ACTIVITY REPORT

2019 - 2024

IMCO

Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection



Activity Report 2019-2024

Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO)

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Foreword by the outgoing Chair



Dear Esteemed Members,

As we transition between parliamentary terms, this is the time to warmly welcome our new Members and thank those moving on. This is also the right time for reflection on our past achievements over the last five years and the challenges that lie ahead.

Strengthening the single market and consumer protection

Over the past five years, our Committee has been leading the way, on all fronts, to strengthen the single market and to increase consumer protection. We have passed legislation that allows for the functioning of both digital and traditional marketplaces across the EU. The consequence of our work has been a single market that is stronger and in which consumer rights are better respected, and on which businesses compete on a level playing field.

We have helped shape the EU digital future by pushing for the most digital environment, adhering to EU values and fundamental rights, while at the same time, ensuring the highest possible level of protection for consumers. Our work on **digital consumer rights** and on regulating **marketing practices for online financial products** are examples of important milestones in developing a fairer digital market.

Equally important has been our commitment to the **green transition** of the EU. The directive "Empowering consumers for the green transition," together with the new rules that introduce the **right of repair** over the replacement of devices, is a telling example of our dedication to sustainable practice and a circular economy.

Our efforts have not been limited to the digital and environmental realms. We have worked tirelessly to improve **product safety standards** across various sectors and to enhance **road safety** through the approval of new regulations.

The regulation on **political advertising** is a significant achievement in our quest to make election and referenda campaigns more transparent and resistant to interference. This, alongside our work on **standardisation** and the push for an **EU ban on products made with forced labour**, underscores our commitment to transparency, fairness, and ethical standards.

And lastly but not least, we increased the resilience of the single market by introducing the **Internal Market Emergency and Resilience Act** which will anticipate, prepare for and respond to the impact of future crises.

Embracing the challenges of the single market completion – a crucial moment!

Completing the single market is an overarching goal that remains at the heart of

our mandate. This is why the EU Council tasked Enrico Letta and Mario Draghi to map out the way forward in this domain.

In one of our last Committee meetings, Enrico Letta called for a convergence in defense, telecommunications, energy, and the single market in financial

services, within the EU, to address geopolitical challenges. He made the case for a harmonised approach with the citizens laying at the heart of decision-making. Letta has stressed the need for deeper cooperation — particularly within financial services — as well as living up to EU principles such as the circular economy.

Mario Draghi remarked in public, that the EU needs to invest "enormous amount of money in a relatively short period of time". He put the spotlight on the widening investment gap compared to the US and called for more innovative funding solutions. In fact, Draghi proposed bold moves, like private partnerships where the European Investment Bank would have a role to play, in order to support greater competitiveness.

Enrico Letta and Mario Draghi, are shining a light on the EU's strategic needs and now it is up to us to turn words into action. The new legislative term should be underpinned by a stronger emphasis on the integration of sectors that really place citizens at the heart of policies, major investment in transitions, and the need for a new, cohesive approach to funding and competitiveness.

In our resolution on the 30th anniversary of the single market, we emphasised that "the EU will only be able to make the most of its economic power if the single market receives renewed commitment from the Member States and EU institutions". Additionally we argued "that, in order to succeed, strong political will is needed, as well as a new overarching programme with an agenda for action towards 2030 and beyond". We further highlighted that for "Institutions, Member States and all stakeholders for their part should genuinely commit to developing the single market in the collective interest and to strengthening the EU's place in the world".

Proactive agenda setting and implementation oversight

Added to these strategic priorities we should not forget another one, and that is the correct and thorough implementation of the new EU legislation, including the Digital Services Act (DSA), the Digital Markets Act (DMA) and the Artificial Intelligence Act which represent an essential contribution to the creation of an harmonised, fair, competitive and trustworthy digital singe market.

It is, therefore, imperative for us to assume a leadership role in charting the course for the single market legislative agenda and meticulously oversee the Commission's execution of these pieces of legislation. Our mission in this regard is only at its inception, signalling the commencement of an extensive and critical phase of our work.

We encourage you to go through this Activity Report and use it as a handy goto guide for this new mandate. We do hope that you find it useful and we trust that during the new term the Parliament will continue building on our work of the past five years.

From individual and national strength to collective power; The single market is the path of the EU. Are you in?

Yours truly,

Committee mandate

The IMCO Committee is responsible for:

- 1. coordination at Union level of national legislation in the sphere of the internal market and for the customs union, in particular:
 - (a) the free movement of goods including the harmonisation of technical standards,
 - (b) the right of establishment,
 - (c) freedom to provide services except in the financial and postal sectors;
- 2. the functioning of the Single Market, including measures aimed at the identification and removal of potential obstacles to the implementation of the Single Market, including the Digital Single Market;
- 3. the promotion and protection of the economic interests of consumers, except for public health and food safety issues;
- 4. policy and legislation regarding the enforcement of Single Market rules and consumer rights.

