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CHAIR'S WELCOME



The next meeting of the ENVI Committee will be taking place in Brussels on **13-14 April 2015**. Members will vote on a draft report on safer healthcare in Europe and on two draft opinions: one on the European Fund for Strategic Investments

and one on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). The Committee will also vote on the confirmation of the agreement between Parliament and Council on biofuels (ILUC).

In addition, Members will consider draft reports on the reduction of national emissions of atmospheric pollutants, on resource efficiency towards a circular economy and on the follow-up to the European Citizens' Initiative "Right2Water", and will hold a debate on the amendments tabled to the proposal on the limitation of emissions from medium combustion plants.

Finally, please allow me to draw your attention to the next joint AGRI-ENVI meeting that will take place on 16 April 2015 in Brussels, where Members will consider a draft report on the cloning of animals for farming purposes.

[Giovanni La Via](#)

MEETING PREVIEW

Amendment to the fuel quality directive and the renewable energy directive (Indirect Land Use Change)

Adoption of [outcome of negotiations](#)

Following inter-institutional negotiations, the Council sent to the Parliament a **possible compromise package** on the dossier on biofuels / indirect land use change (ILUC). The proposed legislation amends the Fuel Quality Directive 98/70/EC (FQD) and the Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC (RED) with the aim to foster the **transition to biofuels** delivering substantial GHG savings including ILUC emissions while protecting existing investments. The proposed legislation will limit the contribution of conventional biofuels towards the attainment of the RED target for

renewable energy in transport by setting a 7% "cap", improve GHG performance of biofuel production processes, encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels and have fuel suppliers and the Commission report the estimated ILUC emissions.

Rapporteur: [Torvalds](#) (ALDE) [Procedure file](#)
Shadows: [Fiellner](#) (EPP), [Gasbarra](#) (S&D), [Girling](#) (ECR),
[Konečná](#) (GUE), [Eickhout](#) (Greens/EFA), [Pedicini](#) (EFDD)

Safer healthcare in Europe: improving patient safety and fighting antimicrobial resistance

Adoption of [draft report](#)

The Council Recommendation of 9 June 2009 (2009/C 151/01) on patient safety, including the prevention and control of healthcare



associated infections called for the implementation of a series of measures to improve patient safety in

the EU. The Commission published in June 2014 its second report on the implementation of the Recommendation.

In his draft report, the Rapporteur **welcomes the latest measures** put in place by Member States. He notes, however, that the implementation report still shows **uneven progress among Member States**, and regrets that some Member States have obviously slowed down implementation of the Council recommendations because of financial constraints resulting from the economic crisis. He also welcomes the work of ECDC, EFSA and EMA and calls for responsible, well-targeted **use of antibiotics** in both human and veterinary medicine. Moreover, he calls on the co-legislator, when negotiating the proposal for a regulation on veterinary medicinal products 2014/0257 (COD), to make recommendations in line with the **One Health principle**.

Some 335 [amendments](#) were tabled and 16 compromises were negotiated.

Rapporteur: [Pedicini](#) (EFDD) [Procedure file](#)
Shadows: [Busoi](#) (ALDE), [Schaldenmose](#) (S&D), [Swinburne](#) (ECR),
[Paulsen](#) (ALDE), [Boylan](#) (GUE), [Auken](#) (Greens/EFA)



European Fund for Strategic Investments

Adoption of [draft opinion](#)

In accordance with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality set out in Article 5 TFUE, this proposal sets out the legal framework necessary to implement the first two strands of the "Investment Plan for Europe".



By reason of the disparities in Member States' fiscal capacity to act, action at Union level can better achieve the objectives pursued, by reason of its scale and effects. More specifically, the EU level will provide for economies of scale in the use of innovative financial instruments by catalysing private investment in the whole EU and making best use of the European Institutions and their expertise and knowledge for that purpose. The multiplying effect and the impact on the ground will thus be much higher than what could be achieved by an investment offensive in a single Member State or a Group of Member States.

The EU guarantee provided for the EFSI amounts to EUR 16bn and is fully available from the entry into force of the Regulation. In order to ensure orderly execution of the budget, a guarantee fund is created and provisioned for 50% of total EU guarantee obligations by 2020.

