Meeting of 9 December 2021, 9.00 – 12.00

BRUSSELS

Remote participation open to AFCO Members via the Interactio meeting tool

The meeting opened at 9.01 on Thursday, 9 December 2021, 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 with the following change concerning Point 7 of the draft agenda: the Chair informed that Guy Verhofstadt would not be able to take part in the meeting but, as the political groups had already indicated their speakers, this item in the agenda would be maintained and Members' speeches would subsequently be brought to the attention of Guy Verhofstadt.

2. Chair's announcements

The Chair paid tribute to the former Member of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and its EPP coordinator György Schöpflin (EPP/HU), who passed away on 19 November 2021.

The following announcement was made by the Chair and endorsed by the committee:

• due to unavailability of the experts, the hearing on “European Public Sphere: the role of
European political parties and the challenges of social platforms” planned for 9 December 2021 had to be postponed to 26 January 2022.

The Chair also made the following general announcements:

- **Interpretation** for this meeting is available in the following languages: DE, EN, FR, IT, NL, ES, PT, FI, HU, PL and RO

- As provided for in the decision of the President of the European Parliament of 25 November 2021, **social distance measures** remain in force in all Parliament, notably in what concerns the capacity of meeting rooms, which have been reduced by half, and **wearing community masks continues to be compulsory on all EP premises**, including during meetings and even while taking the floor, except for the person chairing the meeting.

3. Approval of minutes of meeting of 25 May 2021

The Minutes were approved.

*** Opening of the Remote Voting Procedure ***

After the explanation of the voting system and the verification of the quorum, the Chair opened at 9.08 (Brussels time) the FIRST remote voting session for the vote on **AMENDMENTS via the EPvote system in relation to the following files (this vote closed at 11.16):**

4. Assessment of the implementation of Article 50 TEU

AFCO/9/03630 2020/2136(INI)

Rapporteur: **Danuta Maria Hübner** (PPE) PR – PE692.762v01-00

AM – PE695.028v01-00

Opinions: AFET Andreas Schieder (S&D) AD – PE689.561v03-00

AM – PE691.083v01-00

INTA Christophe Hansen (PPE) AL – PE691.134v02-00

EMPL Decision: no opinion

The Chair announced that the voting list was circulated on 7 December 2021.

The Chair also announced that 199 amendments had been tabled within the deadline and that the Rapporteur **Danuta Maria Hübner**, in cooperation with the shadow-rapporteurs, had drafted 24 compromise amendments.
● Adoption of amendments to draft report
(this vote took place during the first remote voting session)

All compromise amendments (CA A, B, Ba, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W), as well as AMs 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 25, 30, 31, 32, 39, 40, 42, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 58, 62, 65, 66, 72, 79, 82, 83, 84, 96, 97, 98, 99, 104, 138, 140, 144, 146, 149, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 161, 175, 176, and INTA A, INTA 3, AFET C, AFET 5, AFET 6 were adopted.

All other amendments were rejected or fell.

● Adoption of draft report (final vote)
(this vote took place during the second remote voting session)

The draft report was adopted with 22 votes in favour, 2 against and 3 abstentions.

5. 2020 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Council and Council

AFCO/9/06650

Rapporteur for the opinion: Antonio Tajani (PPE) PA – PE699.205v01-00
AM – PE700.546v01-00

Responsible: CONT Isabel García Muñoz (S&D)

The Chair informed that the voting list was circulated on 6 December 2021.

The Chair also informed that 29 amendments had been tabled within the deadline and that he, as rapporteur for the opinion, had drafted, in cooperation with the shadow-rapporteurs, 5 compromise amendments.

● Adoption of amendments to draft opinion
(this vote took place during the first remote voting session)

All compromise amendments 1-5 as well as amendments 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 14, 20, 26, 27, 29 were adopted.

All other amendments were rejected or fell.

● Adoption of draft opinion (final vote)
(this vote took place during the second remote voting session)

The draft opinion was adopted with 22 votes in favour, 2 against and 3 abstentions.

After the opening of the first remote voting session, the Chair reminded Members that the SECOND remote voting session for the FINAL VOTES on the two files was scheduled for the same day from 15:00 to 16:00 (Brussels time) and that an e-mail from the Secretariat on behalf of the Chair would be sent to Members entitled to vote with the relevant link to the
EPvote system.

