Dear colleagues,

Welcome back after a long and well-deserved summer break. It is time for our ITRE Committee to restart our work on important files.

The 2022 budget will have the highest share of climate-relevant EU expenditure to date as well as a significant contribution to the EU’s digital transition. Our Committee will consider the draft opinion on the Draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022.

Weak contestability and unfair practices in the digital sector are more frequent and pronounced. This in turn leads to inefficient outcomes in the digital sector in terms of higher prices, lower quality, as well as less choice and innovation to the detriment of European consumers. We will hear a presentation of the draft opinion on contestable and fair markets in the digital sector (Digital Markets Act).

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**Contestable and Fair Markets in the Digital Sector (Digital Markets Act)**

The Committee will consider the draft opinion on the Digital Markets Act proposal which will be presented by the Rapporteur, Mr Zorzinho, and discussed with the shadows. The draft aims inter alia at expanding the scope of obligations on digital gatekeepers and at making the enforcement of this new competition tool quicker and more predictable.


The draft implementation report on the EPBD submitted by Mr Kelly takes stock of the Member States’ efforts in delivering on their national long-term renovation strategies. It focuses on that aspect of the 2018 EPBD revision and, in view of the observed shortcomings, makes also recommendations for the next revision of the EPDB that the Commission plans to propose by the end of 2021. The Rapporteur and the shadows will discuss the conclusions from the fact-finding exercise and the next steps presented in the draft.

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**Draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022 - General Introduction - Total expenditure - General statement of revenue - Statement of revenue and expenditure by section**

The Committee will consider its opinion on the next year’s EU budget. The 2022 budget is expected to have the highest share of climate-relevant EU expenditure to date as well as a significant contribution to the EU’s digital transition. After the presentation by the rapporteur, Mr Christian Ehler, Members will discuss the major amendments proposed by ITRE, including the need for reinforcement of the research and innovation expenditures, a more ambitious SME policy and addressing agencies’ staffing needs in line with their new tasks and responsibilities.
The building sector is crucial for achieving the EU's energy and environmental goals. At the same time, better and more energy-efficient buildings improve the quality of citizens' life while bringing additional benefits to the economy and the society. The Committee will consider the Implementation Report on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), which covers a broad range of policies and supportive measures that will help national EU governments boost energy performance of buildings and improve the existing building stock.

Cristian-Silviu Bușoi

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European Parliament
Directorate General for Internal Policies of the Union
Industry, Research and Energy Committee
Head of Unit / Editor: Peter Traung
Administrator: Eugen Sandu
Layout: Anna Schmidt

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