

**ITRE**

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

**Meeting of 15-16 July 2015****Parliament's position on the 2016 Draft Budget as modified by the Council - all sections**

Draftsperson: [Anneleen Van Bossuyt](#)  
Exchange of views

The Commission adopted, on 24 June 2015, its consolidated Draft Budget 2016.

The exchange of views in the ITRE Committee aims to assess the present situation of the 2016 Budget procedure, offering the ITRE Members a possibility to express their views on this issue.

**PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

*Deadline for amendments: 18 August 2015, 12.00*

*Vote in ITRE: 3 September 2015*

*Vote in Plenary: 28 October 2015*

**Commission Communication "A Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe"**

Rapporteur: [Kaja Kallas](#)  
Exchange of views

An exchange of views on the Digital Single Market (DSM) strategy adopted by the Commission on 6 May 2015 will take place among the Members. The two co-rapporteurs from ITRE and IMCO, Ms Kallas and Ms Gebhardt respectively, will open the discussion.

The Parliament a strategic report based on the three pillars: (1) better access for consumers and businesses to digital goods and services across Europe; (2) creating the right conditions and a level playing field for digital networks and innovative services to flourish; (3) maximising the growth potential of the digital economy.

**PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

*Consideration of draft report: 12-13 October 2015*

*Deadline for amendments: 15 October 2015, 12.00*

*Consideration of amendments: 30 November 2015*

*Vote in ITRE: 10 December 2015*

*Vote in Plenary: January 2016 (tbc)*

**10% electricity interconnection target**

Rapporteur: [Peter Eriksson](#)  
[Consideration of a draft report](#)

On 15 July the rapporteur will present his draft report on achieving the 10% electricity interconnection target. The debate will provide a first occasion for the rapporteur and the shadow rapporteurs to present their main priority actions on electricity interconnection. The draft report recognises the 10% target, to be achieved by 2020, as a valuable target and a step in the right direction, while acknowledging that this describes neither the quantity nor the quality of electricity flowing between countries, such as the availability of the existing interconnection infrastructure or of the existing national infrastructure between the interconnectors. According to the rapporteur a holistic approach should be adopted when assessing the need for reinforcement/extension, taking into account both cross-border and national connections, in particular the real use of the existing interconnection lines and the availability of existing national infrastructure.

The rapporteur stresses that the lengthy procedure for granting permits is a major challenge for new high-voltage lines in Europe and recognises that public awareness and support is essential to ensure fast implementation of interconnector projects. He calls on project promoters to use Best Available Technologies for new interconnectors in order to reduce conflicts between project investments in the grids and environmental impact. The rapporteur presents priority actions for the Baltic region, the North Seas, South-Eastern Europe and the Iberian Peninsula. As regards the period beyond 2030 he questions a 15% target based on installed capacity, and asks the Commission to assess the setting of regional, complementary targets and to find better qualitative and quantitative benchmarks, such as peak flows and bottlenecks that highlights how much interconnection is needed.

**PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

*Deadline amendments: 23 July, 12.00*

*Vote in ITRE: 13 Oct 2015*

*Vote in Plenary: Nov 2015 (tbc)*

**A WORD FROM THE CHAIR**

This will be ITRE's last committee meeting before a well-deserved summer break. The first half of 2015 has been very intense for our Committee in terms of legislative work, with several important dossiers being concluded, and our July meeting will follow suit.

At the start of the Luxembourgish Presidency of the European Council, ITRE will be welcoming Mr. Xavier Bettel (Prime Minister and Minister for Communications and Media), Mr. Etienne Schneider (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Economy) and Mr. Marc Hansen (Secretary of State responsible for Research) for exchanges of views on the objectives of the incoming Presidency in their respective areas of competence.

The Committee will also hold an exchange of views with Mr. Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation to discuss the state of play and future developments in the EU's R&I policy. Mr. Arias Canete, Commissioner for Energy and Climate Action, will also be attending our Committee meeting to present the Energy Union Summer Package, which is due to be adopted by the Commission shortly.

The July meeting will also see the start of our work on a very important dossier: namely the report on Commission Communication on "A Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe". ITRE Members will also be considering the amendments tabled to the own-initiative report on the European Energy Union and the draft report on the "10% Electricity Interconnection Target". Finally, as part of its involvement in the Budgetary procedure, the Committee, will hold an exchange of views on the 2016 Budget as modified by the Council.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the Committee work, including Members, staff and stake-holders, for their hard work and dedication throughout the first half of this year. I wish you all a relaxing summer break and I look forward to recommencing our work in September.

