

CHAIR'S WELCOME



The next two ENVI meetings will take place on 8 November in Brussels, and on 12 November in Strasbourg.

We start the meeting of 8 November with a topic that is essential for the EU policy on food safety - the EU legislation on sustainable use of pesticides. Members will exchange views on the implementation of the existing directive in this area, based on which EU Member States

must, *inter alia*, adopt national plans setting objectives, measures and timetables to reduce health and environmental risks from pesticide use, ban aerial spraying, and ensure that the use of pesticides is reduced or banned in areas such as public parks, playgrounds, or near healthcare facilities. The draft ENVI report stresses that further efforts at both EU and national level are needed to ensure effective implementation of the Directive, and that action should be taken against evident non-compliance by multiple Member States.

On the same day, as part of a regular dialogue between the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and the European Parliament, we will hold the annual exchange of views with the Executive Director, Mr Bjorn Hansen, appointed on 1 January 2018. Several subjects will be addressed, including ECHA strategy and challenges for the coming years and the progress of the review programme on biocides. Amongst other tasks, ECHA implements the EU legislation on chemicals, seeking to improve the protection of human health and the environment in view of the risks that can be posed by chemicals.

On 12 November, in Strasbourg, Members are set to vote on ENVI Committee's opinion on the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+). The ENVI Rapporteur highlights the need for a separate and central Health Programme, in the context of the worrying health threats, such as antimicrobial resistance, cross-border threats, chronic diseases, and considering that the European citizens' overwhelmingly support the notion of the EU intervening further in health, according to recent surveys. We will also vote on the ENVI opinion on the InvestEU programme, which sets out a financial guarantee, in order for private investors to be able to finance projects with a risk profile that is higher than the one they would usually face at normal market conditions. The Rapporteur proposes that at least 40 % of the investment under InvestEU contribute to meeting Union climate objectives, while stressing the need for clear eligibility criteria. Mobilising public and private financing is essential in order to achieve a modern, low-carbon EU economy, and earlier this year, the Commission proposed to mainstream climate action across all EU programmes, with a target of 25% of all expenditure contributing to climate objectives.

Follow our discussions live and get involved in the debate at <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/envi/home.html>

Adina-Ioana Vălean,

Brussels - 7 November 2018

MEETING ITEMS

Results of the votes of the last ENVI meeting are available [here](#).

Votes (12 November)

- European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)
- Establishing the InvestEU Programme
- Establishing the Digital Europe programme for the period 2021-2027
- Establishing the space programme of the Union and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme

Considerations

- Implementation report - Directive on the sustainable use of pesticides
- Regulation on protection of animals during transport within and outside the EU
- European Year of Greener Cities 2020

Exchange of views

- with Mr Bjorn Hansen, ECHA's Executive Director

ENVI IN NEXT PLENARY

Draft agendas of the Plenary are available [here](#)

- CO₂ emission performance standards for new heavy-duty vehicles
- Persistent organic pollutants

VOTES

European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)

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

On 30 May 2018, the Commission presented a proposal for a Regulation on the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) which pools the scope and resources of several funds and programmes, including the European Social Fund and the Health Programme.



The Rapporteur salutes the reinforcement of the Union's social dimension and the need to further simplify fund programming. However, the Rapporteur finds the withdrawal of health as a separate and central programme undoubtedly to be in the detriment of Member States' citizens, who already overwhelmingly support the notion of the EU intervening further in health. He considers that the Health Programme should have been re-established as a separate programme during the next MFF, and thus have the capacity to face the forthcoming worrying realities and health threats. The Rapporteur also finds the significant decrease in funding for the Health strand unacceptable. While the financial envelope available to the Health Programme 2014 - 2020 is EUR 458 million in current prices, the Commission has decreased it to EUR 413 million in current prices. In respect of the content of the proposal, the Rapporteur considers that access to quality, sustainable and affordable patient-centred care services should be stressed, that the Union's objectives and actions in the field of

health should include fostering disease prevention and early diagnosis, and health promotion throughout the lifetime.

189 amendments were tabled in ENVI, making a total of 210 amendments (together with the draft opinion). The Rapporteur and Shadows have agreed on 11 compromises.

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

Shadows: [Kadenbach \(S&D\)](#), [Piecha \(ECR\)](#), [Jääteentmaki \(ALDE\)](#), [Rivasi \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Konečná \(GUE\)](#), [D'Ornano \(EFDD\)](#), [Mélis \(ENF\)](#)

Establishing the InvestEU Programme

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

On 6 June 2018, the Commission adopted a proposal for a regulation establishing InvestEU programme, which is the MFF Programme that will replace EFSI for the financial period 2021 - 2027. The aim of the proposal remains in essence the same as the one pursued by EFSI; e.g. to address market failures and investment gaps that hamper the achievement of EU goals regarding sustainability, competitiveness and inclusive growth. To achieve such aims, the proposal sets out a guarantee (financially participated by both the EU budget and the budget of implementing partners), in order for private investors to be able to finance projects with a risk profile that is higher than the one they would usually face at normal market conditions.

