

July 2015 II



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| <p>EU integration process in CEE countries</p> | <p>Central Eastern and South Eastern European countries join forces to create an integrated gas market 15 EU and Energy Community countries in the Central Eastern Europe and South East European regions have agreed to work together to accelerate the building of missing gas infrastructure links and to tackle the remaining technical and regulatory issues which hamper security of supply and the development of a fully integrated and competitive energy market in the region. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5343_en.htm</p> <p>EU gives €15 million to Ukraine for humanitarian assistance The European Union is increasing its humanitarian response to help people affected by the crisis in eastern Ukraine, with a new aid package worth €15 million. The announcement comes amid concerns over the humanitarian situation with an estimated 5 million people in need of assistance in Ukraine. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5289_en.htm</p> |
| <p>Pros, advantages and obligations resulting from EU membership</p> | <p>The Commission mobilises additional €35 billion support for Greece. The support presents a new deal for energy consumers and proposes to re-shape the European electricity market, update energy efficiency labelling and revise the EU Emissions Trading System. http://ec.europa.eu/news/2015/07/20150715_en.htm</p> <p>Italy to benefit from € 2.17 billion of EU Cohesion Policy Funds The Commission officially adopted five Operational Programmes for Italy with a total contribution of € 2.17 billion from the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund. Two are national programmes - 'Metropolitan Cities' and 'Research & Innovation' http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5369_en.htm</p> <p>Parliament approved its recommendations to TTIP Parliament approved its recommendations to European Commission Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiators by 436 votes to 241, with 32 abstentions. The EU-US trade deal must open up US market access for EU firms, but must not undermine EU standards, say MEPs in recommendations, voted this month, to EU trade negotiators. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150702IPR73645/html/TTIP-ease-access-to-US-market-protect-EU-standards-reform-dispute-settlement</p> |
| <p>General development of the EU</p> | <p>Bridging the Gaps in EU Foreign Policy Is the EU condemned to live with a permanently flawed foreign policy system? Six years after the Lisbon Treaty redesigned the EU's external</p> |

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| | <p>action framework, the union's Common Foreign and Security Policy is still not living up to expectations. Is the gap between member states and the EU institutions unbridgeable? Or is there hope that these structural weaknesses can be overcome?</p> <p>http://carnegieeurope.eu/2015/07/08/bridging-gaps-in-eu-foreign-policy</p> |
| <p>Introduction to EU institutions and their Functioning</p> | <p>EU RESPONSE TO GREECE DOMINATES DEBATE ON OUTGOING LATVIAN PRESIDENCY</p> <p>Greece and the referendum on the bail-out proposals were the focus of the 7 July plenary debate on the outgoing Latvian presidency of the Council. Latvian Prime Minister Laimdota Straujuma also discussed the challenges and the achievements of the outgoing Council presidency with MEPs and Jean-Claude Juncker, president of the European Commission.</p> <p>http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150707STO75602/html/EU-response-to-Greece-dominates-debate-on-outgoing-Latvian-presidency</p> <p>GREECE: MEPS DEBATE THE COUNTRY'S SITUATION WITH PRIME MINISTER TSIPRAS</p> <p>Greece and the best way to resolve the ongoing crisis were hotly debated in plenary on 8 July in the presence of Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras. While some MEPs criticised him for his lack of concrete proposals, others praised him while some urged him to take his country out of the eurozone.</p> <p>http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150706STO74708/html/Greece-MEPs-debate-the-country%E2%80%99s-situation-with-Prime-Minister-Tsipras</p> <p>EP THIS WEEK: MIGRATION, GMOS AND PASSENGER DATA</p> <p>Quotas to relocate refugees arriving in Greece and Italy, GMOs and limits on emissions of air pollutants are on the agenda this week in the European Parliament. Plans to introduce EU-wide rules for collecting and processing the data of air passengers will also be discussed.</p> <p>http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150713STO80601/html/EP-this-week-migration-GMOs-and-passenger-data</p> |
| <p>Introduction to EU law</p> | <p>CHALLENGES OF THE EU'S POLICY ON PRIVATISED LAW ENFORCEMENT</p> <p>In order to grasp the complex challenges that human rights governance is facing today, one research focus of the FRAME project are key cultural, economic, historical, legal, political, religious, social and technological factors that may enable or hinder the protection of human rights in the context of internal and external EU policies.</p> <p>http://www.fp7-frame.eu/challenges-of-the-eus-policy-on-privatised-law-enforcement/</p> |
| <p>Decentralized management of EU funds</p> | <p>PARLIAMENT APPROVES AN EXTRA €69.6 MILLION TO HELP COPE WITH MIGRANTS</p> <p>Three agencies managing migration flows into the EU and two EU funds for migration measures should get a €69.6 million budget boost for extra staff</p> |

