

Words by the Chair



Dear colleagues,

After the summer recess, ITRE will resume work in earnest as we prepare for a very intense second half of the year, marked by MFF-related files.

During our first meeting this month, the Committee will consider two draft reports from the MFF package, and namely the Proposal for a regulation establishing the European Defence Fund and the proposal for a regulation on establishing the Digital Europe programme. Both files are of crucial importance for EU's strategic autonomy. The draft report on the Digital Europe Programme stems from the recent High Performance Computing consultation procedure for the creation of a joint undertaking. HPC is vital for European industry and research so as to remain a global player. The European Defence Fund is also crucial in order to bolster the EU's defence capabilities.

Establishing the Digital Europe programme for the period 2021-2027

Consideration of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Angelika Mlinar](#)

ITRE will consider the draft report of Ms Angelika MLINAR (ALDE) on Digital Europe Programme, part of the new Multiannual Financial Framework, which was presented in ITRE by Commissioner Gabriel in June 2018. The Rapporteur is proposing several amendments to the text of the Commission. She underlines the need to reinforce EU autonomy and need for competitive edge through the deployment of key digital technologies. She also points out that the current state of digitalisation of the EU economy, industry and society is not sufficient to answer the political ambition of the Digital Single Market. The Rapporteur also stresses the need to address the gender gap within the ICT sector and points out the important matter of ethics in the area of Artificial Intelligence. She also questions the cooperation with third countries in the specific context of this programme.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 7 September 2018*
- *Vote in ITRE: 3 December 2018*
- *Vote in Plenary: tbc*

Establishing the European Defence Fund

Consideration of [draft report](#)

Rapporteur: [Zdzisław Krasnodębski](#)

ITRE will be considering the draft report on the European Defence Fund (EDF). The EDF is a first of its kind and takes over the European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP) and the grants for defence research and innovation, both of which were 'pilot' phases in preparation for the setting up of the EDF. The EDF seeks to contribute to Europe's strategic autonomy by stimulating bottom-up defence research and fostering cooperation and the pooling of resources amongst Member States all the way to acquisition. The Rapporteur, Mr Krasnodębski (ECR), will be presenting his draft report, which consists of 98 amendments aimed at improving the text of the proposal while maintaining coherence with the EDIDP.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 12 September 2018*
- *Vote in ITRE: tbc*
- *Vote in Plenary: tbc*

ITRE will also consider two draft opinions. The draft opinion on Education in the digital era: challenges, opportunities and lessons for EU policy design, underlines that the EU cannot miss out on the potential of digital technologies in the area of education. The draft opinion on the Reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment is one of those legislative files that will receive quite some attention because it will affect items of everyday use such as plastic straws, cups or cotton buds. I am positive all involved committees will work hard in finding a workable solution that will create a positive impact on the environment while promoting innovative alternatives and increasing awareness among citizens.

ITRE will vote on three files, the draft opinion on health technology assessment, the draft opinion in letter form to the ENVI resolution on the implementation of COP24 and the consent to the Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Morocco.

Finally, the outcome of the ITRE delegation visit to Norway will be presented to the Committee.

Jerzy Buzek

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A

Recent publications:

Study: [Brexit and ICT Policy - Workshop Proceedings](#)

Study: [Brexit and Energy Policy - Workshop Proceedings](#)

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

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

Briefing: [Review of the Directive on the Re-use of Public Sector Information \(Directive 2013/37/EU\)](#)

Education in the digital era: challenges, opportunities and lessons for EU policy design

Consideration of [draft opinion](#)

Rapporteur: [Tamás Deutsch](#)

The aim of the opinion is to explain the ITRE priorities in the era of digital transformation on education. The ITRE committee will consider a draft opinion, prepared by the rapporteur, Mr Tamás DEUTSCH (EPP). The draft opinion highlights the important role of digitalisation and development of new ICT technologies and infrastructure in the area of education. The rapporteur also stresses the need of finalizing the Digital Single Market initiative and importance of building digital skills in the society.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 5 September 2018*
- *Vote in ITRE: 9 October 2018*
- *Vote in lead Committee (CULT): 20 November 2018*

Reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment

Consideration of [draft opinion](#)

Rapporteur: [Barbara Kappel](#)

ITRE will consider the draft opinion of Ms Barbara KAPPEL (ENF) on the Reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment. The proposal focusses on the European contribution to macro plastic marine litter, as part of the EU's Plastics Strategy. It sets the framework to reduce the 10 most found Single Use Plastics and fishing gear, which together represent around 70% of these marine litter items by count. This proposal complements the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, which requires Member States to reach Good Environmental Status of marine waters by 2020.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Deadline for tabling amendments: 6 September 2018*
- *Vote in ITRE: 24 September 2018*
- *Vote in lead Committee (ENVI): 11 October 2018*

Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on health technology assessment and amending Directive 2011/24/EU

Adoption of [draft opinion](#)

Rapporteur: [Lieve Wierinck](#)

ITRE will vote on the Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on health technology assessment and amending Directive 2011/24/EU. The vote of the ITRE committee on this file had to be interrupted on 10 July and will resume from amendment 133. In total 149 amendments were tabled and 27 compromise amendments have been agreed. The vote in the lead Committee (ENVI) is foreseen on 13 September.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in lead Committee (ENVI): 13 September 2018*
- *Vote in Plenary: October I 2018*

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)

ACER finds delays and varying performance in the implementation of the Gas Balancing Network Code [More](#)

The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

Net Neutrality Measurement Tool – Result of the tender [More](#)

European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)

Save the Date: 4th e-Health Security Conference [More](#)

European Global Navigation Satellite System Gns Agency (GSA)

Agriculture a key beneficiary of EU Space Programmes [More](#)

ITRE Contribution to the COP 24 draft motion for a resolution

Consideration and adoption of draft opinion in letter form

Rapporteur: [Jerzy Buzek](#)

ITRE will hold a single vote on its contribution to the ENVI resolution on the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the 2018 UN Climate Change Conference in Katowice, Poland (COP 24). The co-sponsors have agreed on 16 paragraphs, addressing topics within ITRE remit: industry and competitiveness; energy policy; and research, innovation, digital technologies and space policy.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary: October 1 2018*

Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of the Kingdom of Morocco in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)

Adoption of [draft report](#)

Draftsperson: [Aldo Patriciello](#)

The Committee will vote on the consent to the Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement (STC) between the EU and Morocco, in view of the Partnership for Research and Innovation for the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA). This STC is necessary to enable Morocco's participation in PRIMA since it is not an Associated Country to Horizon 2020. The Rapporteur, Mr. Patriciello (EPP), is proposing that Parliament gives its consent. One amendment, rejecting the consent, has been tabled.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

- *Vote in Plenary: October 1 2018*

ITRE mission to Norway (7-9 May 2018), Debriefing

Henna VIRKKUNEN (EPP), head of the delegation to the ITRE delegation that visited Norway between the 7 and 9 of May, will give a debriefing of the meeting and visits that took place. The main aim of this mission was to get an overview of Norwegian national legislation and the implementation of European legislation in the fields of electricity markets and renewable energy, operation of gas networks and future of the gas industry, oil refining technology, research on clean technologies and energy efficiency, and waste management.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

European Parliament

Directorate General for Internal Policies of the Union

Industry, Research and Energy Committee

Head of Unit / Editor: Klaus Baier

Administrator: Ivana Damjanic Bresan

Layout: Gladys Evangelista / Lina Paskeviciute

SUBSCRIPTION

If you wish to receive the ITRE Newsletter, please send an e-mail with your contact details and "Newsletter" in the subject field to the [ITRE secretariat](#).

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact the [ITRE secretariat](#) or visit [ITRE website](#).

The Committee meetings are web-streamed and can be watched live on the [EP website](#) or on [Europarl TV](#).