The SECOND remote voting session via the EPvote system opened on 9 December 2022 at 15.00 and ended at 16.01.

The results of the vote on AMENDMENTS as well as of the FINAL VOTES were communicated in writing by the secretariat to the AFCO Members and published on the AFCO website.

* * *

In accordance with the revised Guidelines issued on 6 July 2021 by the Conference of Committee Chairs of the European Parliament on the remote voting procedure in committees and introducing systematic roll-call votes (“all votes will be taken by roll-call, with the exception of votes which according to the Rules of Procedure have to be taken by secret ballot”), the results of the roll-call votes on all amendments as well as on the final votes can be found at the following links:

Roll-call vote on amendments:
https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/243420/2.%202021-12-09_To%20MEPs_ROLL-CALL%20VOTE%20on%20AMs.pdf

Roll-call vote on final votes:
https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/243423/1.%202021-12-09_To%20MEPs_Results%20FINAL%20VOTE_RCV.pdf

General page:

*** End of the Remote Voting Procedure ***

* * *

Gabriele Bischoff (1st Vice-Chair) took the chair at 9.11.

(in parallel with the first session of the remote voting procedure)

6. Exchange of views with Věra Jourová, Vice-President of the European Commission for Values and Transparency

AFCO/9/03386

• Exchange of views in the context of the structured dialogue between the European Parliament and the European Commission

The Committee held an exchange of views with Věra Jourová, Vice-President of the European Commission for Values and Transparency.

In her intervention, Vice-President Věra Jourová focused mainly on the presentation of the Package on Transparency and Democracy recently adopted by the Commission, containing
measures aimed at strengthening democracy and protecting the integrity of elections.

In addition to the acting Chair, Gabriele Bischoff (1st Vice-Chair), and the Vice-President of the European Commission, Věra Jourová, the following Members took the floor: Rainer Wieland, Domènec Ruiz Devesa, Pascal Durand, Damian Boeselager, Helmut Scholz, Sandro Gozi and Daniel Freund.


AFCO/9/01332

- Exchange of views

Despite the absence of Guy Verhofstadt, co-chair of the Executive Board of the Conference on the Future of Europe, the Committee had an exchange of views on the Conference and the role of the European Parliament. The debate took place after the meeting of the Parliament’s delegation to the Conference plenary held on 8 December 2021.

In addition to the acting Chair, Gabriele Bischoff (1st Vice-Chair), the following Members took the floor: Danuta Maria Hübner, Domènec Ruiz Devesa, Pascal Durand, Daniel Freund and Helmut Scholz.

8. Parliament’s right of initiative

AFCO/9/03616

Rapporteur Paulo Rangel (PPE) PR – PE680.845v03-00

AM – PE696.525v01-00

Opinions: JURI* Pascal Durand (Renew) AD – PE657.481v02-00

AM – PE662.145v02-00

LIBE Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield (Verts/ALE) AD – PE680.906v02-00

AM – PE689.823v01-00

- Consideration of amendments

The acting Chair, Gabriele Bischoff (1st Vice-Chair), informed that, within the deadline for amendments, set for 10 September 2021, 113 amendments were tabled to the draft report and that the rapporteur had proposed 19 compromise amendments dealt with, so far, only at technical level.

The acting Chair also pointed out that the Committee on Legal Affairs (JURI) under the associated committee procedure, and the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) have provided AFCO with their opinions on the topic.

The rapporteur informed that further technical and shadows’ meetings would be organised in the coming weeks.
In addition to the acting Chair, Gabriele Bischoff (1st Vice-Chair), and the rapporteur Paulo Rangel, the following Members took the floor: Nathalie Colin-Oesterlé, Domènec Ruiz Devesa, Sandro Gozi, Brando Benifei.

The acting Chair, Gabriele Bischoff (1st Vice-Chair), gave also the floor to the representative of the European Commission, Ms Dorthe Christensen, Head of Unit of the Institutional Affairs’ Unit of the Secretariat-General.

9. Other business

None.