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| | <p>and other expenses for this year, after Parliament backed a European Commission proposal on Tuesday. Parliament has been calling for the bigger budgets in the wake of the April tragedies that cost the lives of around 1,200 migrants.</p> <p>http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150703IPR73907/html/Parliament-approves-an-extra-%E2%82%AC69.6-million-to-help-cope-with-migrants</p> <p>€66.5 MILLION FOR FLOOD DAMAGE REPAIRS IN ROMANIA, BULGARIA AND ITALY</p> <p>Romania, Bulgaria and Italy will receive €66.5 million in total for compensation to cover part of the cost of emergency measures taken during the 2014 floods, after Parliament approved a Commission proposal for this on Tuesday. The aid is covered by the European Solidarity Fund</p> <p>http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150703IPR73904/html/%E2%82%AC66.5-million-for-flood-damage-repairs-in-Romania-Bulgaria-and-Italy</p> |
| <p>Multi-level governance</p> | <p>COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS' COTER CALLS ON EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT TO ENFORCE COHESION POLICY SIMPLIFICATION AND PAYMENTS BACKLOG ELIMINATION BY 2016</p> <p>Local leaders of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) commission for territorial cohesion and EU Budget (COTER) discussed how to better deliver EU cohesion policy on the ground with Ms Iskra Mihaylova, Chair of the European Parliament's committee on Regional Development (REGI). Eliminating the current 24,7 bn EUR payment backlog in 2016 and the priorities of the EU annual budget 2016 were debated at the COTER meeting with the EP rapporteur on the Draft EU Budget for 2016, Mr José Manuel Fernandes.</p> <p>http://cor.europa.eu/en/news/Pages/coter-calls-on-parliament-to-enforce.aspx</p> <p>EUROPEAN FUNDS NEED GOOD PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNANCE</p> <p>At its 113th plenary session, the European Committee of the Regions adopted a report on the Outcome of the negotiations on the partnership agreements and operational programmes, presented by Ivan Žagar, Mayor of the Municipality of Slovenska Bistrica, Slovenia. The report assesses the agreed Partnership Agreements and Operational Programmes from the perspective of beneficiaries from regional and local authorities. It also calls for cohesion fund procedures to be simplified and administrative capacities strengthened.</p> <p>http://cor.europa.eu/en/news/Pages/ivan-zagar-european-funds-need-good-partnership-between-all-levels-of-governance.aspx</p> |
| <p>Introduction to different negotiation chapters Chapter 1: Free movement of goods Chapter 2: Freedom of movement</p> | <p>JUNE GUEST PHOTOGRAPHER CONTEST TOPIC: SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND DECENT JOBS</p> <p>Take part in our guest photographer contest, inspired by 2015 being the European Year for Development. Until September we will be announcing different topics linked to development. Send us your photo inspired by the</p> |