IMCO Files

I. Internal Market

Legislative Reports

Title Reference

Working Document on the proposal for a directive establishing harmonised requirements in the internal market on transparency of interest representation carried out on behalf of third countries and amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937 and on the proposal on Amending Regulations on the Internal Market Information System (IMI) and on the Single digital gateway as regards certain harmonisation requirements on transparency

The proposal was adopted by the Commission on 12 December 2023. It aims to contribute to the proper functioning of the internal market by setting harmonised requirements for interest representation activities carried out on behalf of third countries. Those are activities conducted with the objective of influencing the development, formulation or implementation of policy or legislation, or of public decision-making process in the EU. IMCO discussed a working document drafted by the Rapporteur, with a view to provide initial indications and pave the way for the future discussion on the file. The main focus was on the need to ensure transparency of lobbying activities, clearly define the scope, and enhance cooperation among national authorities and EU bodies. The file will be continued under the new Parliament.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

<u>Parliament first reading</u> on the Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the safety of toys and repealing Directive 2009/48/EC

The new rules aim to strengthen the level of protection of children from possible risks by preventing unsafe toys from being placed on the market. One of the new tools to achieve this goal is a digital product passport for each toy, which will enhance market surveillance and strengthen customs inspections at borders. Toys must also comply with the recently updated product safety rules, for example, when it comes to online sales, accident reporting, consumers' right to information and remedy. Interinstitutional negotiations are expected to start after the European elections.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

<u>Parliament first reading</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EU) No 1024/2012 and (EU) 2018/1724 as regards the use of the Internal Market Information System and the Single Digital Gateway for the purposes of certain requirements laid down by

Directive (EU) .../... of the European Parliament and of the Council on European cross-border associations

Parliament's position aims to clarify the text of the proposal and adds the right of creditors and workers to the annex of the Single Digital Gateway Regulation. This proposal relates to the proposal for a directive on European cross-border associations, for which JURI is responsible. Interinstitutional negotiations are expected to start after the European elections.

For more information see here.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the transparency and targeting of political advertising

The regulation provides for more information and transparency about adverts for citizens, authorities and journalists. Further to that, it introduces a ban on profiling using special categories of personal data, a ban on non-EU based entities financing political advertisements in the EU, and a dedicated database to scrutinise political advertisements. The rules will apply 18 months after the entry into force, while the measures on the non-discriminatory provision of cross-border political advertising (including for European political parties and political groups) will already apply for the European Parliament elections in 2024.

For more information see here.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on prohibiting products made with forced labour on the Union market - joint with the INTA Committee

This Regulation seeks to contribute to the fight against forced labour globally, by prohibiting economic operators from exporting or placing on the Union market products made with forced labour. In order to help companies, especially SMEs, to make sure that no forced labour occurs in their supply chains, as well as competent authorities in implementing this Regulation, the text foresees guidelines to be issued by the Commission, a database, Forced Labour Single Portal and a Network to be established. The text also lays out rules applicable to investigations, decisions, enforcement and penalties. The Commission will have a crucial role to play in implementing the Regulation, as it would investigate all cases of products where the risk of forced labour is situated outside the Union. The plenary vote is expected for April II session.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the approval and market surveillance of non-road mobile machinery circulating on public roads and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020

The Regulation provides harmonised European type approval for so-called non-road mobile machinery (such as combine harvesters, cranes, snowploughs, etc.). The agreement is beneficial both for manufacturers, who can benefit from a reduction in administrative burdens and related costs, and for end users, who have better access to these machines throughout the EU and benefit from a higher level of road safety. More important aspects include the use of appropriate legal instruments for the development of technical requirements, the broadening of the definitions of 'types' and 'variants', and the increase of the small series threshold to 70 units, which will give manufacturers more choice and flexibility.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Single Market emergency instrument and repealing Council Regulation No (EC) 2679/98

The Single Market Emergency Instrument has been renamed as Internal Market Emergency and Resilience Act (IMERA). It is intended to anticipate, prepare for - via stress tests and simulations - and respond to the impact of future crises (contingency mode). IMERA establishes a vigilance or emergency mode to be activated whenever a threat to free movement becomes clear. It also provides for emergency measures such as targeted information requests to economic operators, priority-rated requests and procurement for crisis-relevant goods. The internal market emergency and resilience board will assist the Commission in preparing and tackling crises and Parliament will be an observer therein.

For more information see here.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EU) 2016/424, (EU) 2016/425, (EU) 2016/426, (EU) 2019/1009 and (EU) No 305/2011 as regards emergency procedures for the conformity assessment, adoption of common specifications and market surveillance due to a Single Market emergency

The IMERA acompanies an Omnibus Regulation¹ that aims to amend sectorial legislation on non-harmonised goods that could be crisis-relevant if an emergency mode referred to IMERA is activated. The Omnibus Regulation introduces emergency procedures that are added to the relevant regulations in particular on conformity assessment, presumption of conformity, adoption of common

For more information see here.

