

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 4/2023

Euro 7: ENVI-Committee starts to work on the proposal; Council Working Group continues internal consultation

On 24 January, the Deputy Director of DG GROW presented the Euro 7 proposal in the ENVI Committee of the European Parliament. She stated that the focus of the proposal is to improve air quality and the proper functioning and maintenance of motor vehicles. In addition, other sources of emissions, such as abrasion from tires and brakes, are to be included in the regulation. In the meantime, the technical Council working group continued evaluating the proposal to find a position by June: https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu/en/webstreaming/committee-on-environment-public-health-and-food-safety_20230124-0900-COMMITTEE-ENVI

ITRE Committee adopts draft report on EU Chips Act

On 24 January, MEPs in the ITRE Committee adopted two draft bills: one on the “Chips Act” that aims to bolster technological capacity and innovation in the EU Chips ecosystem and a second one on the Chips Joint Undertaking to increase investments for developing this type of European ecosystem. In their amendments to the Chips Act, MEPs focussed more on next-generation semiconductor and quantum chips. A network of competence centres would be created to address the skills shortage and attract new talent on research, design and production. The plenary vote in the EU Parliament is scheduled for the week from 13-16 February: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20230123IPR68617/semiconductors-meps-adopt-legislation-to-boost-eu-chips-industry>

Data Act: JURI- and IMCO-Committee decide on their opinions

On 24 January, the members of the JURI- and IMCO-Committees voted on their opinions for the Data Act. Important topics included in the opinions concern changing cloud providers and dealing with business secrets. After the adoption of the report in the lead industry committee (ITRE) on 6 February, the text will be submitted to the plenary vote; tentatively scheduled for 13 March.

European Commission publishes consultation on a reform of the EU’s electricity market design

On 23 January, the European Commission launched a public consultation on the planned reform of the European electricity market. The aim is to protect users from excessive electricity prices, maintain security of supply and thus accelerate the implementation of the Green Deal and REPowerEU. The public consultation runs until 13 February and focuses on four topics: (1) reducing the dependence of electricity prices on short-term fossil fuel price changes, (2) adapting the way the market works to maintain security of supply, (3) improving consumer protection, (4) and increasing market transparency: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13668-Electricity-market-reform-of-the-EUs-electricity-market-design/public-consultation_en

Eurostat study: Share of renewables in transport decreased in 2021

On 23 January, Eurostat published a study showing that in 2021, the share of renewable sources in transport reached 9.1% at EU level, a 1.2 percentage points (pp) decrease compared with 2020: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/en/web/products-eurostat-news/w/ddn-20230123-2>

The Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers (AECDR) represents and promotes the interests of 57,500 franchised dealers and authorised repairers. In total these companies employ 1.175,000 people.