for workers

Chapter 3: Right of establishment and freedom to provide services

Chapter 4: Free movement of capital

Chapter 5: Public procurement

Chapter 6: Company Law

Chapter 7: Intellectual property law

Chapter 8: Competition

Chapter 9: Financial services

Chapter 10: Information society and media

Chapter 11: Agriculture and rural development

Chapter 12: Food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy

Chapter 13: Fisheries

Chapter 14: Transport policy

Chapter 15: Energy

Chapter 16: Taxation

Chapter 17: Economic and monetary policy

Chapter 18: Statistics

Chapter 19: Social policy and employment

Chapter 20: Enterprise and industrial policy

Chapter 21: Trans-European networks

Chapter 22: Regional policy and coordination of structural instruments

Chapter 23: Judiciary and fundamental rights

Chapter 24: Justice, freedom and security

Chapter 25: Research and development

Chapter 26: Education and culture

Chapter 27: Environment

Chapter 28: Consumer and health protection

Chapter 29: Customs union

Chapter 30: External relations

Chapter 31: Foreign, security and defence policy

Chapter 32: Financial control

theme of that month, along with the submission form and you could be invited to Strasbourg to do a photo reportage.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150630STO72406/html/June-guest-photographer-contest-topic-sustainable-growth-and-decent-jobs>

HEALTH LITERACY: HOW TECHNOLOGY CAN HELP TO EMPOWER PATIENTS

Patients are becoming more independent as they can monitor their own health using mobile applications, not only for monitoring serious cases such as kidney failure, but also to quit smoking, drink more water or exercise more. On 1 July the EP's Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA) unit organised a workshop with experts to learn how new technologies can empower patients and improve health literacy.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150701STO72927/html/Health-literacy-how-technology-can-help-to-empower-patients>

ETS REFORM: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW IN A NUTSHELL

The EU's emissions trading scheme (ETS) was set up to reduce gas emissions and fight climate change, but it is not working as efficiently as it could be. MEPs discussed on 7 July an informal deal with member states to reform the scheme and will then vote on it the following day. The legislation would tackle the imbalances of supply and demand of emission allowances, which is holding back investment in green technologies. Read on to find out what the reform is all about.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150225STO26902/html/ETS-reform-everything-you-need-to-know-in-a-nutshell>

PILLAGE OF CULTURAL SITES – HOW CAN EUROPE HELP TO STOP IT?

Deliberately destroying and pillaging archaeological sites and trafficking art objects in war zones amount to « cultural genocide » and should be classified as war crimes, argued speakers in a public hearing held by the European Parliament's Culture and Education Committee on Monday afternoon. MEPs and experts reiterated the need for harmonised international legislation in this area.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150713IPR80507/html/Pillage-of-cultural-sites-%E2%80%93-how-can-Europe-help-to-stop-it>

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE END OF ROAMING CHARGES

The end of roaming charges could become a reality in just two years' time. Parliament's industry committee approved on Wednesday a deal to end roaming charged that had been agreed with EU governments and the European Commission. Prices should drop next year, while from 15 June 2017 making a call or watching a football match live on a mobile phone abroad would cost the same as doing so at home. Read on for more details.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news->

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| <p>Chapter 33: Financial and budgetary provisions</p> | <p>room/content/20150714STO81613/html/All-you-need-to-know-about-the-end-of-roaming-charges</p> <p>OPENING: REMEMBERING SREBRENICA The massacre of 8,000 men and boys in the Bosnian town of Srebrenica 20 years ago was commemorated by EP President Martin Schulz in his opening address and in a minute's silence. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150702IPR73618/html/Opening-remembering-Srebrenica</p> |
| <p>Specific issues relating to the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European arrest warrant, • Stockholm programme: Europe of rights, Europe of justice, Europe that protects, Access to Europe, Europe of solidarity, Europe in a globalised world • Third pillar:the pillar devoted to police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, which came under Title VI of the Treaty on European Union <p>Recognition of professional qualifications</p> | <p>DEBATE: SHOULD THE FREEDOM OF PANORAMA BE INTRODUCED ALL OVER THE EU? Should people have the right to create and share images and photographs of public buildings without having to compensate for the use of copyright? The so-called freedom of panorama already exists in some EU countries, but MEPs are now considering whether it should be extended to all member states. As they will debate it on 9 July, we asked two MEPs on opposing sides of the issue why they think it would be a good or a bad thing. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150701STO72903/html/Debate-should-the-freedom-of-panorama-be-introduced-all-over-the-EU</p> <p>COPYRIGHT 2.0: WHY EXISTING RULES NEED AN UPDATE TO MAKE THEM FIT FOR THE DIGITAL AGE Copyright rules haven't caught up with today's technological world. For example, consumers are sometimes denied access to online content because of the country they live in. German Greens/EFA member Julia Reda wrote an own initiative report on copyright to feed into upcoming proposals by the European Commission to update current legislation. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150706STO74829/html/Copyright-2.0-why-existing-rules-need-update-to-make-them-fit-for-digital-age</p> <p>REPORT: CRACKING THE GLASS CEILING FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY The proportion of female researchers and students might be increasing in Europe, yet they remain underrepresented in scientific careers and disciplines. A report adopted by the women's rights committee on 14 July sets out how women could be helped to overcome the barriers preventing them from progressing in science, research and the technology sector. Check out our infographic to find out how many men and women graduated in science over the past decade. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150714STO81212/html/Report-cracking-the-glass-ceiling-for-science-and-technology</p> |
| <p>Introduction to different sector policies (regional policy, trade policy, agricultural policy, social policy).</p> | <p>TTIP: EASE ACCESS TO US MARKET, PROTECT EU STANDARDS, REFORM DISPUTE SETTLEMENT An EU-US trade deal must open up US market access for EU firms, but must not undermine EU standards, say MEPs in recommendations, voted</p> |