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¹ The term "omnibus" signifies that the regulation encompasses multiple a spects or issues within a single piece of legislation.

specifications and market surveillance. It also contains targeted amendments to the General Product Safety Regulation, which refers to harmonised goods.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directives 2000/14/EC, 2006/42/EC, 2010/35/EU, 2013/29/EU, 2014/28/EU, 2014/29/EU, 2014/30/EU, 2014/31/EU, 2014/32/EU, 2014/33/EU, 2014/34/EU, 2014/35/EU, 2014/53/EU and 2014/68/EU as regard emergency procedures for the conformity assessment, adoption of common specifications and market surveillance due to a Single Market emergency

The IMERA also accompanies an Omnibus Directive² that amends sectorial legislation on non-harmonised goods that could be crisis-relevant if an emergency mode referred to IMERA is activated. As for the Omnibus Regulation, the Directive introduces emergency procedures that are added to the relevant directives, mainly on conformity assessment, presumption of conformity, adoption of common specifications and market surveillance.

For more information see here.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and repealing Regulation (EU) 305/2011

The revised Construction Products Regulation introduces new rules to speed up and modify the standardisation system to make it easier for manufacturers to put their products on the market. It allows public authorities to use sustainability as one of the public procurement criteria for construction works. It also paves the way for wider reuse and remanufacture of construction products. The digital product passport will make the sector more digitalised and sustainable.

For more information see here.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 as regards the digital labelling of EU fertilising products

The new rules laying down the digital labelling requirements applicable to EU fertilising products ensures that product information is easy to understand and accessible to all the consumers, including vulnerable groups and people with disabilities, while ensuring a high level of protection for

² The term "omnibus" signifies that the regulation encompasses multiple a spects or issues within a single piece of legislation.

human, animal and plant health and the environment, without increasing costs excessively for businesses. Businesses will receive help to develop the appropriate skills and capabilities to comply with this regulation.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on data collection and sharing relating to short-term accommodation rental services and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724

The Short-Term Rentals Regulation increases transparency by establishing clear rules for platforms on data collection and data sharing, allowing public authorities to obtain reliable information related to short-term accommodation rental services, such as the identity of the host, the location where those services are being offered and their duration. The availability of reliable data should support Member States' efforts in developing policies, tackling housing shortages while at the same time stimulating tourism and free movement of services across the EU.

For more information see here.

First reading agreement on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013, Regulation (EU) No 167/2013 and Regulation (EU) No 168/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards certain reporting requirements

The Parliament and the Council both approved the Commission's legislative proposal without any amendments.

For more information see here.

<u>Directive (EU) 2024/505</u> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 February 2024 amending Directive 2005/36/EC as regards the recognition of professional qualifications of nurses responsible for general care trained in Romania

Directive 2005/36/EC has been revised to incorporate a specific amendment for nurses trained in Romania. This amendment targets nurses responsible for general care, offering a streamlined path for their qualification recognition across the EU. By acknowledging the completion of a designated upgrading program, the amendment allows these nurses to bypass the previously mandatory requirement of showcasing professional experience gained within Romania. The primary objective of this legislative update is to facilitate the mobility of Romanian nurses within the EU, ensuring that their qualifications are automatically recognised without the additional hurdle of proving local work experience.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Regulation (EU) 2023/1230 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2023 on machinery and repealing Directive 2006/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Directive 73/361/EEC

The Regulation transforms the 2006 Machinery Directive into a Regulation and aligns it with other pieces of Union product safety legislation (NLF). The Regulation governs the harmonisation of essential health and safety requirements for machinery at EU level. It promotes the free movement of machinery within the single market and ensures a high level of protection for EU workers and citizens. The main objectives are to establish a legal framework for the placing on the Union market safe machinery; to cover the new risks linked to emerging technologies by modifying the essential requirements; to guarantee the legal certainty by clarifying the scope and definitions; as well as finding the right balance between digital documentation and paper documents.

For more information see here.

Regulation (EU) 2023/988 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 May 2023 on general product safety, amending Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Directive (EU) 2020/1828 of the European Parliament and the Council, and repealing Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Directive 87/357/EEC

The Regulation enhances the free movement of safe products and the protection of consumers in the Union, by addressing the product safety challenges both in traditional brick-and-mortar shops and in online shopping. The new legislation is a big achievement for European consumers, who will buy safer products in general and, more importantly who will see dangerous products removed more quickly, including from online marketplaces. The Regulation apply as from 13 December 2024.

For more information see here.

Regulation (EU) 2022/2480 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 amending Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 as regards decisions of European standardisation organisations concerning European standards and European standardisation deliverables

The Regulation amends Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 to ensure that European standardisation organisations focus on supporting EU leaislation and policies, represent stakeholders' interests, and respond to the Union's strategic priorities and legislative needs. Under this new Regulation, the mandates to adopt EU standards, at the request of the Commission. must be handled by the standardisation bodies from the EU and EEA Member States. This will avoid any undue influence of actors from outside in the decision-making processes during the development of standards for key areas, such as those regarding the information and communication technologies.