## Towards a European Energy Union

Rapporteur: [Marek Józef Gróbarczyk](#)  
[Consideration of amendments](#)

The Committee will hold an exchange of views on the amendments tabled to the draft own initiative report entitled "Towards a European Energy Union". Members tabled 1162 amendments, which relate to all aspects covered by the Energy Union framework strategy.

Numerous amendments emphasise the importance of renewable energy and energy efficiency as means of increasing energy security, while contributing to the decarbonisation of the economy. Furthermore, a number of amendments concern security of supply aspects such as the possibility of establishing a common purchasing mechanism regarding gas contracts, the diversification of sources and supply routes and the realisation of related infrastructure projects. Several amendments call for a more decentralised European Energy system and a better involvement of consumers.

Finally, contentious issues referred to in the draft report, including technology neutrality and the exploitation indigenous energy sources, were the subject of several amendments. Four Committees (ENVI, TRAN, INTA and AFET) will deliver opinions before the report is expected to be adopted by the ITRE Committee in October.

### PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

*Vote in ITRE: 13 October 2015*  
*Vote in Plenary: November 2015*

## State of play of European Research Policy, Exchange of views with Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation

On 16 July the ITRE Committee will welcome Commissioner Carlos Moedas, responsible for Research, Science and innovation, to discuss the state of play and future developments in the research and innovation policy of the Union. The presentation of the Commissioner Moedas will mainly focus on three issues: stock-taking of first results of the Horizon 2020 programme, priorities for the future, as well as presentation of a set of measures to strengthen independent scientific advice in the European Commission.

## Presentations by the Luxembourg Presidency-in-office

The ITRE Committee will welcome three representatives of the Luxembourg Presidency of the Council - Mr Xavier Bettel (Prime Minister, Minister for Communications and Media), Mr Etienne Schneider (Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Economy) and Mr Marc Hansen (Secretary of State responsible for research) - for an exchange of views on the Presidency priorities that fall within the remit of the ITRE Committee.

The Luxembourg Presidency has already declared that one of its main priorities will be to put the citizen at the heart of the European project. The Luxembourg Presidency will highlight the EU's achievements in securing freedom and peace, providing perspectives for a better futures as well as taking particular care of citizens' interests in all policies of the Union. In the ITRE policy areas, the Presidency will seek to implement a roadmap for industrial competitiveness, as well as to focus on SMEs and research and innovation in Europe. Moreover, the Luxembourg Presidency has also declared its strong commitment to achieve concrete results in pending negotiations on the ISA2 programme.

## Energy Union 'Summer package', Presentation by Commissioner Arias Cañete

The ITRE Committee will welcome Commissioner Arias Cañete, responsible for Energy and Climate Action. Commissioner Arias Cañete will present the Commission's Energy Union Summer Package, due to be adopted on 15 July, with a particular emphasis on the Design for the European Electricity Market and on Delivering a New Deal for Energy Consumers in Europe.

## European single market for electronic communications

Rapporteur: [Pilar Del Castillo Vera](#)  
Vote on political agreement

The European Parliament negotiation team together with the Latvian Presidency and the Commission held the final trilogue on the TSM package on 29 June 2015.

The ITRE Committee will vote on the political agreement reached during this trilogue.

## NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

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

ACER recommends the adoption of the Network Code on Emergency and Restoration  
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### The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

BEREC Chair at ETNO-MLex conference : action is needed to avoid a new digital divide  
[More](#)

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

ENISA participates at IMCO Committee Meeting [More](#)

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

ESNC 2015 Competition Deadline Extended to July 6! [More](#)

## NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT A

### Recent publications:

- In in-depth analysis [The Increasing Role of the EU's Culture, Education and Science Diplomacy in Asia](#)
- Study on [Cross Competition among Information \(Digital\) Platforms](#)
- Study on [EU Industrial policy: assessment of recent developments and recommendations for future policies](#)

### Upcoming publications:

- Study on "Open innovation in industry, including 3D printing"

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## **COMING SOON**

### **Upcoming opinions votes**

- 2016 Draft Budget - all sections - *03/09*
- Towards a new international climate agreement in Paris - *03/09*

### **Amendments deadlines:**

- 10% electricity interconnection target - *23/07*
- 2016 Draft Budget - all sections - *18/08*
- Capital Markets Union - *17/09*

### **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](#).

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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:**

3 September 2015 in Brussels

21-22 September 2015 in Brussels