



Committee on Constitutional Affairs

Newsletter

October 2018 Issue 61

INTRODUCTORY WORDS BY THE CHAIR



Dear Readers,

I am very happy to present the 61st issue of the AFCO Newsletter, a tool prepared by the Secretariat to keep you informed of AFCO activities and to increase awareness of the current institutional challenges facing the European Union.

At our next Committee meeting on 22nd October, we will discuss the state of play of the negotiations on Brexit. We will then debate the implementation of the legal provisions and the Joint Statement on parliamentary scrutiny over decentralised agencies.

Differentiated integration will also be discussed, as we will consider the amendments presented to the draft report on this topic, after which we will consider the amendments presented to the draft report on the state of the debate on the Future of Europe.

We will then considerer a draft opinion on Establishing the Rights and Values programme.

Prof. Dr. Danuta Maria HÜBNER, Chair

<u>The Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union</u> (Article 50 TEU)



Exchange of Views

The AFCO meeting will start with a discussion on the most recent developments in the negotiations between the EU and the United Kingdom on the UK withdrawal from the Union, with the participation of Guy Verhofstadt, Parliament's coordinator for the negotiations, and Danuta Hübner, AFCO Chair and member of the European Parliament's Brexit Steering Group.

Subject File

<u>Implementation of the legal provisions and the Joint Statement ensuring the parliamentary scrutiny over decentralised agencies</u>



Exchange of views Rapporteur: György Schöpflin (PPE)

AFCO will hold an exchange of views with the Commission and opinion giving committees on the supervision of EU agencies and the implementation of the 2012 Joint Statement and Common approach. The rapporteur may also briefly report back on his fact-finding visit to the Fundamental Rights Agency in Vienna on 20 September and his meetings with the agencies' network on 9 October.

Subject File

Differentiated integration



Consideration of amendments
Rapporteur: Pascal Durand (Verts/ALE)

The rapporteur Pascal Durand will present the 91 amendments tabled to his draft report on Differentiated Integration. This will be the first exchange of views held by AFCO on the amendments to the draft report, which is scheduled for a vote on 21 November 2018.

In his draft report, the Rapporteur defends the idea that differentiated integration could be seen as a positive instrument for the advancement of European integration at the pace and in the form most appropriate for the current political climate, but its use and the forms that it can take should be simplified and streamlined in order to improve its democratic legitimacy.

Subject File

The state of the debate on the Future of Europe



Exchange of views and consideration of amendments Rapporteur: Ramon Jáuregui Atondo (S&D)

AFCO will hold an exchange of views on the 244 amendements tabled to draft report of Ramón Jáuregui on the state of the debate on the future of Europe.

Ivana Maletić, rapporteur for the opinion of ECON (associated committee under Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure) has been invited to present her opinion.

MEETING LANGUAGES AVAILABLE

FR, DE, IT, NL, EN, DA, EL, ES, PT, SV, CS, PL, RO

MEETING DOCUMENTS

In light of the European Parliament's paperless project, please bear in mind that only a very limited number of paper dossiers will be available in the meeting room. Instead, meeting documents will be made available on the following **public** and **EP internal** websites.

MEETING DATE AND VENUE

22 October 2018, Strasbourg 19.00 - 22.00

Room: Salvador de Madariaga (S1)

Here is the **link to the latest committee draft agenda.**

NEXT MEETINGS

- Wednesday, 21 November 2018, Brussels In its draft, the rapporteur stresses that the multiple challenges facing the Union need to be tackled together and require a greater and better integration, reiterating that institutional reforms should make the decision-making processes more democratic and transparent and increase the Unions capacity to act.

Subject File

<u>Proposed amendments to Protocol No 3 on the Statute of the Court of Justice of the European Union</u>



Consideration of Draft opinion Rapporteur: Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)

This item has been postponed.

Establishing the Rights and Values programme



Exchange of views

Rapporteur: Joseph-Maria Terricabras (Verts/ALE)

The rapporteur Joseph-Maria Terricabras will present his draft opinion on the establishment of the "Rights and Values" programme. This will be followed by an exchange of views with the AFCO members.

The new "Rights and Values" programme replaces the existing "Rights Equality and Citizenship" and "Europe for Citizens" programmes. Besides, together with the justice programme the establishment of the proposed "Rights and Values" programme will be the part of a new justice, rights and values fund of the EU budget. Its overall budget is set at EUR 641.7 million for the period 2021-2027.

Subject File

FURTHER INFORMATION



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