

## Newsletter October 2019



### Exchange of views with the European Parliament's Brexit Steering Group and petitions on Brexit

At the meeting of 2 October 2019, the Committee held an exchange of views with the European Parliament's Brexit Steering Group. The members of the Group provided an update on the negotiations carried out with the UK on citizens' rights in the framework of the Withdrawal Agreement and highlighted the shortcomings and challenges of a "no-deal" scenario.

As a follow-up to the exchange of views, PETI members also discussed several petitions on Brexit, with a focus on citizen's rights after the withdrawal of the UK from the EU. The Committee decided to keep monitoring the developments in the run-up to the Brexit deadline as well as the implementation of the EU Settlement Scheme by the UK.

### Petitions on animal welfare

At its meeting of 2 October 2019, the Committee on Petitions examined numerous petitions on animal welfare, focusing mainly on the transport of live animals within and outside the EU but also on animal testing and vivisection.

After a heated debate in which the Members voiced numerous concerns regarding the level of protection of animals in the EU, the Committee decided to keep all the petitions open and ask the European Commission for updates regarding the issues raised in the petitions.



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Upcoming PETI activities in November:

- Hearing on FATCA ( 12 Nov)

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## Petition on funding for biomedical research on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis

On 3 October 2019, the Members discussed a petition on funding for research on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME). ME, sometimes referred to as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, is a devastating chronic disease that causes dysfunction of the neurological, immune, endocrine and metabolism systems.

The petitioner, who was present at the hearing despite her difficult health condition, called on the European institutions to make sufficient funds available for biomedical research into ME, in order to deliver a diagnostic test, clinical trials and effective treatments for this disabling disease. The Members decided to keep the petition open and ask the European Commission for an updated reply.

## Petition on alleged violation of labour and social security rules by Ryanair

On 3 October 2019, the members of the Committee on Petitions discussed a petition regarding alleged breaches of labor and social security law in the European Union by the low cost airline Ryanair.

The members decided to keep the petition open, send letters to the Ministries of Labour and Social Affairs of all Member States, send the petition to TRAN and EMPL for an opinion and send a letter to Ryanair.



**Next PETI meeting:** - 11-12 November 2019

See [agenda](#), [documents](#) and [live broadcast](#)

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