

Words by the Chair



Dear colleagues,

Our February meeting will be primarily dominated by the adoption of the remaining Clean Energy Package files, including three pieces of legislation forming the Electricity Market Design and the rules for ACER. Over 3500 amendments have been tabled to the package and intensive negotiations have resulted in a good number of compromise amendments. ITRE has worked hard to bring the whole Clean Energy Package to the vote in short order while respecting the democratic process, reflecting the importance of this legislation for European citizens.

The Committee will also vote on a draft report on the establishment of the European Defence Industrial Development Programme - the first legislative step towards the European Defence Fund; we will also decide upon a mandate to open interinstitutional negotiations on this matter. Further votes scheduled concern a draft opinion on the action plan against antimicrobial resistance, a motion for resolution concerning the Union list of project of common interest (PCIs) and a mandate to enter into interinstitutional negotiation on the legislation concerning the energy performance of buildings. Finally, ITRE will also vote on an oral question on industrial policy as a

Common rules for the internal market in natural gas

Consideration of [amendments](#)

Rapporteur: [Jerzy Buzek](#)

ITRE members will discuss the amendments tabled to the Commission's proposal for a revision of the Gas Directive to extend provisions to pipelines from third countries. Among the 142 amendments tabled, many follow the rapporteur's line of supporting and strengthening the Commission proposal. Other amendments reject some of the changes or the Commission proposal as a whole.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in ITRE: 21 March 2018*
- *Vote in Plenary (mandate): April 2018*

Free flow of non-personal data in the European Union

Consideration of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Zdzisław Krasnodebski](#)

During its next meeting, ITRE will consider a draft opinion on a Commission proposal aiming at introducing a framework for the free flow of non-personal data in the EU. The rapporteur, Mr Krasnodebski (ECR), will present his amendments, which clarify that restrictions to the location of data for storage or other processing shall be adequate and proportionate, align the definition of data processing with the text of the GDPR, and introduce simplified user access to information across the Union.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 26 February 2018*
- *Vote in ITRE: 24 April 2018*
- *Vote in lead Committee (IMCO): 19 June 2018*

Establishing a framework for screening of foreign direct investments into the European Union

Consideration of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Reinhard Bütikofer](#)

ITRE will consider the draft report for its opinion to INTA on the screening of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). ITRE is involved in this procedure as associated committee under Rule 54. This opinion is of particular importance to the Committee especially where it concerns possible screening of third-country direct investments in programmes of Union interest - which include programmes falling within ITRE's remit, such as Horizon 2020, Cosme and CEF. Amongst other things, through his draft, the rapporteur, Mr Bütikofer (Greens), seeks to clarify the definition of foreign investor with regard to ownership and effective control, specify further the areas that may fall within the sphere of security or public order and ensure that the Commission performs its screening on relevant projects and programmes of Union interest financed under the current, and the future, Multi-Annual Financial Frameworks.

follow-up to the recent Commission communication on the matter.

Besides the filled-in voting agenda, we will continue our regular work on several ongoing files. Members will consider the amendments to the common rules for the internal market on natural gas: a key piece of legislation for achieving a level-playing field in the Union's gas market. ITRE will also discuss its draft opinion on the free-flow of non-personal data in the Union as well as one on screening of Foreign Direct Investment from third-countries. Finally, the Committee will also consider the motion for resolution on distributed ledger technologies and blockchains.

To tie-in with ITRE's work on the revision of the Gas Directive a Public Hearing on the topic will also take place. Experts from various backgrounds and interests will brief the Committee on the issues concerning this piece of legislation, of which the ultimate aim is to ensure security of supply and making gas energy cheaper for all EU citizens.

Last, but not least, ITRE will also be debriefed on the mission to Chile, which took place in December last year and on ongoing interinstitutional negotiations.

Jerzy Buzek

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 26 February 2018*
- *Vote in ITRE: 24 April 2018*
- *Vote in lead Committee (INTA): 17 May 2018*

Distributed ledger technologies and blockchains: building trust with disintermediation

Consideration of motion for a resolution

Draftsperson: [Eva Kaili](#)

The rapporteur will present her draft motion for a resolution on distributed ledger technologies. This report will accompany an Oral Question carrying the same title. The report focuses on nonfinancial applications of these technologies and on public policy to support their development and increase the eventual benefit. Moreover, the text refers to the opportunities that can be created for different sectors, horizontal considerations (such as standardisation, security, trust or smart contracts), and gives a series of policy recommendations.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 28 February 2018*
- *Vote in ITRE: 16 May 2018*
- *Vote in Plenary: June 2018*

Energy performance of buildings

Vote on the provisional agreement resulting from interinstitutional negotiations

Rapporteur: [Bendt Bendtsen](#)

