MINUTES

Meeting of 28 October 2020, 9.00 – 11.00 and 16.45 – 18.00

BRUSSELS

Participation of AFCO Members only via the remote interaction meeting tool

The meeting opened at 9.03 on Wednesday, 28 October 2020, with Antonio Tajani (Chair) presiding.

For legal reasons (right to privacy) the Chair informed the participants that the meeting would be filmed and streamed live on the Internet.

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Chair’s announcements

The Chair made the following announcements:

• Concerning interpretation:
  • in the morning slot (9:00 to 11:00) interpretation is available in 11 languages: FR DE IT NL EN ES PT FI HU PL RO;
  • in the afternoon slot (16.45 – 18.00), due to a lack of interpreters caused by the restrictions of movement imposed by some Member States to fight the pandemic of Covid 19, interpretation is available only in 6 languages: FR DE IT NL EN ES.
• Social distance measures are in force and the use of masks is mandatory during this meeting.

• The Chair reminded Members about the joint JURI/LIBE/AFCO/PETI hearing on ‘Union Citizenship’: Empowerment, Inclusion, Participation”, which takes place on Thursday 29 October from 13.45 to 15.45 and from 16.45 – 18.45 with the participation of Commissioner for Justice Didier Reynders.

• The Chair informed about the vote in BUDG on the report on the EU budget 2021, which took place on 14 October and which resulted in adoption of 2 Pilot Projects tabled by the AFCO Committee as well as parts of other AFCO budgetary amendments, including the reference to the financing of the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFE) by the budget lines for Executive and corporate communication services and Communication services for citizens in the Section III of the EU budget. The budgetary amendments adopted in BUDG will be put to vote during the November I part-session. The budgetary amendments rejected can still be re-tabled to the plenary by Wednesday 4 November at noon under request of a committee, a political group or Members reaching the low threshold (that is 36 Members).

The Chair informed Members about the **recommendations made by the Coordinators** by written procedure:

• **Working Documents in view of the CoFE**

  Coordinators decided to draft seven working documents (WD) in the context of the preparation for the Conference on the Future of Europe:

  – WD 1. Democratization of the European Union: improving the accountability, transparency, capacity and responsiveness of the Union’s institutions (*allocated to the EPP*)

  – WD 2. Institutional reforms in the face of the COVID-19 crisis and other potential future crises: A health Union and new emerging social needs, crisis preparedness (*allocated to the Greens/EFA in cooperation with the GUE/NGL*)

  – WD 3. Encouraging the dialogue between the European Parliament and the national and regional parliaments for strengthening democracy through the Conference on the Future of Europe (*allocated to the EPP*)

  – WD 4. The principles of subsidiarity and proportionality (*allocated to the ECR*)

  – WD 5. The community method and intergovernmentalism (*allocated to the S&dD*)

  – WD 6. Overcoming the deadlock of unanimity voting (*allocated to the Renew*)

  – WD 7. Citizens' and civil society’s participation in the Conference on the Future of Europe (*allocated to the GUE/NGL in cooperation with the Greens/EFA*)
• **Opinions**

Coordinators decided not to draft opinions to the following reports:

- to the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the *Implementation of the Common Foreign and Security Policy - annual report 2020 (2020/2206(INI))*

- to the Committee on Foreign Affairs/Subcommittee on Security and Defence on the *Implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy - annual report 2020 (2020/2207(INI))*

In the absence of any objection, these recommendations were deemed adopted by the Committee.

