

Directorate-General for Internal Policies of the Union
Directorate for Structural and Cohesion Policies
Secretariat of the Committee on Transport and Tourism

7 June 2021

Overview of the Work Programme of the Tourism Task Force 1st half of 2021

STATE OF PLAY

1. Tourism Task Force (TTF) Meetings

) **14 April 2021: (in addition to original planning)** Exchange of views with the Director-General of DG GROW Ms. Kerstin Jorna, *on the situation facing the tourism sector ahead of this year's summer season*. Among other matters, a key point of this exchange was on the developments around implementing the Digital Green Certificate, to enable the safe resumption of travel, as presented by the Commission on 17 March 2021.

) **25 May 2021:** Exchange of views with Mr Thierry Breton, the Commissioner on Internal Market, in charge of Tourism policy
Presentation of the updated Industrial Strategy with tourism as one of the 14 industry ecosystems

) **16 June 2021:** An exchange of views with experts on Creation of the European Tourism Data space

23 February 2021: Additional TTF meeting (outside of TRAN meeting slots) with the Director-General of DG GROW Ms. Kerstin Jorna on forthcoming initiatives in tourism policy, including the implementation of the EP preparatory action on *A European crisis management mechanism in Tourism*

2. Own-initiative reports:

) Work on the INI report “Establishing an EU Strategy for Sustainable Tourism”: vote in TRAN on 24/25 February; plenary debate and vote March II plenary.

) One slot for a new own-initiative report and/or a strategic or legislative INI report on tourism matters has been set aside.

3. Public Hearing:

No public hearings during the 1st half 2021.

4. Studies:

- J An ongoing 2020 research project on relaunching transport and tourism in the EU after COVID 19. The overall study was presented in TRAN on 15 March 2021. The work on a thematic briefing, devoted to the situation in tourism sector, is under preparation and should be ready before the summer recess.

5. Other Tourism-Related Activities:

1) TRAN must remain involved in work with other committees on relevant tourism aspects such as giving an opinion, should a report be drawn up by the lead committee, inter alia, on:

- J TRAN has been working on several opinions where tourism constitutes important part of the suggestions to the lead committee, such as the opinions to IMCO on the Digital Services Act and Digital Market Act, the opinion to ITRE on *A European Strategy for Data*, the opinion to REGI on *A new approach to the Atlantic Maritime Strategy*.

2) EU Budget matters, including Recovery Funds

- J Pilot Projects and Preparatory Actions: coordinated preparation and follow-up of PPs and PAs in tourism area.

- Several Pilot Preparatory Actions prepared and submitted on behalf of the TTF:
 - Preparatory Action - Operationally of the Tourism of Tomorrow Lab (To of To Lab);
 - Preparatory Action - Better Places to Live Better Places to Visit;
 - Preparatory Action - EU vouchers for staycations and workations.

- A letter sent to DG BUDG asking for clarifications on the allocation of funds for pilot projects and preparatory actions 2021 (a reply received on 1 March 2021).

- J Establishing and maintaining contacts with the Portuguese Presidency on any matters related to the budget allocation for the tourism sector by TRAN Chairwoman and TTF Steering Group (see below).

3) Continued close monitoring of the exit strategy implementation from the restrictions imposed during the virus outbreak by the Commission and the Member States:

- J TRAN/ TTF meeting with the Portuguese Presidency and/or the Commission:
 - 25 January: an exchange of views in TRAN with the Portuguese Secretary of State for Tourism, Ms Rita Marques;
 - 17 March: an exchange of views between the Chair and the Steering group members and the Portuguese Secretary of State for Tourism Ms Rita Marques on the situation in the Tourism sector.
 - 24 April: a meeting of the Steering Group Members with the newly appointed Director of Tourism and Proximity directorate in DG GROW Ms Superti.
 - 14 May: Vice-Chair Mr Ujhelyi and the Steering Group Member Ms Monteiro took part the High-Level Forum on Sustainability and Tourism, organised by the Presidency of the Council of the EU.
- J TTF proposes and takes appropriate initiatives in this regard, depending on the situation (letters, Motion for Resolution etc.)