In total, 312 [amendments](#) have been submitted by the ENVI Members and 12 compromise amendments have been negotiated.

Rapporteur: [Dalli](#) (S&D)

[Procedure file](#)

Shadows: [Gieseke](#) (EPP), [Girling](#) (ECR), [Faria](#) (ALDE), [Javor](#) (Greens/EFA), [Evi](#) (EFDD), [Omarjee](#) (GUE/NGL)

Recommendations to the European Commission on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)

Consideration of [draft opinion](#)



Following the conclusion of seven rounds of TTIP Negotiations since the start of the process in July 2013, the EP will give its opinion on the development of the trade talks via issuing a recommendation under Rule 108 of its Rules of Procedure.

In his draft opinion, the Rapporteur stresses that the main focus within the TTIP negotiations would be regulatory coherence whereby regulatory systems

and standards between the 2 parties differ enormously in certain areas owing to different legal and political cultures. To this end, the rapporteur expresses concerns about the implication of TTIP, in terms of lowering of standards, not just for existing but also future European legislation specifically in the areas for the protection of health and the environment, including food safety and consumer information, stressing that the negotiations have already affected current Commission proposals. Thus he calls for the exclusion of certain areas from the negotiations such as chemicals, pesticides, GMOs legislation and measures related to the extraction, transportation or use of fossil fuels, in particular unconventional ones. Finally, he expresses his opposition to the inclusion of ISDS in TTIP and calls for access to the negotiation documents for all members of the Parliament.

314 amendments have been tabled - a range of compromise amendments have been negotiated covering the entirety of the points in the draft opinion as well as majority of the amendments tabled.

Rapporteur: [Staes](#) (Greens/EFA)

[Procedure file](#)

Shadows: [Dörfmann](#) (EPP), [Poc](#) (S&D), [Girling](#) (ECR), [Jääteentmaki](#) (ALDE), [Forenza](#) (GUE), [Affronte](#) (EFDD)

Reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants and amending Directive 2003/35/EC

Consideration of [draft report](#)



The proposal for a revised National Emission Ceilings Directive (NECD) is part of the Clean Air Package announced by the Commission on 18 December

2013. The proposed Directive replaces the current Union regime on the annual capping of national emissions of air pollutants. It ensures that the national emission ceilings for Member States set for 2010 onwards for SO₂, NO_x, NMVOC (non-methane volatile organic compounds) and NH₃ (ammonia) apply until 2020 and establishes new national emission reduction commitments applicable from 2020 and 2030 for SO₂, NO_x, NMVOC, NH₃, fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and methane (CH₄). In addition, intermediate emission levels for the year 2025 are established. Subsequently, these emission levels need to be brought down to the 2030 limits following a linear reduction trajectory.

The Rapporteur overall supports the Commission proposal, underlining the clear benefits to human health and the environment. In her amendments, she in particular, adds binding emission reduction



commitments already for 2025 for all pollutants except for ammonia and seeks to ensure that source legislation is effective, including a speedy inclusion of real driving emissions (RDE) into Euro 6 standards, in order to bring down NOx and particulate matter emissions from road traffic. Moreover, the flexibility allowing offsets from emission reductions from international maritime traffic is removed. Further amendments aim to facilitate access to financial support for air quality measures and to strengthen the means to monitor and ensure timely progress in emission reductions, including transparency in drawing up and updating the national air pollution control programmes.

Rapporteur: [Girling](#) (ECR) [Procedure file](#)
 Shadows: [Gieseke](#) (EPP), [Dance](#) (S&D), [Bearder](#) (ALDE),
[Konečná](#) (GUE/NGL), [Eickhout](#) (Greens/EFA), [Pedicini](#) (EFDD)

Limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants

Consideration of amendments [49-379](#), [380-476](#)

The Commission proposal puts forward provisions to limit emissions of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter from medium combustion plants (with a rated thermal input between 1 and 50 MW). It is designed to reduce pollution significantly by setting limit values for new and existing installations, together with a simple registration scheme, in order to help deliver a significant part of Member States' emission reduction obligations and avoid possible trade-offs between air quality and increased biomass use.