<u>Directive (EU) 2022/2380</u> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 November 2022 amending Directive 2014/53/EU on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of radio equipment

The Common Charger Directive aims to amend the Radio Equiment Directive by establishing the USB-C recepatacle as standard for wired charging for the following devices: mobile phones, tablets, digital cameras, headphones, headsets, handheld videogame consoles, portable speakers, e-readers, keyboards, mice, portable navigation systems, earbuds' casings by December 2024, and laptops by April 2026. Dedicated labels will inform consumers about the charging characteristics of new devices. The Commission is empowered to come up with delegated acts on wireless charging and assess the possibility of making it mandatory for manufacturers to sell devices, charging devices, and cables separately.

For more information see here.

Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing a programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, the area of plants, animals, food and feed, and European statistics (Single Market Programme) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014 and (EU) No 652/2014

The Regulation brings together activities financed under five predecessor programmes in the areas of competitiveness of enterprises (former COSME programme), consumer protection, customers and end-users in financial services, policy making in financial services and as regards the food chain, or financed previously under several Commission budget lines, all dealing with the internal market and the competitiveness of SMEs. It also includes new initiatives (i.e. competition policy for a stronger Union in the digital age). All of these activities aim at regulating, implementing, facilitating, enforcing and protecting various activities and actors within the internal market, and at preserving an internal market that continues to function without interruption.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Regulation (EU) 2020/1694 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 November 2020 amending Regulation (EU) No 168/2013 as regards specific measures on L-category end-of-series vehicles in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-related regulation created an additional end-ofseries provision allowing all the unsold units corresponding to the environmental step 4 (set to expire on 1 January 2021) to benefit from end-of-series status and to be placed in the

For more information see <u>here</u>.

market till 31 March 2021. For reasons attributed to the pandemic, over half a million motorbikes corresponding to the environmental step 4 have been produced but not been sold.

Non-Legislative Reports

Title Reference

European Parliament resolution of 9 May 2023 on a standardisation strategy for the single market

The resolution outlines Parliament's priorities standardisation in the Single Market and on the global scale and highlights the role the standardisation system plays to the proper functioning of the Single Market. Parliament welcomed the adoption by the European Commission of the standardisation strategy. It stressed that the list of areas for action could be further expanded and that there is a need to increase the uptake and implementation of standards, especially among SMEs. Moreover, Members supported the creation of an annual standardisation dashboard and the launch of High-Level Forum the on European Standardisation.

For more information see here.

European Parliament Resolution of 18 January 2023 on the 30th anniversary of the single market: celebrating achievements and looking towards future developments

The resolution underlines the important role of the single. For more market and, at the same time, highlights that it is still facing various challenges. Therefore, the resolution considers the steps that should be taken to make the single market stronger and more resilient in the future.

information see here.

European Parliament resolution of 4 October 2022 on AccessibleEU Centre in support of accessibility policies in the EU internal market

The Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030 announced the launch of the AccessibleEU Centre, which would bring together national authorities, experts and professionals from all areas of accessibility. This initiative would increase coherence in accessibility policies and facilitate access to relevant knowledge, including through authorities enhanced cooperation among national responsible for implementing and enforcing accessibility rules. The report contained a series of recommendations on the Centre's structure, tasks and functioning. These include involving organisations representing persons with

disabilities, increasing knowledge and competence at national level through trainings and ensuring adequate funding (including financial and human resources).

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 17 February 2022 on tackling non-tariff and non-tax barriers in the single market

The resolution adresses key unjustified barriers of the Single Market, stressing that inadequate implementation and enforcement of EU law, restrictive national regulations, territorial supply constraints, red-tape and gold-plating have negative consequences. Measures to tackle the shortcomings in the single market include more unified transposition of EU law, monitoring of national rules, finding a balance between justified and unjustified barriers, ensuring the right level of enforcement harmonisation. stronaer and digitalisation of public services. The report also addressed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic along with the failure to consider the requirements of the single market regarding free movement.

For more information see here.

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 20 January 2021 on strengthening the single market: the future of free movement of services

The resolution underlines that the full potential of EU single market for services can only be achieved by better enforcement, information sharing and evaluation. Members requested further decisive action for the long term by the Commission for better implementation and enforcement of single market rules to maximise the full potential of the single market for services.

For more information see here.