10. Date and place of next meeting

26 January 2022, 9.00 – 12.00 and 16.45 – 18.45 (Brussels)

The meeting closed at 11.42.
Results of roll-call votes

Contents

AFCO/9/03630, Assessment of the implementation of Article 50 TEU (2020/2136(INI)), rapporteur: Danuta Maria Hübner..................................................................................................................8
Final vote by roll call ..................................................................................................................8
Final vote by roll call in committee for opinion ..................................................................................8

Key to symbols:
+ : in favour
- : against
0 : abstention

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

* * *

In accordance with the revised Guidelines issued on 6 July 2021 by the Conference of Committee Chairs of the European Parliament on the remote voting procedure in committees and introducing systematic roll-call votes (“all votes will be taken by roll-call, with the exception of votes which according to the Rules of Procedure have to be taken by secret ballot”), the results of the roll-call votes on all amendments as well as on the final votes can be found at the following links:

Roll-call vote on amendments:
https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/243420/2.%202021-12-09%20To%20MEPs%20ROLL-CALL%20VOTE%20on%20AMS.pdf

Roll-call vote on final votes:
https://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/243423/1.%202021-12-09%20To%20MEPs%20Results%20FINAL%20VOTE%20RCV.pdf

General page:
AFCO/9/03630, Assessment of the implementation of Article 50 TEU (2020/2136(INI)), rapporteur: Danuta Maria Hübner

Final vote by roll call

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NI</td>
<td>Fabio Massimo Castaldo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE</td>
<td>Brice Hortefeux, Danuta Maria Hübner, Paulo Rangel, Sven Simon, Antonio Tajani, Loránt Vincze, Rainer Wieland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renew</td>
<td>Pascal Durand, Charles Goerens, Sandro Gozi, Guy Verhofstadt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;D</td>
<td>Gabriele Bischoff, Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz, Victor Negrescu, Giuliano Pisapia, Doménech Ruiz Devesa, Pedro Silva Pereira</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Left</td>
<td>Helmut Scholz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verts/ALE</td>
<td>François Alfonsi, Damian Boeselager, Daniel Freund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>Gerolf Annemans, Laura Huhtasaari</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECR</td>
<td>Geert Bourgeois, Jacek Saryusz-Wolski</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>Antonio Maria Rinaldi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Final vote by roll call in committee for opinion

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NI</td>
<td>Fabio Massimo Castaldo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE</td>
<td>Brice Hortefeux, Danuta Maria Hübner, Paulo Rangel, Sven Simon, Antonio Tajani, Loránt Vincze, Rainer Wieland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renew</td>
<td>Pascal Durand, Charles Goerens, Sandro Gozi, Guy Verhofstadt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;D</td>
<td>Gabriele Bischoff, Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz, Victor Negrescu, Giuliano Pisapia, Doménech Ruiz Devesa, Pedro Silva Pereira</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Helmut Scholz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verts/ALE</td>
<td>François Alfonsi, Damian Boeselager, Daniel Freund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2</th>
<th>-</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECR</td>
<td>Geert Bourgeois, Jacek Saryusz-Wolski</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>Gerolf Annemans, Laura Huhtasaari, Antonio Maria Rinaldi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(1*) present in the room; (2*) remote participation via the Interactio tool; (3*) participation by voting

209 (7)

216 (3)

56 (8) (Точка от дня/Пunto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání/OJ/Punkt på dagordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Σημείωση της ημερήσιας διάταξης/Agenda item/Point OJ/Točka dnevnog reda/Punto all’ordine del giorno/Đarba kārštas punkts/Napirendi pont/Punkt/Agendapunkt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordină de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan)

Наабоагеасу/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatores/Beobachter/Vaatejärjestely/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/Observatori/Nověřütón/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Observaturi/Waarnemers/Observatory/Observeadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer
Věra Jourová, Vice President of the European Commission for Values and Transparency (by remote participation)

Dorthe Christensen (Head of Unit of the Institutional Affairs’ Unit of the Secretariat General), Thomas Fich

PPE
Francesco Cerasani, Stephanie Gradstein

S&D
Renew
Lucrezia De Paulis

ID
Sjetse Wijnsma, Sam Odo Callebaut

Verts/ALE
Helena Argerich i Terradas, Till-Niklas Braun

ECR
Ralf Packet

The Left

NI
Dovile Rucyte