI vote: 21.11.2017

Announcement in plenary /vote on the request (Rule 69c): December 2017

First trilogue: 20.02.2018

provisions: Article 2 on the scope of the extension of the principle of country of origin, Article 3 on retransmission and Article 4a on direct injection. The latter was not included in the Commission proposal but is an EP addition. The negotiating mandate was adopted by 15/8/1 on 21 November 2017.

The Green group and 120 individual members (mostly S&D) challenged the committee decision to enter into negotiations in accordance with Rule 69c, and requested it to be put to a vote, which took place in December 2017 plenary and which confirmed the decision and the mandate with the voting result 344/265/36. Following the plenary vote, Mr Wölken stepped down as rapporteur for the dossier. By established EP procedure, the JURI Chair took over responsibility for the dossier as chair of the negotiating team.

The trilogue negotiations have just started and at this meeting, reporting back will take place from the first trilogue on 20 February 2018.

Contracts for the supply of digital content

At this meeting, the rapporteurs for the proposal for a directive on certain aspects concerning contracts for the supply of digital content, Axel Voss (JURI, EPP) and Evelyne Gebhardt (IMCO, S&D) (Rule 55 RoP), will report to the Committee on the latest developments in the negotiations with the Council, following the third trilogue which took place on 30 January 2018.

WORKSHOP

WORKSHOP

POLICY DEPARTMENT C
CITIZENS' RIGHTS AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

**THE COPYRIGHT DIRECTIVE:
TEXT AND DATA MINING (TDM)**

DATE
22 February 2018

TIME
11:00-12:30

ROOM
PAUL-HENRI SPAAK
BUILDING
SB 001

Committee on Legal Affairs

CHAIR:
PAVEL SVOBODA, MEP

Rapporteur:
AXEL VOSS, MEP

At this meeting, the Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament will organise a workshop on "Text and data mining" (TDM). The workshop aims at examining the TDM process and the legal aspects linked to copyright in the context of the Commission's proposal for a Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market which introduces a mandatory exception to copyright when carrying out text and data mining of protected works.

To this aim, Members of the Committee will hear Dr Eleonora Rosati (Southampton University) explain the procedure of TDM and the state of the art to a non-IT affiliated audience, including the different steps in the process of TDM, the technical requirements and the tools necessary for the different stages of the TDM process. A second speaker, Professor Christophe Geiger (Strasbourg University), will then focus on the legal aspects of TDM and explain at which stage or degree of the process intellectual property rights can be affected.

The presentations will be followed by a "questions & answers" session with the Members of the JURI Committee.

IN CAMERA

Verification of credentials



The President has announced to plenary that the competent national authorities have given notice of the appointment of the following as Members of the European Parliament, with effect from the dates shown below:

Mr Didier GEOFFROY (to replace Ms Constance LE GRIP), as from 1 December 2017;

Ms Maria Gabriela ZOANĂ (to replace Ms Viorica DĂNCILĂ), as from 30 January 2018.

In accordance with Rule 3 of the Rules of Procedure, on the basis of a report by the JURI Committee, Parliament will verify the credentials without delay and rule on the validity of

the mandate of each of its newly elected Members. Parliament will also rule on any dispute referred to it pursuant to the provisions of the Act of 20 September 1976 concerning the election of the Members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage, except those based on national electoral laws.

It is not possible to confirm the validity of the mandate of a Member unless the written declarations required on the basis of Article 7 of the Act of 20 September 1976 and Annex I to the Rules have been made. Until such time as a Member's credentials have been verified or a ruling has been given on any dispute, the Member will take his or her seat in Parliament and in its bodies and enjoy all the rights attaching thereto.

Legal basis: Rule 3 RoP
Rapporteur: Pavel Svoboda
Administrator: Andrea Scrimali
PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE
Exchange of views: 22.02.2018
Adoption JURI: 22.02.2018

Term of office

Legal basis: Rule 4 RoP
Rapporteur: Pavel Svoboda
Administrator: Andrea Scrimali
PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE
Exchange of views: 22.02.2018
Adoption JURI: 22.02.2018

The following Member notified the President of his intention to resign his seat as Member of the European Parliament, with effect from the date shown below:

Mr Janusz KORWIN-MIKKE, as from 1 March 2018;

Pursuant Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee on Legal Affairs has to determine whether this resignation is in accordance with the spirit or the letter of the Act of 20 September 1976.

Disputes involving Parliament (Rule 141)



Case C-680/17, Vethanayagam e.a. v Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken Request for a preliminary ruling - Regulation (EU) No. 810/2009 establishing a Community Code on Visas - Conformity of Articles 8(4) and 32(3) of the Visa Code with Article 47 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

Case C-680/17 concerns a reference for a preliminary ruling from the District Court of The Hague concerning the Community Code on Visas ('the Visa Code').

At this meeting, the committee will decide, bearing in mind the Guidelines for the application of Rule 141 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, whether to recommend to the President that Parliament submits observations before the Court of Justice in order to defend the validity of Articles 8(4) and 32(3) of the Visa Code.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Head of Secretariat: Ewa WOJTOWICZ

Responsible Administrator: Zampia VERNADAKI

Editorial/Production Assistant: Yolanda RODRIGUEZ MALNERO