<u>European Parliament Resolution</u> of 12 February 2020 on automated decision—making processes: ensuring consumer protection and free movement of goods and services

The resolution highlighted that the rapid technological advances taking place in the fields of AI present a number of challenges for consumer protection and the importance of using only high quality and unbiased data to improve the performance of algorithmic systems. It called on the Commission to develop a risk assessment scheme for AI and automated decision-making and that consumers are informed when prices of goods or services have been personalised on the basis of automated decision-making and profiling of consumer behaviour.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 25 November 2020 on a more sustainable single market for business and consumers

With this resolution, Members called on the Commission to grant consumers a "right to repair", to consider labelling products and services according to their durability and to tackle planned obsolescence. In addition, the report stressed that the Commission should provide that corrective updates for certain digital devices continue throughout their estimated lifespan and not diminish their performance. The Commission should promote sustainable public procurement as well as responsible marketing and advertising that encourages sustainable business and consumer choices. The report proposed new rules for waste management, including the removal of legal obstacles that prevent repair, resale and reuse and insists on a common charger system in order to reduce electronic waste.

For more information see here.

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 25 November 2020 on addressing product safety in the single market

Ahead of the revision of legislative acts regarding products, such as the General Product Safety Directive and the Machinery Directive, the Parliament, through this INI, provided indications to the European Commission on the improvement of the safety of products and the transparency and reliability of product information. The aim was to benefit consumers, ensure a level playing field among businesses, and help market surveillance authorities to perform their activities. The Parliament stressed the need to ensure a high level of safety for all products, including those purchased online and imported from third countries, increase the citizens' trust in the EU internal market, and adapt product safety rules to digital technologies, such as artificial intelligence.

For more information see here.

Implementation Reports

Title Reference

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 16 February 2022 on the implementation of Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the safety of toys (Toy Safety Directive)

The resolution followed the publication of the evaluation of the Directive presented by the Commission in 2020. The INI addressed the need of the effectiveness of the Toy Safety Directive, the need to protect children from dangerous chemicals, the challenges posed by the new technologies embedded in toys, the need to strengthen market surveillance and to enhance the involvement of online platforms. On that basis, the report provided political

guidelines ahead of the revision of the EU legislation on the safety of toys.

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 25 March 2021 on the implementation of Directive 2009/81/EC, concerning procurement in the fields of defence and security, and of Directive 2009/43/EC, concerning the transfer of defence-related products

The resolution highlighted the need to ensure better enforcement and stronger application of Directive 2009/81/EC and Directive 2009/43/EC, the need to improve the level of participation of SMEs in the defence market, the importance of transparency and access to data and the correct usage of exemptions. It also pointed out that no revision of these directives is necessary since the existing regulatory framework should be sufficient if correctly implemented and properly used.

For more information see here.

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 10 March 2021 on the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 laying down harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products (the Construction Products Regulation)

The resolution deplored the under-performance of the standardisation system. It called on the Commission to consider the possibility of gradually enhancing the CPR by including additional information obligations and product performance requirements on health. safetv environmental aspects. Moreover, it pointed to the lack of digitalisation in the construction sector. Parliament called for the sustainability performance of construction products to be addressed in the revision of the CPR. It asked the Commission to assess how the CPR could promote the circularity of construction products, including by supporting the use of or remanufactured products or products manufactured from recycled materials.

For more information see here.

Legislative Opinions

Associated Committee

Title Reference

Opinion for the ENVI Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Detergents and surfactants, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 648/2004

The opinion emphasises three points: protecting consumers through the use of hybrid labels, reducing burden by requiring a digital passport only at the product level (not batch level) and by removing the requirement for a CE label.

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's net-zero technology products manufacturing ecosystem (Net Zero Industry Act)

The opinion focuses mainly on public procurement and related sustainability and resilience criteria. Specifically, it aims at keeping the public procurement procedure open, fair, transparent and non-discriminatory, while preventing the resilience criteria from leading to unfair competition.

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ENVI Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2019/904, and repealing Directive 94/62/EC

IMCO's opinion is designed to strengthen the Commission provisions via greater consumer protection, increase labelling requirements, set clearer deadlines on delegated/implementing acts, introduce a new Expert Forum, include specific measures to assist SMEs, and address the packaging on goods delivered through platforms.

For more information see here.

Opinion for the CULT Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Establishing a common framework for media services in the internal market (European Media Freedom Act) and amending Directive 2010/13/EU

IMCO's opinion aims to enhance consistency of the Media Act with other files namely, Digital Services and Digital Markets Acts, and the Audiovisual Media Services Directive. It also seeks to clarify the scope, strengthen the independence of the European Board of Media Services, increase safeguards for media services vis-a-vis content moderation, as well as reinforce rules on state advertising.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Opinion for the ENVI Committee on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for setting ecodesign requirements for sustainable products and repealing Directive 2009/125/EC

The Regulation aims to improve the circularity, energy performance, and other sustainability aspects of products placed in the Internal Market. It provides for information requirements on environmental sustainability of products, making sustainable products the norm and introducing new labelling requirements. It also includes measures to prevent

the destruction of unsold consumer goods, as well as criteria for green public procurement. The new framework will benefit consumers, since products' performance will be extended, costs will be reduced, and more information on products will be available. Businesses should also benefit thanks to a more level playing field.