Wednesday, to EU trade negotiators. To settle trade-related investor-state disputes, a new justice system, run by publicly-appointed judges and subject to scrutiny and transparency rules, should replace private arbitration under the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) system, they add.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150702IPR73645/html/TTIP-ease-access-to-US-market-protect-EU-standards-reform-dispute-settlement>

EU EMISSIONS TRADING SYSTEM: POST-2020 PROPOSALS LOCK-IN ANOTHER DECADE OF FAILED CLIMATE POLICY

The EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) has reached its 10th anniversary without causing reductions in greenhouse gas emissions or putting a meaningful price on carbon. Today's announcement extends that failing system for another 15 years.

<http://corporateeurope.org/pressreleases/2015/07/eu-emissions-trading-system-post-2020-proposals-lock-another-decade-failed>

Leniency, damages, and EU competition policy

EU anti-cartel decisions have imposed billion of euros of fines in recent years, but private actions by cartel victims are also possible. This column discusses a 2014 EU Directive that facilitates private actions by cartel victims while attempting to reduce conflicts between private and public enforcement.

<http://www.voxeu.org/article/leniency-damages-and-eu-competition-policy>

EU Policy Update—July

Resume over the changes and upcoming events regarding EU policies for July.

<http://www.globalpolicywatch.com/2015/07/eu-policy-update-july/>

Promotion of EU upcoming events and news

MAYORAL CONFERENCE ON THE CITY PROSPERITY INITIATIVE (CPI)

28/07/2015-29/07/2015 Vienna/Austria

UN-Habitat, World Assembly of Islamic Cities (WAIC) and International City Leaders (ICL) are pleased to invite mayors from around the world to the Mayoral Conference on the City Prosperity Initiative (CPI) to be held at the United Nations Office in Vienna.

City Prosperity Initiative (CPI) is an innovative approach that combines metrics and policy dialogue to promote **sustainable urban development**.

[HTTP://WWW.EUKN.EU/EVENTS/UPCOMING-EVENTS/DETAIL/MAYORAL-CONFERENCE-ON-THE-CITY-PROSPERITY-INITIATIVE-CPI/](http://www.eukn.eu/events/upcoming-events/detail/mayoral-conference-on-the-city-prosperity-initiative-cpi/)

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IN PARKS AND OPEN SPACES: BUSTING MYTHS AND EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES

30/07/2015 London/UK

The potential of digital technology for parks, open spaces and heritage sites is hotly debated. In the right circumstances digital technology can help reach new audiences, better understand site use and user preferences and raise income. Though digital technology is not a panacea, and there are circumstances in which these interventions can be costly distractions. This

Nesta event will explore the benefits as well as caveats around using digital technologies and approaches across parks, open space and heritage sites

CONFERENCE ON "STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING STRUCTURAL CHANGE THROUGH STRATEGIC COOPERATION"

29/09/2015 - 30/09/2015 Gelsenkirchen, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany

<http://cor.europa.eu/en/events/Pages/5th-econ-meeting-conference.aspx>