



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 16 October 2013**

**14966/13**

**PE 467  
ENER 468  
ENV 931  
IND 281  
MI 891  
COMPET 730  
BUDGET 59  
TRANS 532  
TELECOM 266  
CADREFIN 260  
ESPACE 78**

**NOTE**

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from: General Secretariat of the Council  
to: Delegations

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Subject: Summary record of the meeting of the **Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)**, held in Brussels on 14 October 2013

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

**1. High common level of network and information security across the Union**

ITRE/7/11960, 2013/0027(COD), COM(2013)0048  
Rapporteur for the opinion: Pilar del Castillo Vera (EPP, ES)  
Responsible: IMCO  
*first exchange of views*

The rapporteur highlighted the importance of the proposal, as network security needed an attentive approach and required cooperation to guarantee security. As only a little time was available for this proposal, she would focus in particular on efficiency, the responsibilities of public authorities, the response to emergencies in the context of cyber-security governance and increase of trust. She would also table amendments on the number of delegated acts.

During the discussion, Members raised the issues of the scope, clarification of responsibilities and report obligations, cooperation of public sectors, coordination of standards and a need for comparative rules, early warning and exchange of information, treatment of confidential information, the list of providers, and trust and defence elements of the proposal.

The Commission representative stressed that trust was the paramount element in the proposal. Concerning the scope, the aim was to try as efficiently as possible to rely on existing structures in the Member States, while assuring a minimum common level of network and information security. He considered that the directive should be beyond critical infrastructure and should cover all key internet companies that had a key role in establishing the digital single market and whose services were crucial for its functioning. Another objective was to create a level playing field for companies.

The rapporteur reiterated that everybody had to have the option of participating. Consequently, elements that might prevent participation needed consideration.

Timetable: deadline for amendments: 7 November 2013  
vote in ITRE: 16 December 2013

## **2. How can the European Union contribute to creating a hospitable environment for enterprises, businesses and start-ups to create jobs?**

ITRE/7/13718, 2013/2176(INI)

Rapporteur for the opinion: Josefa Andrés Barea (S&D, ES)

Responsible: EMPL

*Consideration of a draft opinion*

The rapporteur stressed the need for greater integration of EU policies in favour of SMEs, as well as their access to finance and to international markets. She also saw a need for stressing the entrepreneurship culture and education and for coordinating new and consolidated companies.

Members broadly welcomed the proposal. They agreed that access to finance was essential and regretted that the budget for COSME was limited. In this context, they mentioned the unlocking of private funding. They also raised the issues of the administrative burden, in the context also of cross-border services, access to knowledge and patents and corporate social responsibility.

In the context of industrial policy, the Commission representative said that that the aim was to set framework conditions to allow SMEs to be competitive (including their access to finance). The Commission was in the implementing phase, but he stressed that a lot of work had to be done also by Member States and regions. He also recalled that the February European Council would be dedicated to industrial policy. Concerning red tape, he mentioned "better regulation" and noted that this year the Commission had started to carry out "fitness checks", in particular in the petroleum refinery and aluminium sector, to address the issue.

Timetable:            deadline for amendments:    5 November 2013  
                              vote in ITRE:                         27 November 2013

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

### **3. Electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market**

ITRE/7/09803, 2012/0146(COD), COM(2012)0238  
Rapporteur: Marita Ulvskog (S&D, SE)  
Opinions: ECON, IMCO, JURI, LIBE

The draft report was adopted as amended (37 for, 4 against, 1 abstention). The opening of inter-institutional negotiations was approved (36 for, 4 against, 2 abstentions).

### **4. Unleashing the Potential of Cloud Computing in Europe**

ITRE/7/10792, 2013/2063(INI)  
Rapporteur: Pilar del Castillo Vera (EPP, ES)  
Opinions: ECON, IMCO, JURI, LIBE

The draft report was adopted as amended (41 for, 0 against, 1 abstention).