Opinion for the joint AFET-ITRE Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European defence industry reinforcement through common procurement act

The Regulation addresses the most urgent and critical gaps in EU defense capabilities. It establishes a short-term instrument with a budget of €300 million to incentivise Member States to jointly purchase defence products. The administrative costs can be partially reimbursed provided that actions are taken by a consortium of at least three Members States. Contractors and subcontractors are established and have their executive management structure in the EU or in an associated country. At least 65 percent of the end products' components must originate from the EU or an associated country. This IMCO opinion focused on the core of the regulation, that is the public procurement mechanisms and its regulations.

For more information see here.

<u>Opinion</u> for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's semiconductor ecosystem (Chips Act)

The Regulation aims to address semiconductor shortages and strengthen Europe's technological leadership in the microchips sector. It should mobilise public and private investments and set measures to prepare, anticipate and swiftly respond to any future supply chain disruptions, which could affect the functioning of the internal market. This would increase the Union's resilience and security of supply in the field of semiconductors. In particular, IMCO suggested to clarify the role of the actors in the semiconductor value chain and identify early warning indicators of possible crisis situations.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for the internal markets in renewable and natural gases and in hydrogen

IMCO's opinion proposes common rules for the internal markets in renewable and natural gases and hydrogen. The focus is on consumer protection and empowerment provisions, in particular, the provisions on basic contractual rights, including information to consumers, the right to switch

gas suppliers, comparison tools and consumers at risk of energy poverty or vulnerable customers.

Opinion for the ENVI Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation and repealing Regulation (EU) No 995/2010

The regulation lays down mandatory due diligence rules for the placing on the Union market of certain commodities and products linked to deforestation and forest degradation. IMCO's opinion aimed at strengthening the due diligence rules, market surveillance, and customs controls, while taking into account the need to support operators to comply with due diligence requirements.

For more information see here.

Opinion for the INTA Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on foreign subsidies distorting the internal market

IMCO's opinion on the new legislation to prevent or remedy the disruptive effects of Foreign Subsidies addressed the need for a level playing field in the single market for all actors. It suggests to do this by ensuring subsidy control mechanism for third country undertakings and underlining this with proportionate redressive measures. IMCO focussed on public procurement elements, such as investigating abnormally low tenders and ensuring effective transparent procedural rules with low administrative burdens.

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ENVI Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning batteries and waste batteries, repealing Directive 2006/66/EC and amending Regulation (EU) No 2019/1020

The Regulation provides for a harmonised legislative framework for the placing of batteries on the EU market and address also the functioning of recycling markets with a view to enance its efficiency. Furthermore, the environmental and social consequences of the production, use, and end-of-life management of batteries have been addressed. Among IMCO's suggestions, those concerning common chargers, the establishment of a union testing facility, and the creation of national competence centers for batteries were also included.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Opinion for the INTA Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the access of third-country goods and services to the Union's internal market in public procurement and procedures supporting negotiations on access of Union goods and services to the public procurement markets of third countries

The opinion proposes to simplify and improve the effectiveness of the IPI Regulation. It narrows down the exceptions foreseen in Article 12 and aligns them as well with the Public Procurement Directive, thus – avoiding that the exemptions are used extensively and without sufficient monitoring. It also foresees a stronger Commission role by authorising it to object to an exception that lacks sufficient justification.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Opinion for the EMPL Committee on protecting workers from asbestos

The opinion to an own legislative initiative (INL) calls on the Commission to present a legislative proposal on mandatory screening of asbestos in buildings prior to their sale or rental and on establishing minimum requirements for locating all asbestos-containing materials in buildings built before 2005 or the year of the national asbestos ban. The opinion proposes that the screening is validated by a certificate and, it must be carried out by qualified and certified operators, in order to protect users or occupants.

Other Legislative Opinions

Title

Opinion for the EMPL Committee on the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities

For more information see here.

Opinion for the JURI Committee on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on European cross-border associations

For more information see here.

Opinion for the JURI Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Standard essential patents and amending Regulation (EU)2017/1001

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2019/881 as regards managed security services

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ENVI Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on type-approval of motor vehicles and engines and of systems, components and separate technical units intended for such vehicles, with respect to their emissions and battery durability (Euro 7) and repealing Regulations (EC) No 715/2007 and (EC) No 595/2009

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down measures for a high level of public sector interoperability across the Union (Interoperable Europe Act)

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on Amending Regulations (EU) 2019/943 and (EU) 2019/942 as well as Directives (EU) 2018/2001 and (EU) 2019/944 to improve the Union's electricity market design

For more information see here.

Opinion for the JURI Committee on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence and amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Opinion for the JURI Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on geographical indication protection for craft and industrial products and amending Regulations (EU) 2017/1001 and (EU) 2019/1753

of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Decision (EU) 2019/1754

For more information see here.

Opinion for the TRAN Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network, amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1153 and Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulation (EU) 1315/2013

For more information see here.

