



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 9 October 2013**

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**PE 448  
ENER 458  
ENV 915  
IND 275  
MI 853  
RECH 450  
COMPET 713  
BUDGET 54  
TRANS 521  
TELECOM 257  
CADREFIN 256  
POLGEN 189  
REGIO 223  
ESPACE 76**

**NOTE**

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from: General Secretariat of the Council  
to: Delegations  
Subject: Summary record of the extraordinary meeting of the **Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)**, held in Strasbourg on 7 October 2013

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The meeting was chaired by Ms Sartori (EPP, IT) (chair).

\*\*\* *Electronic vote* \*\*\*

**1. Connecting Europe Facility**

CJ05/7/09041, 2011/0302(COD), COM(2011)0665  
Rapporteurs: Adina-Ioana Vălean (ADLE, RO), Inés Ayala Sender (S&D, ES),  
Dominique Riquet (EPP, FR)

The compromise text as agreed by the Council was adopted (50 for, 5 against, 0 abstentions).

2. **The European Defence Technological and Industrial Base**  
ITRE/7/13067, 2013/2125(INI), COM(2013)0542  
Rapporteur for the opinion: Jean-Pierre Audy (EPP, FR)  
Responsible: AFET

The draft opinion was adopted as amended (37 for, 9 against, 0 abstentions).

3. **Amendment of Regulation (EC) No 723/2009 concerning the Community legal framework for a European Research Infrastructures Consortium (ERIC)**  
ITRE/7/11424, 2012/0321(NLE), COM(2012)0682  
Rapporteur: Amalia Sartori (EPP, IT)

The draft report was adopted unanimously.

4. **EU Space Industrial Policy, releasing the Potential for Growth in the Space Sector**  
ITRE/7/12756, 2013/2092(INI), COM(2013)0108  
Rapporteur: Angelika Niebler (EPP, DE)  
Opinions: AFET, INTA, IMCO

The draft report was adopted as amended (38 for, 5 against, 0 abstentions).

\*\*\* *End of electronic vote* \*\*\*

5. **Visit of Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, on the 'Innovation Investment Package, comprising Article 187 and Article 185 proposals'**

The Commissioner presented the proposal for five public-private partnerships and four public-public partnerships, which was adopted in July as the “Innovation Investment Package”, with a proposed budget of some EUR 22 billion, of which around EUR 8 billion from Horizon 2020 would leverage EUR 10 billion from industry and EUR 4 billion from Member States.

The public-private partnerships (under Article 187 TFEU) would be in the form of Joint Technology Initiatives (JTIs) in the field of pharmaceuticals, new energy technologies, aeronautics, the bio-based economy, and electronics. Ms Geoghegan-Quinn underlined that there were several changes in this new generation of JTIs — each JTI had clear and measurable objectives set out in the legal basis, there was a higher level of commitment from industry, as well as improved governance of the JTIs to ensure that they were open to new participants, with the majority of funding allocated through fully open, competitive calls, and simplification. The budget amounted to

11% of the overall Horizon 2020 budget and would be used primarily for collaborative projects. She briefly described each JTI (Innovative Medicines Initiative 2, Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Technologies, Clean Sky 2, ECSEL and a brand new JTI on Bio-based Industries).

The public-public partnerships (under Article 185 TFEU) were joint programmes with the Member States in the areas of clinical trials, SMEs, metrology, and active and assisted living, and were building on initiatives launched under FP6 and FP7 (framework programmes). They were challenge-based, with an overall budget of EUR 3.5 billion, which would be combined with funding from the Member States and associated countries. She also gave a brief overview of each of them (European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership 2, Eurostars 2, European Programme for Metrology Research and Innovation (EMPIR) and Active and Assisted Living Programme). She was confident that with combined efforts, all legislative acts would be adopted in time so that the new partnerships could be up and running in early 2014.

In reply to Members' questions, the Commissioner acknowledged that these instruments had been significantly discussed in the framework of Horizon 2020 discussions. She saw it as important to recognise that much was being done to ensure transparency and openness, making them more effective. Moreover, their implementation was based on a new set of rules. She agreed that it was of crucial importance that public money was leveraging private investment.

She was encouraged that industry had stepped up investment. She said that the Commission was clear about not hesitating to refuse to be involved where industry did not show commitment. As to whether JTIs were the best instrument for bringing together public and private money, she again highlighted the willingness of industry to cooperate for the benefit of its competitiveness. JTIs were seen as bringing industry together and showing the commitment of EU institutions to competitiveness and growth. In this context, she highlighted the simplification of rules and widening of participation. She was very much in favour of the development of key performance indicators for each JTI to improve transparency and would discuss this in the framework of the package. She agreed with Members that FP7 was very strict and acknowledged the need for a flexible programme (Horizon 2020) capable of responding to crises and challenges that might arise and of providing scope for new ideas. She also agreed with Members about the need to ensure that various instruments (e.g. Eurostars and SME instrument) did not create confusion. As to delegated acts, she recalled that the co-legislators agreed that derogations from Horizon 2020 rules for participation for JTIs should be restricted to specific areas

and adopted by way of delegated acts. She gave a brief overview of the state of play for several JTIs and announced that the Presidency would provide the timetable of adoption of delegated acts by the end of the year.

With regard to voting rights, she explained that the Commission had harmonised voting rules in all JTIs at the level of 50%. Concerning the agreement concluded between the Commission and the Gates Foundation, she clarified that the latter was already involved in EDCTP. The agreement that had been signed concerned the continuation and the Gates Foundation's future (deeper) involvement. She assured Members that the Commission was deciding on governance and objectives and the Gates Foundation was free to participate. Regarding the target of 3% GDP to be spent on research and innovation, the Commissioner underlined that since the target had been introduced, Member States were keeping investing in research and innovation, even during the crisis. To measure the results of investment, the Commission had developed a robust indicator, which would be presented to the Council later this month.

#### **Next meeting**

- 14 October 2013, 15.00 – 18.30 (Brussels)

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