DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Transport and Tourism

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on ensuring European leadership in the digital age and an EU approach to artificial intelligence (2020/0000(INI))

Rapporteur for opinion: Kosma Złotowski
SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Transport and Tourism calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

A. whereas the industrial, research and educational potential of the Member States should play a key role in ensuring that the EU is at the forefront of the digital revolution in the transport sector;

1. Stresses the need to ensure stable and adequate funding for European research programmes on artificial intelligence (AI) and the process of building infrastructure for intelligent transportation systems (ITS), including the 5G network; underlines that the funds earmarked for this goal in the MFF for the years 2021-2027 are insufficient;

2. Stresses that transport is the sector in which the race for new technologies is most advanced and that European companies have sufficient potential to play a leading role in this competition, especially as regards the development of autonomous mobility;

3. Stresses the enormous potential of systems that use AI in the transport sector, particularly in terms of safety and the achievement of the objectives set out in Vision Zero;

4. Notes that the achievement of the objectives set by the Commission depends on broad access to the large amount of industrial and public data generated by the transport sector and the provision of infrastructure for its safe collection and processing;

5. Underlines that the EU should position itself as a global leader in the development of ethical and legal norms and standards for the use of the AI in the transport sector, as well as for the collection and use of large data sets generated by vehicles and their users;

6. Notes the vast potential of SMEs operating in the transport and tourism sector, which should receive sufficient financial and organisational support to allow them to contribute to European potential in the area of new technologies.