Opinion for the INTA Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of the Union and its Member States from economic coercion by third countries

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ENVI Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Regulation on serious cross-border threats to health repealing Decision No 1082/2013/EU

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ECON Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 as regards the EU Recovery prospectus and targeted adjustments for financial intermediaries to help the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

For more information see here.

Non-Legislative Opinions

Associated Committee

Title References

Opinion for the EMPL Committee on impacts of EU rules on the free movements of workers and services: intra-EU labour mobility as a tool to match labour market needs and skills

The opinion points to the insufficient implementation and lack of enforcement of EU rules, Member States' usage of public interest as a pretext to protect their domestic markets, divergent national measures, burdensome legal requirements, administrative practices and territorial restrictions which create unjustified barriers and obstacles for businesses. The provision of cross-border services in the internal market is therefore hindered, depriving citizens of jobs, consumers of choices and businesses of opportunities.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Opinion for the ENVI Committee on New Circular Economy Action Plan

The opinion calls on the Commission to grant consumers a "right to repair" and to tackle planned obsolescence. It also highlighted the need for clear and easily-understandable harmonised voluntary labelling according to product durability. The opinion stressed the importance of standardisation in implementing a sustainable product policy, notably in the context of the introduction of a common charger for electronic devices, and the need for an uptake of green, social and innovation public procurement.

For more information see here.

Other Non-Legislative Opinions

Title

Opinion for the ECON Committee on Competition policy — annual report 2023

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ENVI Committee on the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ECON Committee on the competition policy - annual report 2022

For more information see here.

Opinion for the CULT Committee on the implementation of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive

For more information see here.

Opinion for the BUDG Committee on Upscaling the 2021–2027 Multiannual Financial Framework: a resilient EU budget fit for new challenges

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the implementation of the Updated New Industrial Strategy for Europe: aligning spending to policy

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ECON Committee on on competition policy – annual report 2021

For more information see here.

Opinion for the Committee on Legal Affairs on an intellectual property action plan to support the EU's recovery and resilience

For more information see here.

Opinion for the joint ENVI-AGRI Committee on a Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system

Opinion for the JURI Committee on European Union regulatory fitness and subsidiarity and proportionality – report on Better Law Making covering the years 2017, 2018 and 2019

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ECON Committee on competition policy — annual report 2020

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on a new strategy for European SMEs

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on a New Industrial Strategy for Europe

For more information see here.

Opinion for the joint AFET-INTA Committee on the recommendations on the negotiations for a new partnership with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Opinion for the ECON Committee on Competition Policy - Annual Report 2019

II. Digital Single Market

Legislative Reports

Title References

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence (Artificial Intelligence Act) and amending certain Union legislative acts – joint with the LIBE Committee

The AI Act aims to enhance the AI's trustworthiness and foster innovation. It introduces safeguards for safety, security, and fundamental rights, while also establishing "legal sandboxes³" and "real-world AI testing" to promote innovation and provide legal clarity. It prohibits specific usecases, requires adequate transparency for General Purpose AI models with systemic risks, and mandates a comprehensive risk assessment process for high-risk AI systems. The first set of penalties for non compliance will be applicable 12 months after entry into force, by mid-2025 at the earliest.

For more information see here.

Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a Single Market For Digital Services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act)

The Digital Services Act (DSA) regulates online intermediaries and platforms such as marketplaces, social networks, content-sharing platforms, app stores, and online travel and accommodation platforms. Its main goal is to prevent illegal and harmful activities online and the spread of disinformation. It ensures user safety, protects fundamental rights, and creates a fair and open online platform environment. As of 17 February 2024, these rules apply to all platforms.

For more information see here.

Regulation (EU) 2022/1925 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 September 2022 on contestable and fair markets in the digital sector and amending Directives (EU) 2019/1937 and (EU) 2020/1828 (Digital Markets Act)

³ A legal sandbox in the domain of Al legislation in the EU refers to a regulatory framework that allows for real-world experimentation with Al technologies under a controlled environment, to assess their impact, ensure compliance with EU laws, and identify necessary legal adaptations for innovation and consumer protection.

The Digital Markets Act (DMA) bans certain practices used by large platforms acting as gatekeepers and enables the Commission to carry out market investigations and sanction non-compliant behaviour. It targets large companies providing the so-called "core platform services" most prone to unfair business practices, such as social networks or search engines, with a market capitalisation of at least 75 billion euro or an annual turnover of 7.5 billion. To be designated as "gatekeepers", these companies must also provide certain services such as browsers, messengers or social media, which have at least 45 million monthly end users in the EUand 10 000 annual business users.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 20 October 2020 with recommendations to the Commission on the Digital Services Act: Improving the functioning of the Single Market

The own legislative initiative (INL) report welcomed the Commission's commitment to propose legislation on digital services (DSA) consisting of a proposal amending the E-Commerce directive and a proposal establishing ex ante rules⁴ on systemic operators with a gatekeeper role (DMA). The Parliament proposed clear obligations reagrding transparency and information, to tackle illegal online content, and that fundamental rights of consumers and users, including minors, should be protected in the context of online adverstising. This report called for effective supervision, cooperation and proportionate, effective and dissuasive penalties, including fines.

