

### CHAIR'S WELCOME



The next ENVI meeting will take place on 28-29 November and on the 4 December. We are nearing the end of a busy year and there are no signs of slowing down in ENVI - we remain committed to closing as many files as possible before the end of the legislature. I am pleased to report that, on 29 November, ENVI will vote on the provisional agreement resulting from

interinstitutional negotiations on the groundbreaking law setting out legally binding targets to restore nature. In addition, Parliament's negotiators secured political agreements on several other proposals, including the first-ever law to reduce emissions of methane, the second biggest climate pollutant after CO<sub>2</sub>. We also reached a political deal to strengthen rules applicable to shipments of waste, now including a ban on plastic waste exports to non-OECD countries. Those are major milestones in completing the implementation of the European Green Deal and in ensuring that Europe can deliver on its international commitments.

We are also advancing the health agenda. Inter-institutional negotiations are progressing to update and expand EU legislation on blood, tissues and cells. The aim is to establish high standards of quality and safety for substances of human origin (SoHOs) intended for human application and to improve the protection of all actors involved. Also, on Tuesday, 28 November, in a joint session with LIBE, we will vote on the joint report on European Health Data Space. It is a key pillar of the European Health Union, aiming to create a trustworthy setting for accessing a wide range of health data by patients, health professionals or researchers. We will also vote on an own-initiative report on nutrition and health claims made on foods, prepared by the Subcommittee on Health.

On the morning of Wednesday, 29 November, we will welcome Dr Sharon McGuinness the Executive Director of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) for an annual exchange. She will update ENVI Members on the latest activities of the Agency, from support to regulating harmful substances, like PFAS, to promoting the use of alternative methods of testing.

Also, in view of the Court of Justice ruling on emergency authorizations, ENVI Members will have the opportunity to question the Commission about the state of implementation of the regulation on the placement of plant protection products on the EU market.

Lastly, it is crucial to highlight the importance of the UN Climate Change Conference COP28, which will start on Wednesday 30 November. It will be the first stocktaking of the progress on implementing the Paris Agreement. The EP delegation will bring a strong message calling on all countries to strengthen their climate commitments, contribute their fair share to increase international climate financing, and end all fossil fuel subsidies.

As always, you can follow the ENVI Committee meeting live at: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/envi/home.html> you can also follow the activities of the ENVI Committee on its official Twitter account @EP\_ENVIRONMENT

Pascal Canfin

29 November 2023

### MEETING ITEMS

#### Exchanges of views:

- Presentation of a joint report by the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the EU Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) "Flexibility solutions to support a decarbonised and secure EU electricity system with ITRE Committee (28/11)
- Annual exchange of views with ECHA Executive Director (29/11)
- Exchange of views with the European Commission on the implementation and assessment of Regulation 1107/2009, including on the withdrawal of certain plant protection products from the EU market (29/11)
- Annual exchange of views with ECDC Director (4/12)
- STOA Study on "Improving access to medicines and promoting pharmaceutical innovation" (4/12)
- Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Addressing medicine shortages in the EU (4/12)

#### Votes:

- Adoption of a draft report on European Health Data Space. Joint ENVI-LIBE Committee meeting (SOKOL/TARDINO) (28/11) (jointly with LIBE)
- Provisional interinstitutional agreement- Nature Restoration (LUENA) (29/11)
- Adoption of a draft motion for a resolution on the objection pursuant to the draft Commission Implementing Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified maize Bt11 × MIR162 × MIR604 × MON 89034 × 5307 × GA21 and thirty sub-combinations, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (D092592)(HÄUSLING, HAZEKAMP, PIETIKÄINEN, SIDL)(29/11)
- Adoption of a draft motion for a resolution on the objection pursuant to the draft Commission Implementing Decision renewing the authorisation for the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified oilseed rape Ms8, Rf3 and Ms8 × Rf3 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (D092595)(HÄUSLING, HAZEKAMP, PIETIKÄINEN, SIDL)(29/11)
- Adoption of a draft motion for a resolution on the objection pursuant to the Commission Regulation amending Annexes II and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for fipronil in or on certain products. (HAZEKAMP, ARENA, WIEZIK, PAULUS) (29/11)
- Adoption of a draft motions for a resolution for a Proposal for a Council regulation amending Annexes II and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for tricyclazole in or on certain products. (MONTSERRAT and TERTSCH-CONTE) (29/11)
- Adoption of a draft report on amending Council Directives relating to honey, fruit juices and certain similar products intended for human consumption, relating to fruit jams, jellies and marmalades and sweetened chestnut purée (BERNHUBER) (29/11)
- Adoption of a draft report on Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006 on nutrition and health claims made on foods (METZ)(29/11)

### Considerations:

- Draft motion for a resolution on the Commission Regulation amending Annexes II and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for fipronil in or on certain products (29/11)
- Draft motions for a resolution on the proposal for a Council regulation amending Annexes II and V to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for tricyclazole in or on certain products (29/11)

### ENVI IN THE NEXT PLENARY

Draft agenda of the Plenary available [here](#).

### EXCHANGES OF VIEWS

#### Exchange of views with the European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) and the European Environment Agency (EEA) on their joint report on 'Flexibility solutions to support a decarbonised and secure EU electricity system'



Rapid growth in renewable energies is key to meet Europe's climate targets of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050 and also to secure energy supply. This increase in renewables from variable sources, such as wind and solar, will also increase the need for 'flexibility' in the EU electricity system. Recently, EEA and ACER

released a joint report that demonstrates how Member States could exploit collaboration synergies to unlock flexibility and enhance energy security while contributing to long-term climate neutrality. On 28 November, ENVI Members are invited to join ITRE committee session where EEA and ACER will present the main outcomes of the report. According to this document, flexibility in the EU power system needs to almost double by 2030 compared to today, to keep up with the growth of variable renewable electricity sources. At the same time, enhanced electricity interconnection is key, as existing and planned interconnectors facilitate flexibility to be shared across border. The report also calls for Member States to better assess and have complementary national and EU-wide assessments of flexibility needs.

#### Exchange of views with the European Commission on the implementation and assessment of Regulation 1107/2009, including on the withdrawal of certain plant protection products from the EU market



Regulation 1107/2009 aims to authorize the use of plant protection products that are safe for humans, animals, and the environment. The European Parliament evaluated the authorisation procedure in its resolution of 16 January 2019. In 2020, the Regulation was subject

to a REFIT evaluation aiming to assess whether the Regulation was fit for purpose and achieved its objectives. The evaluation highlighted several weaknesses and indicated areas where implementation can be improved. These suggestions included the need for prompt elimination of active substances that do not meet approval criteria, promotion of non-chemical

pesticides, and better implementation of the provisions of the Sustainable Use Directive. Furthermore, in 2023, the Court of Justice delivered a judgement providing clarifications on the limits for Member States to provide emergency authorizations for pesticides. ENVI Members will have the opportunity to question the Commission about implementation and assessment of the regulation and actions taken to follow up on the outcome of REFIT and the Court ruling

#### Annual Exchange of views with Dr. Sharon McGuinness, Executive Director of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)

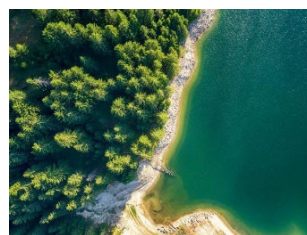


On 29 November, ENVI will exchange views with Dr Sharon McGuinness, the Executive Director of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). ECHA works for the safe use of chemicals and is responsible for the implementation of the EU's chemicals legislation.

Dr Sharon McGuinness is expected to outline the main areas of focus in the past year, including regulating harmful chemicals across ECHA's mandates, promoting the use of alternative methods or working with groups of chemicals. The newest activities of the agency also include support to implementation of the batteries regulation and the regulation on serious cross-border threats to health following their entry into force. Members will also have the opportunity to discuss the future of ECHA, as the Agency is currently working to prepare the strategic plan for the new programming period, including additional tasks that are likely to be added to its mandate upon adoption of the revision of the Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals regulation, the water framework directive or the toys safety regulation.

### VOTES

#### Outcome of interinstitutional negotiations on the EU Nature Restoration Law



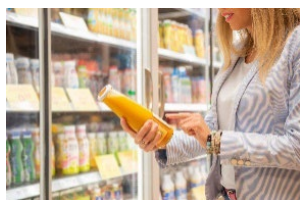
On 29 November, ENVI will vote on the provisional deal reached by the negotiators earlier this month, on the 9th of November. The overall objective of the Nature Restoration Regulation is the long-term and sustained recovery of biodiverse and resilient ecosystems. It establishes a framework within which Member States will have to put in place restoration measures with the aim to cover, by 2030, at least 20 % of land sea areas and, by 2050, all ecosystems in need of restoration. The Regulation covers the whole range of ecosystems (terrestrial, marine, urban, agricultural and forest ecosystems) as well as specific objectives regarding the restoration of rivers and pollinator populations. The agreed text includes overall and ecosystem specific restoration targets, to be achieved by Member States which will have to specify of how to achieve these targets through the adoption of national restoration plans. The negotiators also agreed on an emergency brake, as requested by Parliament, according to which provisions for agricultural ecosystems can be suspended temporarily under exceptional circumstances if agricultural production is severely impacted. The adoption of this regulation, the first European law for nature restoration, will be a key step for the EU to tackle biodiversity loss.

