

THIS WEEK IN THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS¹

3rd to 9th December 2018

European Parliament activities

This week is a Groups and Committee week in the European Parliament in Brussels. Some of the highlights for the week ahead include:

Fight against terrorism and organised crime. Two legislative proposals aimed to further curtail terrorism will be voted on in the Civil Liberties Committee. One aims to improve access to financial information necessary for law enforcement authorities investigating serious crimes. The second will tighten the security around the issuing of ID cards and help to curb the use of fraudulent documents, which can be used by terrorists and criminals, when entering the EU from non-EU countries. *(Monday)*

EU Visa Code. An update of EU rules on visas for short stays (maximum of 90 days in any 180 day period) to take into account security concerns, challenges linked to migration and technological developments will be voted on by the Civil Liberties Committee. Proposed changes include new deadlines for lodging applications, updated visa fees and disincentives for countries not cooperating in readmitting irregular migrants. *(Monday)*

Regional development and territorial cooperation. Updated rules governing the INTERREG programmes to increase social and territorial development with a €8.43 billion budget will be voted on in the Regional Development Committee. New proposals include support for joint action between national and local actors from different states and neighbouring countries and action to improve safety and migration management. *(Monday)*

Special committee. The special committee set-up to investigate how independent and transparent the EU's authorisation procedure is will adopt its final report. The text draws the initial conclusions on how the procedure worked and puts forward recommendations on measures and initiatives to be taken in the future. *(Thursday)*

On-line platforms. E-commerce market places (e.g. Amazon and eBay) and online search engines (e.g. Google search) would be required to implement a set of measures to ensure they set-up transparent and fair contracts with online businesses (e.g. online retailers, hotels, restaurants etc.) under a legislative proposal to be voted on in the Internal Market Committee *(Thursday)*

Plenary preparations. Political groups will prepare for the 10-13 December plenary session in Strasbourg where there will be votes on the EU-Japan trade agreement, protecting workers from exposure to carcinogens, increased transparency and better risk prevention in the food

¹ Summaries drawn as appropriate from EU documents

chain, a digital services tax and the final recommendations of the Special Committee on Terrorism.

European Commission activities

December 2018	Commission
3rd	<p>High Representative Mogherini delivers a keynote address at Harvard College, Boston</p> <p>Commissioner Ansip attends the Cyber Security Conference organised by the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the EU on the occasion of the entry in force of the regulation against geoblocking</p>
4th	<p>Presentation of the second report on trafficking in human beings</p> <p>Vice-President Frans Timmermans delivers a keynote address at the event “Better Regulation: Make it Happen”</p> <p>Commissioner Šefčović attends the COP24 Conference in Katowice, Poland</p> <p>Commissioner Hogan delivers the opening address at the 60th anniversary event of the European Council of Young Farmers</p>
5th	<p>College Meeting, likely topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Communication on strengthening the international role of the Euro ❖ Coordinated Plan on the development of Artificial intelligence in Europe ❖ Action Plan on Disinformation ❖ Progress Report on the Implementation of the European Agenda on Migration ❖ Next Multiannual Framework - State of Play Report
6th	Commissioner Thyssen meets with Regina Doherty, TD, Minister for Social Protection in Brussels

December 2018	Upcoming Events
5th & 6th	The 2018 Security Research Event (SRE) co-organised by the European Commission and the Austrian Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Transport

Roadmaps/Public Consultations announced by the Commission	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roadmap on the Evaluation of the Aid Programme to the Turkish Cypriot community (Institutional Affairs, Business and Industry and Justice and Fundamental Rights) • Roadmap on the Evaluation of the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020 (Borders & Security and Migration and Asylum) • Public consultation on revising the rules for free allocation in the EU Emissions Trading (Climate Action) • Public Consultation on Towards an EU product policy framework contributing to the Circular Economy • Public Consultation on the list of candidate Projects of Common Interest in electricity infrastructure. <p>Links to current European Commission consultations and roadmaps</p>	

European Council activities

2018	Forthcoming Council meetings
3rd December	Eurogroup Transport, Telecommunications and Energy (Transport)
4th December	Economic and Financial Affairs Transport, Telecommunications and Energy (Telecommunications)
6th & 7th December	Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Justice and Home Affairs
10th December	Foreign Affairs
11th December	General Affairs Council
13th December	European Council
14th December	European Council Euro Summit
17th & 18th December	Agriculture and Fisheries
19th December	Transport, Telecommunications and Energy

20th December	Environment
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Inter-Parliamentary activities

2019	Forthcoming Inter-Parliamentary meetings
27th -28th January (2019)	Meeting of the Secretaries General of the EU Parliaments, Vienna
8th-9th April (2019)	Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments, Vienna

2019	Romanian EU Presidency - Forthcoming Inter-Parliamentary meetings in Bucharest, unless otherwise stated (January to June)
20-21 January	COSAC Chairperson's Meeting
18th -19th February	European Parliamentary Week 2019. Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union (European Parliament in Brussels)
24th - 25th February	Meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol
7th - 8th March	Interparliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CFSP/CSDP)
19th - 20th March	Interparliamentary Conference on cohesion and common agriculture policies
1st to 2nd April	Interparliamentary Conference on the Future of the European Union
23rd to 25th June	LX1 COSAC

2019	Finnish EU Presidency - Forthcoming Inter-Parliamentary meeting in Helsinki unless otherwise stated (July to December)
21st to 22nd July	COSAC Chairperson's Meeting
4th to 6th September	Interparliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CFSP/CSDP)
8th to 9th September	Conference of Committees dealing with Migration Issues
30th September to 1st October	Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU (Article 13)
6th to 7th October	Conference of Environment Committees
13th October to	Conference of Agriculture Committees

14 October	
1st to 3rd December	LXII COSAC

2019	Forthcoming Inter-Parliamentary Committee Meetings (ICM's) in the European Parliament, Brussels
7th March	Interparliamentary Committee Meeting hosted by FEMM, on the occasion of the 2019 International Women's Day on " <i>Women's participation in political decision making</i> "
1st & 2nd April	Interparliamentary Committee Meeting hosted by AFET on " <i>EU foreign policy and security</i> "

For more information contact the Oireachtas EU Liaison Office