* * *

**1st voting session**

*** Remote voting procedure ***

**Opening of the remote voting procedure on amendments at 9.15**

3. **Stocktaking of European elections**

   AFCO/9/02982  
   2020/2088(INI)

   Rapporteur **Pascal Durand** (Renew)  
   PR – PE653.777v01-00  
   AM – PE655.711v01-00

4. **Monitoring the application of European Union law 2017, 2018 and 2019**

   AFCO/9/01637  
   2019/2132(INI) – COM(2019)0319

   Rapporteur for the opinion: **Pedro Silva Pereira** (S&D)  
   PA – PE658.830v01-00  
   AM – PE658.930v01-00

   Responsible: **JURI** Sabrina Pignedoli (NI)  
   PR – PE657.320v01-00

*** End of the remote voting procedure at 10:45 ***

* * *

(in parallel with the remote voting procedure for amendments)
5. Citizens’ dialogues and Citizens’ participation in the EU decision-making

AFCO/9/04289
2020/2201(INI)

Rapporteur Helmut Scholz (GUE/NGL)

Opinions:

CULT Irena Joveva (Renew)
LIBE Loránt Vincze (PPE)
PETI*

The Committee held a first exchange of views in view of the preparation of a draft report.

In addition to the Chair, Antonio Tajani, and the rapporteur, Helmut Scholz, the following Members took the floor: László Trócsányi, Victor Negrescu, Niklas Nienaß, Domènec Ruiz Devesa, Loránt Vincze, Gabriele Bischoff (1st Vice-Chair).

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 and resumed at 16:47 with Antonio Tajani (Chair) presiding.

6. Resumption of the meeting and announcement by the Chair of the votes’ results on amendments

The Chair announced the provisional results of the votes on amendments:

- **Stocktaking of European elections** (2020/2088(INI)):
  
  All compromise amendments 1-27 were adopted, as well as amendments 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 18, 19, 20, 21, 33, 35, 41, 47, 48, 51, 52, 54, 56, 65, 85, 100, 103, 113, 114, 115, 116, 118, 126, 143, 146, 151, 152, 216, 254, 256, 257 and 258.
  
  All other amendments fell or were rejected.

- **Monitoring the application of European Union law 2017, 2018 and 2019** (2019/2132(INI)):
  
  All compromise amendments 1 to 8 were adopted, as well as amendments 1 C, 5, 14 Part 1, 28 B.
  
  All other amendments fell or were rejected.

* * *

2nd voting session

*** Remote voting procedure ***

Opening of the remote voting procedure for the final vote on report and opinions as amended from 16:52 to 18:00
7. Stocktaking of European elections

AFCO/9/02982
2020/2088(INI)

Rapporteur Pascal Durand (Renew) PR – PE653.777v01-00
AM – PE655.711v01-00

The draft report was adopted with 22 votes in favour, 5 against and 1 abstention.

8. Monitoring the application of European Union law 2017, 2018 and 2019

AFCO/9/01637
2019/2132(INI) – COM(2019)0319

Rapporteur for the opinion: Pedro Silva Pereira (S&D) PA – PE658.830v01-00
AM – PE658.930v01-00

Responsible: JURI Sabrina Pignedoli (NI) PR – PE657.320v01-00

The draft opinion was adopted with 22 votes in favour, 5 against and 1 abstention.

* * *

(in parallel with the remote voting procedure for the final votes)

9. Assessment of the implementation of Article 50 TEU

AFCO/9/03630
2020/2136(INI)

Rapporteur Danuta Maria Hübner (PPE)

Opinions: AFET Kati Piri (S&D)
INTA Christophe Hansen (PPE)
EMPL Decision: no opinion

The Committee held its first exchange of views as a way to start the process on the draft implementation report.

In addition to the Chair, Antonio Tajani, and the rapporteur, Danuta Maria Hübner, the following Members took the floor: Charles Goerens (2nd Vice-Chair), Pedro Silva Pereira, Antonio Rinaldi, Niklas Niennaß, Geert Bourgeois, Domèneq Ruiz Devesa.

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10. Other business

None.

11. Date and place of next meeting

19 November 2020, 13.45 – 15.45 and 16.45 – 18.45 (Brussels)

The meeting closed at 17.41.
Results of roll-call votes

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Key to symbols:
+ : in favour
- : against
0 : abstention
AFCO/9/02982. Stocktaking of European elections (2020/2088(INI)), rapporteur: Pascal Durand

1. Final vote by roll call

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2. Final vote by roll call in committee for opinion

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The invitation of the President/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair/Sur l’invitation du président/Na invităţia președintelui/Na pozvání predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puhemiesjohdajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan