

Words by the Chair



Dear colleagues,

First of all, I would like to wish you a happy, productive and successful new year!

Our Committee meeting of 22-23 January will be the first regular meeting of 2024.

We will have the pleasure to welcome six Ministers and State Secretaries of the [Belgian Presidency](#) who will present their priorities on the policy areas covered by our Committee.

In the framework of our structured dialogue with the European Commission, we look forward to engaging in a debate with Ms Iliana Ivanova, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, who will provide, amongst others, an overview of the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan for 2025-2027 before its envisaged adoption in March 2024.

Moreover, we will hold a hearing of the selected candidate for the post of the Director of the Agency for Support for BEREC ([BEREC Office](#)).

We will also hold a joint meeting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) to vote on an oral question accompanied by a motion for a resolution on Association agreements for the participation of third countries in Union programmes.

Our Committee will also vote on the provisional agreements reached with the Council on a number of legislative files, namely the Hydrogen and decarbonised gas market package, the Cyber Resilience Act, and the continuation of the Union's participation in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) under Horizon Europe. We will also vote our opinion on the Guidelines for the 2025 Budget.

[Cristian-Silviu BUȘOI](#)

Votes on 23 January

Dossier	Rapporteur
Internal markets for renewable and natural gases and for hydrogen (recast) <i>Vote on the provisional agreement resulting from interinstitutional negotiations</i>	Jerzy Buzek (EPP)

Common rules for the internal markets in renewable and natural gases and in hydrogen (recast) <i>Vote on the provisional agreement resulting from interinstitutional negotiations</i>	Jens Geier (S&D)
Amending Decision (EU) 2017/1324 as regards the continuation of the Union's participation in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) under Horizon Europe <i>Vote on the provisional agreement resulting from interinstitutional negotiations</i>	Paolo Borchia (ID)
Horizontal cybersecurity requirements for products with digital elements and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 <i>Vote on the provisional agreement resulting from interinstitutional negotiations</i>	Nicola Danti (Renew)
Guidelines for the 2025 Budget - Section III <i>Adoption of draft opinion in letter form</i>	Christian Ehler (EPP)

Presentation of the Council Presidency's programme

Six Ministers and State Secretaries will present the priorities of the Belgian Presidency on the policy areas covered by the ITRE Committee:

- For telecommunications: **Ms Petra De Sutter**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Public Enterprises, Telecommunication and the Postal Services.
- For digital and cybersecurity: **Mr Mathieu Michel**, State Secretary for Digitisation, in charge of Administrative Simplification, Privacy and Buildings Administration, added to the Prime Minister.
- For research and innovation: **Mr Willy Borsus**, Vice-President of the Walloon Government and Minister of Economy, Foreign Trade, Research and Innovation, Digital, Agriculture, Land Use Planning, IFAPME and Competence Centres.
- For space policy: **Mr Thomas Dermine**, State Secretary for Economic Recovery and Strategic Investments, in charge of Science Policy, added to the Minister of the Economy and Employment.
- For energy: **Ms Tinne Van der Straeten**, Minister of Energy.
- For industry and SMEs: **Mr Jo Brouns**, Flemish Minister for Economy, Innovation, Work, Social Economy and Agriculture.

Exchanges of views

Structured dialogue with Ms Iliana Ivanova, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

The Commissioner will provide, amongst others, an overview of the latest Horizon Europe Strategic Plan for 2025-2027 before its envisaged adoption in March 2024.

Hearing of the candidate for the post of the Director of the Agency for Support for BEREC (BEREC Office)

The Committee will hold a hearing with Ms Verena Weber, selected candidate for the post of Director of the Agency for Support for BEREC (BEREC Office).

Joint meetings

Joint meeting of ITRE-AFET of Tuesday, 23 January 2024

A joint meeting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) will be held to vote an oral question accompanied by a motion for a resolution on Association agreements for the participation of third countries in Union programmes.

Reporting back from missions

Report back from the ITRE ad hoc delegation to Silicon Valley (USA), 30 October-2 November 2023

An ITRE delegation to San Francisco/Silicon Valley took place from 30 October to 2 November 2023. The visit programme covered a wide range of topics within ITRE's remit, including cybersecurity, digital transformation, data use, emerging technologies, energy and space policy.

Reporting back from interinstitutional negotiations

The Rapporteurs will report back from trilogues on the following files:

- Internal markets for renewable and natural gases and for hydrogen (recast) - Rapporteur: Jerzy Buzek (EPP)
 - Establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's net-zero technology products manufacturing ecosystem (Net Zero Industry Act) - Rapporteur: Christian Ehler (EPP)
 - Amending Decision (EU) 2017/1324 as regards the continuation of the Union's participation in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) under Horizon Europe - Rapporteur: Paolo Borchia (ID)
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