Rapporteur ENVI: [LUENA \(S&D\)](#)

Shadows ENVI: [SCHNEIDER \(S&D\)](#), [RODRIGUEZ RAMOS \(Renew\)](#), [PAULUS \(GREENS/EFA\)](#), [BEIGNEUX \(ID\)](#), [VONDRA \(ECR\)](#), [WALLACE \(THE LEFT\)](#)

## Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

### Nutrition and health claims made on foods



On 29 November, ENVI will vote the draft report on the Implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006 on nutrition and health claims made on foods. It is an own-initiative report prepared by the Subcommittee on Health. It looks at how voluntary nutritional and health claims on food and

food supplements in all commercial communication, which includes labelling, presentation and advertising of products, are applied. The regulation has been in force for more than 15 years and has significantly contributed to the protection of consumers from false and misleading health and nutrition claims on food. However, consumers are still being exposed to unauthorized claims on food and food supplements, which means that some aspects still need to be implemented. Two of the main aspects, according to the European Commission, are the setting of nutrient profiles to restrict the use of claims on foods high in fat, sugar and/or salt, and the scientific and regulatory framework for claims on plant substances (botanicals) in food. As for enforcement, the increase in online sales and advertisements of food and food supplements online is a challenge, given that this domain remains largely ungoverned.

Rapporteur ENVI: METZ (VERTS)

Shadows ENVI: PATRICIELLO (PPE), WÖLKEN (S&D), AMAIRIC (Renew), FRAGKOS (ECR), MATIAS (THE LEFT)

### Draft report on the revision of EU marketing standards for certain 'Breakfast directives'



On 29 November, ENVI will vote the draft report on the proposal for a revision of four of the seven "Breakfast Directives", related to honey, fruit juices, jams and marmalades, and dehydrated milk. The proposed directive - in line with the EU Green Deal and the 'Farm to Fork' Strategy - lays down common rules on the

composition, sale name, labelling and presentation of certain food products in order to harmonize marketing standards to facilitate the adoption and supply of sustainably produced products and contribute to healthy diets. In addition, the directive aims to ensure greater transparency on the composition and origin of food products. In the draft report, the rapporteur proposes a more ambitious approach to honey labelling, suggesting making it mandatory to indicate the countries of origin where the honey was harvested. In addition, the rapporteur advocates banning health benefit claims on sugar-reduced fruit juices, lowering new limits on the legal minimum fruit content in jams, and halving the transposition deadlines for directives.

Rapporteur ENVI: BERNHUBER (EPP)

Shadows ENVI: SIDL (S&D), CANFIN (Renew), RIPA (GREENS), VONDRA (ECR), GANCIA (ID), HAZEKAMP (THE LEFT)

### Draft report on European Health Data Space (EHDS) Regulation



On 28 November, ENVI and LIBE members will vote on the draft joint report on the European Health Data Space. The Commission's proposal aims both to give European citizens control over their health data, including when data is shared cross-border, and to facilitate the reuse of health data for research, innovation or policy

making. In order to achieve this twofold objective, the proposed regulation will provide common rules, infrastructure, and a governance framework for the use

of electronic health data. In the draft report, the co-rapporteurs stress the importance of guaranteeing data protection by ensuring compliance with the EU GDPR and providing for penalties in case of misuse of personal health data. The report also includes the obligation to store health data in the EU. This regulation, considering the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, is critical in order to obtain up-to-date health data for effective crisis response. In addition, easier, more direct and secure access to health data will benefit individuals, health professionals, researchers, regulators and industry.

Rapporteur ENVI: SOKOL (EPP)

Shadows ENVI: CERDAS (S&D), SOLIS (Renew), METZ (Greens/EFA), KOPCIŃSKA (ECR), KONEČNÁ (THE LEFT)

Rapporteur LIBE: TARDINO (ID)

Shadows LIBE: ZARZALEJOS (EPP), VITANOV (S&D), ŽURIŠ NICHOLSONOVÁ (Renew), BREYER (Greens/EFA), KEMPA (ECR), ARVANITIS (THE LEFT)