In its meeting on 21-22 February 2018, ITRE will vote on the provisional agreement reached between the EP negotiation team and the Estonian Presidency of the Council in the third informal trilogue that took place on 19 December 2017, and which was approved by Coreper on 31 January 2018.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary: April 2018*

Establishing the European Defence Industrial Development Programme aiming at supporting the competitiveness and innovative capacity of the EU defence industry

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Françoise Grossetête](#)

ITRE will vote on the amendments to the Commission proposal for a European Defence Industrial Development Programme. The Committee will also decide whether to give a mandate for first-reading negotiations with the Council. The Programme is the first legislative building block for the European Defence Fund. It would have a budget of EUR 500 million for 2019 and 2020.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary (mandate): February II 2018 (tbc)*

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A

Recent publications:

Study: [Renewable energy directive target](#)

At a glance: [Policy Departments' Monthly Highlights - January 2018](#)

Study: [The Impact of Brexit on the EU Energy System](#)

Briefing: [The Impact of Brexit on the EU Energy System](#)

In-depth analysis: [Data flows - Future Scenarios](#)

Directive and regulation on the internal market in electricity

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

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Airbus awarded EGNOS V3 contract [More](#)

Adoption of [draft report](#) (directive)
Adoption of [draft report](#) (regulation)

Rapporteur: [Krišinis Kariš](#)

ITRE will vote on the 1344 amendments which have been tabled for the directive on the internal market in electricity and on the 1576 amendments tabled for the accompanying regulation, including the ones proposed by the rapporteur in the draft report. The groups have agreed on 37 compromise amendments on the directive and 46 compromise amendments on the regulation. The ENVI committee has also provided its opinion on both files, which includes 121 amendments for the directive and 162 for the regulation.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary (mandate): tbc*

Risk-preparedness in the electricity sector

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Flavio Zanonato](#)

ITRE will vote on the Regulation on Risk-preparedness in the electricity sector. 233 amendments have been tabled including the ones proposed by the rapporteur in the draft report. Political groups have agreed on 26 compromise amendments covering most of the text.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary (mandate): tbc*

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

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Morten Helveg Petersen](#)

ITRE will vote on a proposal for a revision of the regulation establishing the EU Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER). The proposal forms part of the "Clean Energy for all Europeans" legislative package. The Committee is likely to adopt a compromise text supported by a broad majority of political groups which would strengthen the Agency's role and decision making powers.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary (mandate): tbc*

A European One Health Action Plan against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Adoption of [draft opinion](#)

Draftsperson: [Lieve Wierinck](#)

ITRE will vote on the opinion on Antimicrobial Resistance for which ENVI is the lead committee. 96 amendments have been tabled. The rapporteur, Lieve Wierinck, presented 14 compromise amendments.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in lead Committee (ENVI): 16 May 2018*

Commission Delegated Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the Union list of projects of common interest

Pursuant to Rule 105, ITRE will vote on a motion for a resolution objecting to the Commission Delegated Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the Union list of projects of common interest.

Industrial policy

Adoption of question for oral answer

Rapporteur: [Jerzy Buzek](#)

The vote on this oral question on industrial policy will allow the European Parliament to follow up on the requests it made in its resolution of 5 July 2017 and will respond to the Commission communication on "Investing in a smart, innovative and sustainable industry – a renewed EU Industrial Policy Strategy". The oral question will most probably be tabled for March plenary session.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary: March 2018*

Public Hearing on the 'Revision of the Gas Directive'

Wednesday, 21 February 2018, 14:30-17:00
Room: JAN 4Q2



ITRE will hold a hearing dedicated to the ongoing revision of Directive 2009/73/EC concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas. The Commission proposed to extend the provisions of the Directive to pipelines from third countries. ITRE Members will hear several experts from both the private sector and academia and discuss with them the implications of the proposed revision for the internal gas market and the EU's security of gas supply. The final programme is available on the [hearing webpage](#).

Workshop on national strategies for renewables

On Thursday 22 February, ITRE and Policy Department A are organising a workshop entitled 'National strategies for renewables: energy efficiency, building renovation and self-consumption'. This workshop is organised in connection with its ongoing work on legislative proposals related to the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, with the aim to discuss national strategies for renewables in relation to energy efficiency targets and policies, including building renovation and self-consumption. Five experts have been invited, representing the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), national energy agencies, green building councils and the building sector. They will address issues in relation to best practices by Member States to reach energy efficiency targets, the modernisation of the existing EU stock, the contribution of research and innovation in the construction sector to energy efficiency and self-consumption of electricity.

ITRE mission to Chile (18-20 December 2017), Debriefing

Members of the mission to Santiago, Chile, will debrief the ITRE Committee on the mission which took place between 17-21 December 2017.

Feedback from ongoing negotiations (EECC/Del Castillo)

The rapporteur, Ms Del Castillo, will report back from the third trilogue, held on 1 February 2018.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

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