

Newsletter

October 2020

Issue 18

Monitoring the Application of EU Law in 2017 - 2018

Rapporteur for the opinion: Pedro Silva Pereira (S&D)

(Responsible committee: JURI, Rapporteur: Sabrina Pignedoli (NI))



During its meeting of 12 October, the Committee will consider the draft opinion by Pedro Silva Pereira (S&D), which contributes to the assessment of the European Commission's annual reports on the Monitoring the application of EU law in 2017, 2018 and 2019 carried out by the Legal Affairs (JURI) committee.

In his draft opinion, the Rapporteur looks at the problem of the correct application of EU law from a broader institutional perspective. Ideas are provided for improvements at all stages of the EU decision-making process, starting from the drafting phase and ending with transposition and implementation, as well as analysing the role of different actors, including national parliaments, civil society organisations, and the European Court of Justice.

*

*

*

INTRODUCTORY WORDS BY THE CHAIR

Dear Readers,

This 18th issue of the AFCO Newsletter for the 9th legislative term comes in the very challenging context of the COVID-19 epidemic.

In line with the precautionary measures taken by the European Parliament to contain the spread of the epidemic while safeguarding Parliament's core activities, our AFCO Committee meeting will take place in Brussels via videoconference.

Newsletter is 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.

On this ninth AFCO remote meeting, we will be voting on a very important report: the modification of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament in order to ensure its appropriate functioning in extraordinary circumstances like the current epidemic crisis. The European Parliament was able to adapt itself and carry on working on important issues through ad hoc remote participation procedures. For reasons of legal certainty, the Rules governing the Parliament should be adapted to establish these special procedures. Moreover, we will be voting as well as on a draft opinion on the Implementation of the European Arrest Warrant, and another opinion in form of a letter on the Establishment of a Recovery and Resilience Facility.

On top of this, our committee will discuss the draft opinion on the Monitoring of the application of EU Law during 2017-2018.

Antonio Tajani, Chair



****Votes****

Establishing a Recovery and Resilience Facility

Rapporteur for the opinion: Antonio Tajani (PPE)

(Responsible committees: BUDG & ECON, Rapporteurs: Siegfried Mureşan (EPP), Eider Gardiazabal Rubial (S&D), Dragoş Pîslaru (Renew))

AFCO will vote on an opinion in the form of a letter on the proposed new Recovery and Resilience Facility, which will be part of the EU Recovery Instrument. This Facility is intended to offer financial support for public investments and reforms, as set out in Member States' recovery and resilience plans. This will be done through grants and loans, and is intended to address the economic and social challenges related to the coronavirus pandemic, with the ultimate objective of making the EU economies more resilient and better prepared for the future.



The draft opinion underlines the need to insert provisions in this instrument to guarantee proper democratic accountability and recalls the importance of introducing a basket of new own resources over the 2021-2027 MFF period in order to ensure the credibility and sustainability of the recovery package's repayment plan.

Furthermore, consideration is given to the unprecedented nature of the recovery instrument and the opportunity provided by the upcoming Conference on the Future of Europe to discuss the democratic and constitutional challenges linked to the decision-making procedures on the Recovery instrument, MFF and own resources.

Amendments to the Rules of Procedure in order to ensure the functioning of Parliament in extraordinary circumstances

Rapporteur: Gabriele Bischoff (S&D)

The Committee will proceed to the vote on the amendments to the Rules of Procedure aimed at ensuring the functioning of Parliament in extraordinary circumstances and adding a new Title (XIIIa) to the current text in force.

Ten amendments were tabled to the draft decision contained in Gabriele Bischoff's draft report, while 27 concern the Rules as such.

Discussions with the shadow rapporteurs have since then resulted in four compromise amendments, three on the Rules themselves and one on the draft decision.



It will be for the Conference of Presidents to decide when and how to submit this report for consideration to the plenary. In any case, this will not be the case before the November part-session at the earliest.

The Implementation of the European Arrest Warrant and the Surrender Procedures between Member States

Rapporteur for the opinion: Paulo Rangel (PPE)

(Responsible committee: LIBE, Rapporteur: Javier Zarzalejos (EPP))

AFCO will vote on the draft opinion to LIBE prepared by Paulo Rangel (EPP). Members have submitted 44 amendments and the rapporteur has proposed 7 compromise amendments.

The draft opinion focuses on the place of the Framework Decision of the European Arrest Warrant in the overall architecture of the EU criminal justice. It highlights that its efficient application requires the underlying need of building and reinforcing mutual trust between Member States, which includes full respect of the EU constitutional and legal framework.

Furthermore, it proposes several improvements with the introduction of additional horizontal measures, the enhancement of procedural aspects related to the issue and execution of the EAW, and ultimately calls for a full 'lisbonisation' of the instrument, which should take stock of over 18 years of experience, including important jurisprudential developments in the area. Finally, it also reflects on the opportunities and challenges in the wider area of EU criminal justice brought about by Brexit.

MEETING DOCUMENTS

In light of the European Parliament's paperless project, please bear in mind that no 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

Monday 12 October 2020, 13.45 – 14.45 and 17.45 – 18.45

Room: József Antall (6Q1), Brussels (*and with remote participation of AFCO Members*)

MEETING LANGUAGES AVAILABLE

FR DE IT NL EN ES PT HU PL

NEXT MEETING

28 October, Brussels

FURTHER INFORMATION



[AFCO website](#)



[@EPInstitutional](#)

CONTACT THE EDITOR

European Parliament, Directorate General for Internal Policies of the Union, Secretariat of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs



+ 32 2 28 43676



[AFCO mailbox](#)

LEGAL DISCLAIMER

The items contained herein are drafted by the Secretariat of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and are provided for general information purposes only. The opinions expressed in this document are the sole responsibility of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position of the European Parliament. The AFCO Newsletter may contain links to websites that are created and maintained by other organisations. The AFCO Secretariat does not necessarily endorse the views expressed on these websites.