### **5. Amendment of Regulation (EU) No 912/2010 setting up the European GNSS Agency**

ITRE/7/11892, 2013/0022(COD), COM(2013)0040  
Rapporteur: Amalia Sartori (EPP, IT)  
Opinions: BUDG, CONT, TRAN

The draft report was adopted as amended (39 for, 0 against, 1 abstention). The opening of inter-institutional negotiations was approved (39 for, 0 against, 1 abstention).

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

## 6. Copernicus Programme

ITRE/7/13114, 2013/0164(COD), COM(2013)0312

Rapporteur: Vittorio Prodi (S&D, IT)

Opinions: BUDG, ENVI

*Consideration of a draft report*

The rapporteur called for this file to be dealt with urgently. Any late adoption (after European elections) would have consequences for the whole programme. On financing, he did not understand the 35% budget reduction. If the programme was a priority, as claimed by the Commission, it could not continue with challenging investments that needed long-term stability. He therefore proposed a different and more stable longer term form of financing. He also planned to restructure the proposal to align it more with previous regulations. His amendments focused on public procurement measures and the role of the European Space Agency (ESA). He also raised the issue of data policy and governance and emphasised that the management oversight of spending had to remain within the context of public accountability. Data should be free of charge. Nevertheless, reciprocity arrangements should be provided for third, non-contributing countries, to prevent any hindrance to EU competitiveness. In the context of using observation technologies, he suggested establishment of a Data Distribution Network to engage public and private stakeholders.

Ms Dati (FR), EPP shadow rapporteur, fully supported his proposals, in particular on the financial oversight. She felt that some areas needed further clarification, such as the roles of different bodies (Commission, ESA) and subsequent Parliament oversight and the notion of reciprocity. She welcomed the free availability of data for emergency and development purposes.

Mr Rohde (DK), ALDE shadow, welcomed the proposal and agreed with many issues raised by previous speakers. He welcomed the limitations of access and use of data, or the use of the principle of reciprocity, and the creation of the Data Distribution Network. However, he thought that keeping the contracting authority in the hands of the Commission (instead of delegating it to the ESA) was not the most appropriate organisation of the programme.

Ms Andersdotter (SE), Greens/EFA shadow, supported open access to data and the free flow of information. Nevertheless, she considered that the delegation to the Commission of the power to decide on access restrictions needed a closer look. In the context of encouraging innovation, SMEs and local authorities, she welcomed the positive integration of ESA in this work.

Mr Tošenovský (SZ), ECR shadow, focused on avoiding the duplication of activities and finances. He saw no need for the setting up of new management structures, but would use the already existing ESA.

Ms Carvalho (EPP, PT), the rapporteur in the BUDG Committee, focused on the budgetary issues. She recalled that there was a dedicated budget line of EUR 3.786 billion (2011 prices) under Heading 1a. BUDG wanted to ensure adequate funding for the programme, but at the same time it wanted to protect other EU programmes. The budget was fixed and additional unforeseen obligations should be covered by the margin available between the MFF ceilings and the own-resources ceiling. Regarding governance, she would prefer a stronger model. She also wanted more information to be given to the Parliament to supervise the development of the programme. She called on the Commission to provide information related to risk management costs, schedule and performance in a timely manner.

Concerning the budget decrease, the Commission representative informed Members that after discussions with ESA, some activities would be postponed and ESA itself would contribute EUR 1.6 billion to the cost of the programme. With these measures, the entire programme could be financed. Regarding data policy, the Commission did not support reciprocity as that would favour only China. It was the only country that had/would have comparative satellites. It would result in deluging the EU market with Chinese data and consequently the EU's data by activity would be reduced. Relations with the US should also be taken into account, as the US had for long been sending its data free of charge and it would be difficult to ask them to pay. In this context, he agreed that the quality and value of data should be comparable. As long as this was guaranteed, he thought that the data should be made available free of charge.

The rapporteur concluded that he wanted to close the file under the current legislature.

<u>Timetable:</u>	deadline for amendments:	22 October 2013
	vote in ITRE:	28 November 2013

#### **Next meeting**

- 4 November 2013, 15.00 – 18.30 (Brussels)
- 5 November 2013, 9.00 – 12.30 and 15.00 – 18.30 (Brussels)