In his draft report, the Rapporteur tables amendments aimed at avoiding double regulation and excessive administrative burden: for instance, to this end, the scope of the proposed Directive and of the existing acquis are clarified, the emission limit values are amended based on the principle of cost efficiency, and a further distinction between categories of plants according to their rated thermal input is introduced.

Members have tabled 427 amendments on all aspects of the Commission proposal, some of which follow the rapporteur's approach. Amendments address the scope of the directive, the emission limit values as well as the provisions on zones not complying with EU air quality limit values. Some amendments aim at clarifying the relation between the proposed Directive and the Industrial Emissions Directive as well as introduce aggregation rules for combination

of medium combustion plants. There are also a number of amendments on the timeline for the application of the proposed Directive.

Rapporteur: [Grzyb](#) (EPP) [Procedure file](#)
 Shadows: [Paolucci](#) (S&D), [Wiśniewska](#) (ECR), [Huitema](#) (ALDE), [Rivas](#) (Greens/EFA), [Pedicini](#) (EFDD), [Torres Martinez](#) (GUE/NGL)

Resource efficiency: moving towards a circular economy

Consideration of [draft report](#)



This draft report relates to the communications on a circular economy and on sustainable buildings, both of which were part of the "circular economy package", presented by the Commission in July 2014.

A circular economy, in contrast to the resource-intensive "take-make-consume and dispose" pattern of growth, retains the resources within the economy. The Commission proposes to establish a common and coherent EU framework to promote the circular economy. Its key focus areas are: Designing and innovating for a circular economy; Unlocking investment in circular economy solutions; Harnessing action by business and consumers and supporting SMEs; Modernising waste policy and targets: waste as a resource; and Setting a resource efficiency target.

In her draft report, the Rapporteur calls for a binding resource efficiency target of 30% and for the development and use of resource efficiency indicators. She urges the Commission to propose a review of the Ecodesign Directive, including a broadening of its scope, and to submit a new proposal on the review of waste legislation by the end of 2015, including ambitious targets. As regards the building sector, she calls for further development of the policy framework on resource-efficient buildings, also with regard to renovation. She also requests the Commission to present a communication on sustainable food and the mobilisation of all EU funding to promote resource efficiency.

Rapporteur: [Pietikäinen](#) (EPP) [Procedure file](#)
 Shadows: [Paolucci](#) (S&D), [Demesmaeker](#) (ECR), [Gerbrandy](#) (ALDE)
[Konečná](#) (GUE), [Turmes](#) (Greens/EFA), [Pedicini](#) (EFDD)



Follow up to the European Citizens' Initiative Right2Water

Consideration of [draft report](#)

On 17 February 2014, the ENVI Committee organised the first public hearing of a successful European Citizens' Initiative, 'Right2Water', which generated widespread public interest across many Member States.



The ECI organisers presented and debated the 3 key goals of the initiative: 1) "Guaranteed water and sanitation for all in the EU", 2) "Global access to water and sanitation for all", and 3) "No liberalisation of water services".

In its communication of 19 March 2014, the Commission committed inter alia to launching a public consultation on the Drinking Water Directive, reinforcing the implementation of existing water quality legislation, improving transparency in the water sector, and advocating for universal access to safe water and sanitation as a priority for future SDGs.

The draft report calls inter alia for the recognition and full implementation of the human right to water and sanitation, a permanent exclusion of water and sanitation from internal market rules and the full integration of universal access to water and sanitation in EU development policies. Additionally, the draft report seeks to enhance public participation and transparency in water service provision, and encourage solidarity measures directed at vulnerable populations. Moreover, the rapporteur welcomes the large mobilisation of citizens in several Member States, and views the ECI as a means of promoting participatory democracy at the EU level.