## NEXT ENVI MEETING ON 11 JANUARY

## NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT

### Recent publications:

- Study on [the COP28 climate change conference: status of climate negotiations and issues at stake](#), Dubai (UAE), 30 Nov - 12 Dec 2023
- Briefing on the [commitments made at the hearing of MAROŠ ŠEFČOVIČ Executive Vice-President of the Commission on the European Green Deal](#)
- Briefing on the [commitments made at the hearing of WOPKE HOEKSTRA, Commissioner-designate on Climate Action](#)
- Briefing on the [UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development Goals](#), New-York, 17-19 July 2023
- Briefing on [Raising ambition levels at the IMO for 2050](#) - An overview of the key issues at stake at the MEPC 80, 3-7 July 2023, London, UK
- Briefing on the [76th World Health Assembly, Geneva](#) - Switzerland – 21-30 May 2023
- Study on [potential measures to facilitate active pharmaceutical ingredients \(APIs\) production in Member States](#)
- Study on [the Independence and transparency policies of the European Food Safety Authority \(EFSA\)](#)
- [Study on potential measures to facilitate active pharmaceutical ingredients \(APIs\) production in Member States](#)
- In-depth analysis on [Issues at stake at the COP15 Conference to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Montréal, Canada, December 2022](#)
- Briefing on [Tracking the EU Commissioners' commitments - Von der Leyen Commission, 2019 - 2024: Stella Kyriakides](#)
- Briefing on [Tracking the EU Commissioners' commitments - Von der Leyen Commission, 2019 - 2024: Virginijus Sinkevičius](#)
- Study on [Carbon farming: making agriculture fit for 2030](#) (also its At a glance version in [EN](#), [FR](#), [DE](#), [IT](#), [ES](#) and [PL](#))
- Study on [the Access to medicinal products](#)
- In depth analysis on [the link between biodiversity loss and the increasing spread of zoonotic diseases](#) (also available in [DE](#))

### Upcoming publications:

- Briefing on developments which took place since the Convention on Biological Diversity's COP 15 conference in Montreal in December 2022



### NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

#### European Environment Agency (EEA)

##### Urgent need to consider how to best use biomass in Europe



There are increasing and competing demands for using biomass in the EU, using it for bio-based products in sectors such as construction, energy, transport, furniture, and textile industries, but also reserving it for nature conservation and carbon sequestration. Therefore, the recently published EEA report discusses key synergies and trade-offs in the use of biomass for different policy objectives and stresses that there is an urgent need to prioritise the biomass uses due to different roles foreseen in the European Green Deal and due to potential shortage of biomass supply in the future. The report also looks at how climate change might affect the EU's biomass production in agriculture and forest sectors. More details can be found in a new European Environment Agency (EEA) report [‘The European biomass puzzle’](#).

#### European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)



On 13 November, EFSA and its sister agencies providing scientific advice on environment, public health and food safety (ECDC, ECHA, EEA, EFSA and EMA) have published a joint statement to express their common commitment to support the One Health agenda in Europe. [More info here.](#)

#### European Medicines Agency (EMA)

##### First electronic product information (ePI) published for selected human medicines



The Heads of Medicines Agencies (HMA), the European Commission (EC) and EMA have published for the first time electronic product information (ePI) for selected human medicines harmonised across the European Union (EU). The product information of a medicine includes its summary of product characteristics, labelling and package leaflet. These documents accompany every medicine authorised in the EU and explain how they should be prescribed and used. The creation and testing of ePIs in real regulatory procedures is being explored through a one-year pilot initiative by HMA, EMA and the EC to enable the transition to the electronic system for medicines evaluated both nationally and at European level. [More info here](#)

#### European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)

##### ECHA identifies research needs for regulating hazardous chemicals



ECHA's new report 'Key areas of regulatory challenge 2023' identifies areas where research is needed to protect people and the environment from hazardous chemicals. It also highlights where new methods, that support the shift away from animal testing, are needed.

Details on ECHA's new website [Research to enhance protection of our health and environment](#)

#### European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

##### About European Antibiotic Awareness Day



The latest ECDC data are released in connection with the European Antibiotic Awareness Day (EAAD), a European health initiative coordinated by ECDC, which provides a platform and support for national campaigns on the prudent use of antibiotics. Each year, EAAD is marked by national campaigns on or around 18 November. Visit the [EAAD website](#) for more information and follow the discussion on social media using the hashtag #EAAD. EAAD takes place in partnership with the World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW), a WHO initiative which takes place between 18 and 24 November each year. Follow the #WAAW #AntimicrobialResistance and see the World Health Organization [website](#) for more information.

#### Next meetings of the ENVI Committee: 11 January 2024.

Future meetings: [ENVI Committee meetings 2024.pdf](#)

**Watch online** the Committee meeting on the [EP website](#) or on [Europarl TV](#).

Past meetings are available: [EP Live multimedia library](#) and you can also download the extracts of speeches.

**More information:** [envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu) or [website](#) of the ENVI Committee.

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**Further information sources:** The **EP Policy Departments** *publish* studies, notes, information notes and workshop proceedings. To request a hard copy of any publication please contact [Poldep-Economy-Science@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:Poldep-Economy-Science@europarl.europa.eu). The European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) provides research publications in the area of environment, public health and food safety. You can find all the latest publications on the European Parliament website's [Think Tank](#) pages.

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