The rapporteur welcomes the proposal, in particular in light of the increased focus on sustainability. In this setting, the draft opinion aims at streamlining the InvestEU programme with the European Parliament position on climate mainstreaming.

138 amendments were tabled, most of which have a focus on sustainable financing with a view to finance projects and activities concretely contributing to the achievement of Union's goals on climate and environment. 6 compromise amendments are tabled.

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

Shadows: [Grammatikakis \(S&D\)](#), [Federley \(ALDE\)](#), [Wiśniewska \(ECR\)](#), [Konečná \(GUE\)](#), [Eickhout \(Greens/EFA\)](#)

CONSIDERATIONS

Sustainable use of pesticides

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



The report on the sustainable use of pesticides', aims at analysing the current implementation of Directive 2009/128/EC on the sustainable use of pesticides, which is in force since 25 November 2009. The Directive sets rules for the sustainable use of pesticides by reducing their

risks to human health and the environment and promotes the use of integrated pest management and different techniques such as non-chemical alternatives.

The Commission published in October 2017 a report on National Action Plans and the implementation of the Directives. It identified significant

shortcomings in the design and in the quality of MS National Action Plans and in the implementation of Integrated Pest Management measures. A European Implementation Assessments (EIA) on the Regulation was carried out by the European Parliament's Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services (DG EPRS). The draft report presents the main findings of the EIA, highlights the main areas of concern and sets out a number of recommendations. The rapporteur is convinced that further efforts on both EU and national level are needed to ensure effective implementation of the Directive, and considers that in its monitoring exercise, the Commission should go beyond assessing the mere compliance with the Directive towards focusing on how to achieve better overall environmental results for soil, water and biodiversity. It is stressed that the Member States have to take a proactive stance with respect to the protection of human health and the environment and deliver on their legal obligations under EU law as well as the expectations of the European citizens. The discussion on this file will include a presentation by the EPRS of the [study](#) it has conducted on the implementation report on sustainable use of pesticides.

Rapporteur: [Guteland](#)

Shadows: [Florenz \(EPP\)](#), [Dohrmann \(ECR\)](#), [Huitema \(ALDE\)](#), [Hazekamp \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Häusling \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#)

Protection of animals during transport within and outside the EU

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

The Conference of Presidents decided to task the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) with drafting an implementation report on alleged contraventions and maladministration in relation to the implementation by Member States and enforcement by the Commission of Council regulation (EC) 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport within and outside the EU.



While acknowledging the positive impact that Regulation 1/2005 has had on animal welfare, the rapporteur underlines nonetheless the deficiencies that have been encountered in the implementation process. In particular, the rapporteur: stresses the importance of limiting the transport time of animals destined to slaughter to eight hours; insists on the problem of delays at the borders that seriously affect the welfare of transported animals; underlines the difficulties for a proper implementation of Regulation 1/2005 in cases where different Member States are responsible for approving journey logs; deplores the fall of the total number of controls carried out by Member States' competent authorities, where that number should increase, instead; recalls the Judgement of the Court of Justice in case C-424/13, where it was ruled that Regulation 1/2005 applies also to cases of exports to non-EU countries; highlights the importance of the Commission to offer incentives to farmers to slaughter their animals at the nearest slaughter facility; underlines the deficiencies of the implementation process as regards transportation of animals by means of livestock vessels; and, finally, stresses the necessity of having a harmonised system of sanctions common to all Member States.

Rapporteur: [Kadenbach \(S&D\)](#)

Shadows: [Pietikäinen \(EPP\)](#), [Demesmaeker \(ECR\)](#), [Huitema \(ALDE\)](#), [Eck \(GUE\)](#), [Taylor \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Evi \(EFDD\)](#), [Bilde \(ENF\)](#)

European Year of Greener Cities 2020

Consideration of draft motion for a resolution (see [meeting documents](#))



The “European Year of Greener Cities 2020” is an initiative of a platform of European NGOs consisting of organisations covering issues ranging from children, disabled people and elderly people’s rights to allergy and asthma sufferers, sports organisations, environmental groups and citizens’ organisations. The initiative will be coordinated by the European Landscape Contractors Association (ELCA).

Some of the aims of the year are to raise awareness of the benefits of green spaces in built environment, to increase the quantity and quality of research and development of new innovations; to encourage citizens to act and improve their own neighbourhoods; to share best practices across Member States, and to create a roadmap of greening the European cities by 2030.

