

Newsletter

of TRAN Committee meeting with remote participation of July 2020

Editorial by Karima Delli

Dear colleagues and friends,

This week's TRAN meeting was once again varied and dense with the presentation of the priorities of the German Presidency of the EU, as well as heated exchange of views with the Commission on tourism. The Committee also started deliberations on budget 2021 which will be the first annual budget within the new Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027. The committee adopted opinions on the European climate law, Green deal financing as well as opinions to various aspects of artificial intelligence. The committee also confirmed a provisional agreement with the Council on smart TEN-T.

The intensity of this meeting mirrored the high level performance of the TRAN committee and the upcoming summer break is well deserved for all of us. I wish you and your families very pleasant summer holidays.



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Streamlining measures for advancing the realisation of the trans-European transport network 2018/0138(COD)

Vote

- Rapporteur: Dominique Riquet
- Responsible : TRAN

The provisional agreement resulting from interinstitutional negotiations was adopted with 47 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

Establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 (European Climate Law)

Vote

- Rapporteur: Tilly Metz (Verts/ALE)
- Responsible : ENVI

Result of the final vote: 28 in favour, 12 against, 9 abstentions.

Artificial intelligence: questions of interpretation and application of international law in so far as the EU is affected in the areas of civil and military uses and of state authority outside the scope of criminal justice

Vote

- Rapporteur: Ondřej Kovařík (Renew)
- Responsible: JURI

Result of the final vote: 36 in favour, 8 against, 5 abstentions.

Intellectual property rights for the development of artificial intelligence technologies

Vote

- Rapporteur: Andor Deli (PPE)
- Responsible: JURI

Result of the final vote: 41 in favour, 2 against, 6 abstentions.

Framework of ethical aspects of artificial intelligence, robotics and related technologies

Vote

- Rapporteur: Valter Flego (Renew)
- Responsible: JURI

Result of the final vote: 49 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstention.

Civil liability regime for artificial intelligence

Vote

- Rapporteur: Cláudia Monteiro de Aguiar (PPE)
- Responsible: JURI

Result of the final vote: 49 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstention.

Sustainable Europe Investment Plan - How to finance the Green Deal

Vote

- Rapporteur: Caroline Nagtegaal (Renew)
- Responsible: BUDG, ECON

Result of the final vote: 38 in favour, 6 against, 5 abstentions.

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2021-all sections

Exchange of views on the draft opinion

- Rapporteur: Marian-Jean Marinescu
- Responsible: BUDG

The Rapporteur, Mr Marinescu, briefly presented his draft opinion and indicated his wish to work with the Shadow Rapporteurs on the budget 2021. He indicated that the budget procedure was particular this year with still a lot of uncertainties on the MFF and the recovery

plan. He also indicated that he would table budgetary amendments and amendments to the opinion depending on the outcomes of the 17-18 July European Council meeting. The Shadow Rapporteurs were generally positive about the draft report. They indicated their intention to table amendments in order to further improve the text on the issues of tourism, climate neutrality or the improvement of the connections for peripheral regions in Europe.

Rail passengers' rights and obligations (recast)

Feedback on Rail passengers rights Trilogue

- Rapporteur Bogusław Liberadzki (S&D)
- Responsible: TRAN

Rapporteur Bogusław Liberadzki gave a feedback from the third trilogue on Rail passengers rights and obligations that took place on 23 June in the Council. Although a lot of progress has been made under the Croatian Presidency, talks have been slowed down by the pandemics and a number of issues are still on the table: through tickets, pre-notification for persons with reduced mobility, bicycles on board, rerouting, compensations, force majeure and delegation of powers. Talks will resume and hopefully conclude during the German Presidency.

Visit of the German Federal Minister Andreas Scheuer - Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure

The Minister was invited to an exchange of views with Members on the programme of the German Council Presidency in the field of transport. Key areas presented by the Minister included:

- the recovery from the Covid-19 impacts in trans-European transport and contingency planning for freight transport and reliable supply chains,
- the development of a “new mobility approach”, in the context of the upcoming strategy on sustainable and smart mobility, including:
- the promotion of digital solutions and facilitating data exchange to enhance the efficiency in the use of existing infrastructure,

- the development and modernisation of TEN-T corridors and roll-out of communication infrastructure to support autonomous vehicles,
- the promotion of climate-friendly mobility based on EU-wide deployment of alternative fuel infrastructure, incentivising fleet renewal using tools such as road charging (Eurovignette directive), and innovations in the aviation and maritime sector;
- the strengthening of cross-border rail transport for passengers (European high speed train connections) and multimodal freight transport.



Mr Scheuer in the TRAN Committee on 14 July 2020

The Minister indicated that the German Presidency aims at progress in the negotiations on Rail Passenger Rights and the Eurovignette directive, but more time should be allowed for the Air Passenger Rights. An informal transport Council is planned for 29-30 October, formal transport Council meetings are foreseen for 28 September and 8 December 2020.

Members in the debate asked in particular about the upcoming legislative dossiers on TEN-T, alternative fuel infrastructure, and Single European Sky. Speakers underlined the need to reduce emissions from transport, accelerating the deployment of alternative fuel technologies, including hydrogen, for all modes of transport, and extending the ETS to the transport sector. Speakers furthermore called for measures to promote modal shift in long-distance travel, within a European rail strategy and (re-)developing also night train connections.