Rapporteur: [Boylan](#) (GUE) [Procedure file](#)
 Shadows: [Herranz García](#) (EPP), [García Pérez](#) (S&D),
[Dohrmann](#) (ECR), [Faria](#) (ALDE), [Turmes](#) (Greens/EFA),
[Affronte](#) (EFDD)

Cloning of animals for farming purposes

Consideration of [draft report](#)

On 16 April, the ENVI and AGRI committee will jointly consider a draft report on cloning. Cloning is a form of asexual reproduction where animals are generated by using the genetic material from a cell from another animal. The animal clone shares the same DNA as its genetic donor. At present, cloning is not used for farming purposes in the EU, but is used in certain third countries, for instance in order to make use of high-value reproductive material from clones. Scientific studies have demonstrated that

animal cloning is a hazard for animal welfare. The Commission proposal aims to **suspend the use of the cloning technique in the EU** for farm animals, the **placing on the market** of live animal clones and embryo clones and (in an accompanying proposal for a Council Directive) the **marketing of food**, such as meat and milk, from animal clones.

The Co-Rapporteurs propose to also **prohibit the import and the placing on the market of the descendants** of animal clones, and of the reproductive material and of the food coming from animal clones and their descendants. They also propose to **extend the scope** to all species of farmed animals, to delete the "provisional" qualification of the prohibitions while keeping a reporting and review clause, and to turn the proposed Directive into a **Regulation** to increase its effectiveness.

Rapporteurs: [Sommer](#) (EPP), [Moi](#) (EFDD) [Procedure file](#)
 Shadows: [Ayuso](#) (EPP), [Aguilera García](#) (S&D), [Sârbu](#) (S&D),
[Nicholson](#) (ECR), [Wojciechowski](#) (ECR), [Federley](#) (ALDE), [Müller](#) (ALDE),
[Eck](#) (GUE), [Hazekamp](#) (GUE), [Bove](#) (Greens/EFA),
[Staes](#) (Greens/EFA)



NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

European Environment Agency (EEA)



In 2010, the EEA produced its first assessment of global megatrends as part of its five-yearly assessment of the European environment's state, trend and prospects (SOER 2010). In preparation for **SOER 2015**, the EEA **updated each of the megatrends**, providing a more detailed analysis based on the latest data. This publication is one of the 11 updates being published separately. In mid-2015 the chapters will be consolidated into a single EEA technical report. [More](#)

European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)



ECHA organises a Workshop on the **use of REACH/CLP information at industrial sites** (Helsinki, 16-17 April 2015). The workshop aims to initiate a discussion with stakeholders on how information generated through the REACH and CLP processes can be used to promote the safe use of chemicals at industrial sites. [More](#)

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)



Every Thursday, ECDC publishes **Eurosurveillance**, a peer-reviewed scientific online journal devoted to the epidemiology, surveillance, prevention and control of **communicable diseases** with a special focus on Europe. It features short, rapid communications and longer in-depth research articles, surveillance and outbreak reports, reviews and perspective papers as well as short news items. [More](#)

European Medicines Agency (EMA)



On 18 March 2015 EMA marked its **20th anniversary** with a scientific conference entitled **Science, Medicines, Health: Patients at the heart of future innovation**. The Agency has also produced a 20th anniversary book, which captures the important **progress in regulatory science** and changes in medicines regulation in the last 20 years, and describes the Agency's role in addressing these drivers for change. [More](#)

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)



To support its scientific work over the past decade, EFSA has collected and used a large body of information on zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, foodborne outbreaks, pesticide residues, chemical contaminants, food consumption and chemical hazards. EFSA launched on 2 March its **scientific "data warehouse"** aiming at making much of this data accessible to a wide audience through specific web reporting tools. Over the course of 2015, different stakeholders will be granted access. The data warehouse project will develop over the next 3-4 years and will open EFSA's data to be used and re-used for other purposes by other people in Europe. [More](#)

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Contact the ENVI Secretariat: envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu or visit the [website](#) of the ENVI Committee.

Next meeting of the ENVI Committee

6-7 May 2015 (Brussels)

See also the [2015 meeting dates](#) for future meetings.

Further information sources

The EP Policy Departments [publish](#) studies, notes, information notes and workshop proceedings; to contact them, write to Poldep-Economy-Science@europarl.europa.eu. The EP Library regularly prepares briefings summarising information related to topical subjects. Find the latest updates via the links [briefings](#) and [blog](#).

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