The draft resolution offers a definition of green infrastructure; points out that the majority of the population lives in cities and that these cities are faced with great challenges, underlines the benefits of green infrastructure to the environment, human health, well-being and social encounters, biodiversity, air quality, noise levels resistance to adverse weather phenomena and flooding; links green infrastructure to the achievement of Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals; calls upon the Commission to devise a European plan for greener cities to address the above challenges; proposes the designation of the year 2020 as a European Year of Greener Cities and describes the aims of that year.

Co-rapporteurs: [Pietikäinen](#) (EPP), [Schaldenmose](#) (S&D), [Wiśniewska](#) (ECR), [Jäättteenmäki](#) (ALDE), [Eickhout](#) (Greens/EFA), [Eck](#) (GUE), [Evi](#) (EFDD)

chemicals of concern, serving as a hub for scientific capacity, and improving efficiency and taking on new tasks. Importantly, 2018 was the year of the last REACH registration deadline – companies manufacturing or importing more than one tonne of a chemical substance per year in the EU or European Economic Area had to register their substance.

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT

Recent Publications

- Briefing on [China’s climate policies with an emphasis on carbon trading markets](#)
- Study on [Guidelines for submission and evaluation of applications for the approval of active substances in pesticides](#)
- Briefing on the [Global Climate Action Summit](#), San Francisco (12-14/09/2018)
- Workshop proceedings on the [Sustainability of Health Systems](#)
- Workshop proceedings on [Digitalisation and big data: implication for the health sector](#)

Upcoming Publications

- Study on international climate negotiations in view of COP24 in Katowice
- Workshop proceedings on Cardiovascular diseases and lifestyle

Upcoming Workshops

- on Brain, new approach to brain diseases (21/11/ 2018, 10-12h)

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

Exchange of views with Mr. Bjorn Hansen, ECHA's Executive Director

The annual exchange of views is part of the regular dialogue between the Executive Director of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and the European Parliament. It is the first exchange of views with Mr Hansen in his capacity of Executive Director, as he was appointed on 1 January 2018.

ECHA implements the EU’s legislation on chemicals (REACH, the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) and Prior Informed Consent (PIC) regulations, and the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR)), and implements an increasing number of additional tasks in related areas. ECHA has four strategic objectives: maximising the availability of high quality data for the safe use of chemicals, identifying and addressing



NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

European Environment Agency ([EEA](#))



The 7th European Environmental Evaluators Network (EEEN) Forum -22 and 23 November 2018 at EESC in Brussels. The EEA is co-hosting with the EESC the 7th European Environmental Evaluators Network Forum dedicated to the impact of evaluating environment and climate policies. The annual EEEN forum brings together practitioners and users of environmental evaluation to share views, knowledge and experiences about the use, relevance and future priorities for climate and environment policy evaluation from their respective viewpoints. Registration open until 12/11/18. [More](#)

European Medicines Agency ([EMA](#))



New gene therapy for rare inherited disorder causing vision loss recommended for approval. EMA has recommended granting a marketing authorisation for the gene therapy Luxturna for the treatment of adults and children suffering from inherited retinal dystrophy caused by RPE65 gene mutations, a rare genetic disorder which causes vision loss and blindness. The RPE65 gene mutations hinder the patient's ability to detect light. There is currently no treatment for this disease; support to patients is limited to measures allowing the management of the disease such as aids for low vision. [More](#)

European Chemicals Agency ([ECHA](#))



ECHA agrees that the quality of data on chemicals in registration dossiers needs to improve: ECHA welcomed the results of the German authorities' study on REACH compliance and pointed out that they are in line with ECHA's experience in evaluating registration dossiers: in a majority of dossiers ECHA opens for compliance check, important safety information on chemicals needs to be requested. [More](#)

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control ([ECDC](#)) and European Food Safety Authority ([EFSA](#))



Ready-to-eat salmon products are the likely source of an outbreak of listeriosis that has affected Denmark, Germany and France since 2015. The first cluster of cases reported by Denmark in September 2017 was linked to the consumption of salmon products produced in Poland. Listeriosis is a relatively rare but potentially severe food-borne disease that has been reported in increasing numbers in the EU/EEA countries since 2008. [EFSA](#) and [ECDC](#) used whole genome sequencing to identify the multi-country outbreak. By 8 October 2018, 12 cases including four deaths had been reported in the affected countries.

Next meeting of the ENVI Committee : 19-20 November 2018 (Brussels);
Future meetings: [2018 meeting dates](#); [2019 meeting dates](#).

Watch online the Committee meeting on the [EP web site](#) or on [Europarl TV](#).
Past meetings are available: [EP Live multimedia library](#) and you can also download the extracts of speeches.

More information: envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu or [website](#) of the ENVI Committee.

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