Regarding lessons to be drawn from the pandemic, Members stressed the importance of strengthening the competitiveness of the transport sector as well as of tackling social aspects that are not yet sufficiently

addressed. Speakers inquired also about the implementation of the new rules of the Mobility Package I. Some Members were concerned about the application of state aid rules during the recovery and unwanted distortions of the level playing field in Europe.

Tourism aspects of the EU Recovery Plan and revised MFF

Exchange of views with Kerstin Jorna, Director-General for Internal Market, European Commission

The TRAN Committee discussed on 14 July, with European Commission for Internal Market, Director-General Kerstin Jorna, the tourism aspects of the EU Recovery Package and next long-term EU budget.

The European Commission's response to the difficulties faced by the tourism industry has not convinced MEPs. However, the arguments put forward by Ms Jorna did not change this.



Ms Jorna in the TRAN Committee on 14 July 2020

Kerstin Jorna stressed that the Commission has implemented a large number of tools, referring, inter alia, to the SURE instrument to support national short-time working schemes the CRII and CRII+ initiatives in the field of cohesion policy and the liquidity injected to stabilise European businesses, in particular by the EIB.

Kerstin Jorna herself pointed out that the loss of revenue for European tour operators, hotels and restaurants was around 85%, that of airlines and cruise lines 90%, and that more than 6 million jobs were at stake.

The coordinators of the different groups lamented the absence of a budget line dedicated to tourism in the European Recovery Plan and the EU's multi-annual financial framework for 2021-2027. They also pointed out how is it possible that an industry representing more than 10% of EU GDP and 25% of GDP in some Member States is still not benefitting from EU policies. They regretted that the Commission showed so little interest in a sector that it had publicly acknowledged was among those most affected by the crisis. The Commission's response has not been adequate for the magnitude of the task.

MEPs also regretted the "total absence" of reaction from the Commission, particularly after the European Parliament resolution, adopted last 19 of June, on boosting European tourism. However, the Commission had sent "very positive first signs", the MEP pointed out, referring in particular to the announcement by the European Commissioner for Internal Market, Thierry Breton, of a "Marshall Plan" for the sector. For TRAN MEPs, especially for those who are members of the Tourism and Task Force, "Nothing has changed". Today's funding is fragmented, scattered over a whole series of programmes which are burdens on the Member States and which may not relieve companies, they said, criticising the Commission's lack of vision. MEPs ask definitively for: an EU-wide hygiene measures for each mode of transport; a clearer information to travellers, more objective process of opening and closing borders, and the need for a genuine EU tourism policy.

Responding to these interventions, Ms Jorna advocated a two-pronged response, arguing that a distinction should be made between the funds to be mobilized urgently - the "lifelines" - and those that should be raised in the future to finance the recovery and rebuilding of the sector. It is not only about the EU budget, but also about private investment. The more effective a tourism strategy is adopted, the more certainty they will create for the benefit of future investment". This strategy, which is due to start being drawn up in October at the European Tourism Convention is already raising questions.

Next TRAN Committee meeting: planned draft agenda - To be confirmed

| Wednesday 02/09/2020 09.00-11.00 and 13.45-15.45 | Thursday 03/9/2020 9.00-11.00 |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Votes 1st round - Amendments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Digital Services Act: Improving the functioning of the Single Market ○ Budgetary amendments • Digital Services Act: Improving the functioning of the Single Market (Consideration of AMs) • Exchange of views with the Commission: Measures for a sustainable rail market in view of the COVID-19 pandemic • State of play on EU-UK - Exchange of views with the Commission (tbc) • Update of Single European Sky 2+ legislation - Exchange of views with the Commission | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Votes 2nd round - final votes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Digital Services Act: Improving the functioning of the Single Market • Revision of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) guidelines (Consideration of draft report) • Invest EU opinion (Consideration of draft opinion) • Recovery and resilience facility (Consideration of draft opinion) |

TRAN Committee meetings 2020

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|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
| September (REMOTE MEETINGS) | Monday | 21/9/2020 9.00-11.00 and 13.45-15.45 (tbc) |
| | Monday | 28/9/2020 13.45-15.45 (tbc) |
| | Tuesday | 29/9/2020 9.00-11.00 (tbc) |
| October | Wednesday | 28/10/2020 9.00-12.30 and 14.30-18.30 |
| | Thursday | 29/10/2020 9.00-12.30 |
| November | Tuesday | 10/11/2020 9.00-12.30 and 14.30-18.30 |
| | Monday | 30/11/2020 15.00-18.30 |
| December | Tuesday | 01/12/2020 9.00-12.30 and 14.30-18.30 |

Useful links

TRAN website: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/tran/home/highlights>

Policy Department Publication in the European Parliament: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/supporting-analyses.html>

European Aviation Safety Agency newsletters: <http://easa.europa.eu/communications/general-publications.php>

European Railway Agency newsletters: <http://www.era.europa.eu/Communication/Newsletter>

European Maritime Safety Agency newsletters: <http://www.emsa.europa.eu/news-a-press-centre/newsletters.html>

SESAR Joint Undertaking news: <https://www.sesarju.eu/news>

Innovation& Networks Executive Agency: <http://ec.europa.eu/inea/en>

DG MOVE: https://ec.europa.eu/transport/home_en

Croatian Presidency of the Council: <https://eu2020.hr/>



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