Dear colleagues,

The COVID-19 crisis has without a doubt affected all sectors of society and industry in the Union and the recovery from its effects will require specific policies to be implemented in order to be as speedy and effective as possible. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are key to ensuring economic growth, innovation, job creation, and social integration in the EU and are the backbone of Europe’s economy. They represent 99% of all businesses in the EU. In the past five years, they have created around 85% of new jobs and provided two-thirds of the total private sector employment in the EU. Yet, during the crisis they have been hit the most therefore the exchange of views we will be holding at our next meeting on A new strategy for SMEs will set the scene for a future ITRE report on that matter. In addition we will be voting the report on maximising the energy efficiency potential of the EU building stock and hearing back from the ongoing negotiation on Establishing the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre and the Network of National Coordination Centres.

Cristian-Silviu Buşoi

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**Exchange of views**

**A new strategy for European SMEs**

Exchange of views

The Commission communication “An SME strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe” was published the day before the WHO acknowledged the Covid-19 emergency as a pandemic. The main purpose of the report is therefore to update the Communication’s original contents according to the economic and social changes brought forward by the pandemic, analysing through a pragmatic and inclusive approach the new challenges that are now affecting the 25 million European SMEs currently operating in the internal market.

Excessive administrative burdens have long affected the growth potential of SMEs across the Union; according to the 2019 Business Survey by Eurochambres, administrative procedures do represent a major challenge for no less than 78% of SMEs. Hyper-regulation reaches particularly alarming levels in some Member States, hindering SMEs’ competitiveness not only within the national business environment but also within the broader European internal market.

ITRE members will hold a discussion about the subject in view of an upcoming own-initiative report on a new strategy for European SMEs.

**Votes on 29 June**

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<td>Ciarán Cuffe</td>
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Adoption of report

**News and events**

**Feedback from ongoing negotiations**

The ITRE Committee Members will receive an update on the ongoing negotiations for the following file:

**NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES**

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)
Upgraded Gas Network Codes Functionality Platform launched by ACER and ENTSOG
More

The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)
Joint BEREC and OECD webinar on Quality of Service and Experience More

European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA)
ENISA Launches Public Consultation for First Candidate Cybersecurity Certification Scheme More

Euratom Supply Agency (ESA)
Euratom Supply Agency Annual Report 2019 - Analysis of supply and demand of nuclear material and services in the EU More

Fusion for Energy (F4E)
Europe and Japan complete JT-60SA, the most powerful tokamak in the world! More

European Global Navigation Satellite System Gns Agency (GSA)
A “Cerealist’s Diary”, the testimony of a wheat farmer More

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**ABOUT THE EDITOR**

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