

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

2 December 2021

Overview of the Work Programme for the Tourism Task Force 2nd half of 2021

STATE OF PLAY

1. Tourism Task Force (TTF) Meetings

- **12 July 2021:** Exchange of views with **Stakeholders** on the *state of play in the EU tourism sector* (with special focus on micro and small tourism operators): Taking stock of how SMEs are dealing with the crisis in the middle of the summer tourism season 2021.
- **2 September:** focus on enhancing **skills**: *how to improve skillsets across the tourism industry*
- **25 October:** extraordinary Tourism Task Force meeting with the Commission (DG GROW, Director Valentina Superti) on the co-creation process of the **Transition Pathway for Tourism** (TTP).
- **2 December:** Exchange of views with the experts on *available EU funding for the tourism sector* within the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 & Next Generation EU.

2. Legislative and Non-Legislative Work

1) Own-initiative Reports: no new own-initiative report initiated.

2) Additional Debates within the TRAN Committee on Topical Issues:

An exchange of views on *Promoting Gender Equality in the Travel and Tourism Sector* as a TRAN contribution to the EP Gender Mainstreaming Week on 27 October 2021.

3) Plenary Debate during the October I session on *Assessing the Union's measures for the EU tourism sector as the end of the Summer season nears*. (based on TRAN Oral Question without a resolution).

- 4) TRAN remained involved in work with other committees on relevant tourism aspects, giving its opinion on the INI reports drawn up by the lead committees:
- TRAN requested an opinion to the ITRE INI report based on the updated **Industrial Strategy** (COM (2021) 350) - currently in the stage of resolving the competences (TRAN Chair requested Rule 57 (shared on the tourism policy));
 - TRAN opinion to PECH INI report based on a Communication on the **Blue Economy** (special focus on coastal and maritime tourism) published on 17 May 2021 (Rapporteur: Roman Haider (ID))

3. Public Hearings and Studies:

- An ongoing 2020 research project on relaunching transport and tourism in the EU after COVID 19: a briefing paper on tourism has been published in November 2021.
- No new proposals were submitted from the political groups to the Coordinators within the framework of the call for studies/hearings for 2022.

4. Cooperation with Other EU Institutions and Stakeholders

- Establishing and maintaining contacts with the **Slovenian** Presidency by TRAN Chairwoman and the TTF Steering Group: TRAN Chair has been invited to speak at the European Tourism Forum in Slovenia on 16-18 November 2021. The 1st Vice-Chair Mr Ujhelyi represented the EP on this occasion.
- Upholding close cooperation with the **Commission** (Commissioner Breton and DG GROW) at the political and operational levels accordingly by the TRAN Chair, TTF Steering Group and TRAN Secretariat.
- Maintaining close cooperation with **tourism Stakeholders** (including umbrella organizations, such as the UNWTO, ETC, WTTC, OECD. (TTF Steering Group and TRAN Secretariat): representatives have been invited as the speakers for the TTF meetings.

Cooperation on *the Agenda 2030/2050 for Tourism* is one of the key topics to be further developed together with other institutions: the Commission published on 21 June 2021 the Staff Working Document “Scenarios towards **co-creation of Transition Pathway for Tourism** for a more resilient, innovative and sustainable ecosystem”, which is preparing the steps towards the Agenda 2030 for tourism policy.

TRAN involvement in this co-creation process has been planned in several stages:

- meeting between TTF Steering Group Members and Ms Valentina Superti, Director for Tourism & Proximity (DG GROW) on 2 September 2021 to provide the first input in the consultation process.
- extra TTF meeting on 25 October with Director Superti (DG GROW) to give an opportunity to all TTF Members to hear the first results of the consultation process and to provide their input.
- full TRAN meeting with Commissioner Breton has been foreseen for the beginning of 2022.

5. **Other Tourism-Related Activities:**

1. EU Budgetary Matters, including Recovery Funds

Pilot Projects and Preparatory Actions: coordinated preparation and follow-up of PPs and PAs in tourism area. 3 PAs have been tabled by the TTF SG:

- Operationality of the Tourism of Tomorrow Lab ("To of To Lab");
- Better Places to Live Better Places to Visit;
- EU vouchers for staycations and workations.

The PA "To of To Lab" was successful and will be implemented in the EU budget 2022.

2. No specific contribution to the Conference on the Future of Europe

3. TTF keeps the right to propose and take appropriate initiatives, depending on circumstances and situation (letters, Motion for Resolution etc.)