



INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY

# ITRE Newsletter

ITRE

## A WORD FROM THE CHAIR



It is a great pleasure for me to address you for the first time as chair of the ITRE Committee. The Committee's four key policy areas - energy, digitisation, modern reindustrialisation and research & innovation - are also the four key pillars of a strong, globally competitive European economy. ITRE's work is thus of great direct importance to the livelihoods of millions of European citizens.

This week we are holding our first ordinary meeting in the EP's 8th legislative term. It is a term that will see major changes, in particular in energy, telecoms and various industry areas. We look forward to meeting the Italian presidency in ITRE's first session after the summer break, and to organising the important hearings of four Commissioners-designate. But we begin already this week with, among other things, a presentation on European Energy Security Strategy and with an update on the TTIP negotiations.

I am very glad that this prestigious and influential body has gathered so many specialized experts. This is essential for ensuring a well-balanced debate that will lead to accomplishment of our ambitious goals. Confident that I can count on all ITRE members' support in the Committee's work, I look very much forward to our cooperation.

[Jerzy Buzek](#)

## MEETING OF 22 JULY 2014

### **Presentation by Dominique Ristori, Director-General of DG Energy on European Energy Security Strategy**

Today, the EU imports 53% of the energy it consumes. Energy import dependency relates to crude oil (almost 90%), to natural gas (66%), and to a lesser extent to solid fuels (42%) as well as nuclear fuel (40%). Energy security of supply concerns every Member State, even if some are

more vulnerable than others. This is valid in particular for less integrated and connected regions such as the Baltic and Eastern Europe. But, according to the Commission, the most pressing energy security of supply issue is the strong dependence from a single external supplier. This is particularly true for gas, but also to some extent applies to electricity.

In the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on a European Energy Security Strategy, the Commission identifies key actions for the Commission itself, for the Member States, for the Commission and the Member States together and one action for the Transmission System Operators.

The Director-General of the Commission, Mr Dominique Ristori, will give an introductory statement on the Communication before the Members react.

### **PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

[to be decided](#)

## **Budget 2015**

### *Exchange of views*

The Commission adopted on 27 June 2014 its proposal for Union's consolidated Draft Budget 2015 and the Council is expected to adopt its position at the end of July 2014. The exchange of views in the ITRE Committee aims to assess the present situation in 2015 Budget procedure, offering the ITRE Members a possibility to express their views on this issue.

### **PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

[Deadline amendments: 19 August 2014](#)

[Vote in ITRE: 2 September 2014](#)

[Vote Plenary: October II, 2014](#)

## **ACER Delegation in Ljubljana**

### *Debriefing*

On 19-20 March 2014 a delegation of the ITRE Committee visited the headquarters of



the ACER Agency in Ljubljana (Slovenia). The ITRE delegation, which was composed of MEP Romana Jordan (EPP) and MEP Giles Chichester (ECR), held several topical meetings, each of them in the presence of, among others, Mr Alberto Pototschnig and ACER Director, Lord Mogg, Chairmen of the Board of Regulators. The main aim of the visit was to get an overview of the Agency's ongoing work, to discuss the progress achieved and the challenges ahead as well as to reflect on future ways of cooperation between the Agency and the ITRE Committee.

### **Delegation to Italy (Venice and Milan)**

#### *Debriefing*

On 24-26 March 2014, an ITRE delegation, composed of MEPs Amalia Sartori, Salvador Sedó i Alabart, Paul Rübig, Judith A. Merkies, Antonio Correia de Campos, Elisabetta Gardini and Patrizia Toia visited Milan and Venice, two of the most industrialised regions in Italy and Europe. The delegation's aim was to learn more about "Green Businesses", SMEs and big enterprises committed in implementing innovative projects in the field of energy, construction, waste management and ICT in line with the subjects of ITRE's Committee-work. In particular the delegations purpose was to have a first scrutiny of the recently adopted MFF programmes as Horizon 2020 and COSME.

### **TTIP negotiations**

#### *Briefing by the European Commission*

Mr. Garcia Bercero, EU's chief negotiator, will brief the ITRE Committee on the sixth round of EU-US trade talks that took place in Brussels on 14-18 July 2014.

The transatlantic trade and investment partnership (TTIP) is a free trade agreement currently being negotiated between the European Union and the United States.

Three main elements of the agreement:

- Market access: removing customs duties on goods and restrictions on services, gaining better access to public markets, and making it easier to invest
- Improved regulatory coherence and cooperation by dismantling unnecessary regulatory barriers such as bureaucratic duplication of effort
- Improved cooperation when it comes to setting international standards

### **NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES**

#### **The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)**

##### *ACER's Draft Work Programme for 2015 online*

In line with ACER's founding regulation, the Director sent the Agency's Draft Work Programme for 2015 to the ACER Board of Regulators, the European Parliament and the European Commission. The final ACER Work Programme 2015 is to be adopted by the end of September.

[More](#)

#### **The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)**

BEREC adopted its opinion on the Commission's Recommendation on Relevant Markets, which is broadly supportive of the Commission's overall approach. [More](#)

#### **European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)**

Fighting cybercrime: Strategic cooperation agreement signed between ENISA and Europol. [More](#)

#### **European Global Navigation Satellite System Gns Agency (GNSS)**

The 2014 edition of the European Satellite Navigation Competition (ESNC) has seen record numbers of entries – with the European GNSS Agency (GSA) Special Prize being particularly popular. [More](#)



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## **NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A**

### **Recent Publications:**

[Study on 'The Impact of the Oil Price on EU Energy Prices'](#)

[Study on 'Mapping Smart Cities in the EU'](#)

[Study on 'How to Build a Ubiquitous EU Digital Society'](#)

[Study on 'SMEs participation under Horizon 2020'](#)

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#### Watch online

The Committee meetings are web-streamed and can be watched live on the [EP website](#) or on [Europarl TV](#). Past meetings can be watched or extracts downloaded via the [EP Live Multimedia Library](#). Speeches and presentations held during ITRE meetings are available on the [ITRE website](#).

#### ITRE Newsletter

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#### Further information

For further information please contact: [itre-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:itre-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu) or visit [ITRE website](#).

#### Next ITRE meetings:

1-2 September 2014, Brussels

*This Newsletter is produced in advance of ITRE Committee meetings by the Committee Secretariat.*

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