For more information see here.

Non-Legislative Reports

Title

European Parliament resolution of 17 January 2024 on virtual worlds — opportunities, risks and policy implications for the single market

The resolution does not call for specific new legislation but emphasises the necessity of examining their coverage under existing legislation. It calls for regular legislative reviews, biennial public reports, and emphasises the economic

References

For more information see here.

⁴ Ex ante rules refer to proactive regulatory measures designed to address potential issues or regulate specific activities before they occur, aiming to ensure compliance, prevent harm, or guide the development and deployment of technologies and practices in a manner consistent with EU objectives and values.

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potential of virtual worlds. Investments in infrastructure, research, and skills development are highlighted, alongside the need to shape these worlds in line with EU values, rights, and consumer protection. The report also addresses challenges like disinformation, cybercrime, and data protection, advocating for inclusive and accessible virtual environments and calls for their implementation in a sustainable way.

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 18 April 2023 on eGovernment accelerating digital public services that support the functioning of the single market

In its resolution Parliament emphasised that eGovernment should be the primary way in which government services function, while ensuring that public services are fully accessible to all. Member States and the Commission should ensure cross-border collaboration between public administrations and identify best practices in eGovernment. The resolution underlined the importance of removing the remaining barriers in the single market. Itemphasised that improving access to finance encourages the entry and growth of innovative companies thus fostering competition. eGovernment could help speed up this transition.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 20 May 2021 on shaping the digital future of Europe: removing barriers to the functioning of the digital single market and improving the use of Al for European consumers

Following the Commission's communication to draft an Al Act, Parliament decided to adopt several own initiative reports to express its expectations regarding the future Al legislation. IMCO's report emphasized the need for Al to align with ethics, data security, and consumer protection, advocating for a robust digital single market. It underscored the importance of Al in advancing the EU's industrial and Green Deal strategies, particularly post-COVID-19. It called for comprehensive Al regulation, fostering innovation while ensuring public trust and underlined the importance of global Al standards.

Implementation Reports

Title References

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 13 December 2023 on the implementation of the 2018 Geo-blocking Regulation in the digital single market

Given the acceleration of the digital transformation and the rise in online shopping, Members stressed the need for a comprehensive reassessment of the effectiveness of the Geo-blocking Regulation. They called on the Commission and the Member States to take further steps to ease the access and operations of cross-border parcel delivery services. For online payment methods, all consumers must be able to shop like a local, without requiring a national payment method or phone number. They requested the Commission to assess the possible extension of the scope of the Geo-blocking Regulation to audiovisual content.

For more information see here.

Legislative Opinions

Associated Committee

Title References

Opinion for the LIBE Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse

The regulation aims to prevent and combat child sexual abuse materials (CSAM) by requiring digital platforms in the EU to detect and report such material. The Parliament underlines the need to transition from a voluntary system to detect, report and take down CSAM to a mandatory one, while respecting the principle of prohibition of general monitoring. The IMCO opinion focuses on legal certainty and consistency with existing rules in DSA and e-Commerce Directive, such as the assessment of systemic risks, mitigation measures and due diligence obligations.

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on horizontal cybersecurity requirements for products with digital elements and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020

The Cyber Resilience Act applies all products connected directly or indirectly to another device or network. The regulation introduces rules for cybersecurity requirements governing the planning, design, development and maintenance of such products, with obligations to be met at

every stage of the value chain. The IMCO opinion focuses on the legal clarity and coherence of the proposed rules with the NIS2 Directive, GPSR, the AI Act, and the Machinery Regulation.

Opinion for the joint ENVI-LIBE committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Health Data Space (EHDS)

The Regulation improves the individuals' access to and control over their personal electronic health data, while also enabling certain data to be reused for research and innovation purposes. The IMCO opinion improves the electronic health record (EHR) systems by clarifying relevant definitions, ensuring that the Commission uses harmonised standards on security and interoperability for EHR systems, as well as reconciling the scope of the EHDS with other sectoral legislation, such as the Medical Devices Regulation, In-vitro Medical Device Regulation, the AI Act, and Data Act.

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on harmonised rules on fair access to and use of data (Data Act)

The Data Act ensures fairness in the digital environment, stimulate a competitive data market, open opportunities for data-driven innovation and make data more accessible. The regulation introduces rules on data portability, data sharing, data processing, as well as access and use of data by public sector bodies, and data and cloud inteoperatiblity. The IMCO opinion focuses on obligations of cloud services providers to facilitate switching process, to support customers' exit strategy and to prevent lock-in effect.

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 as regards establishing a framework for a European Digital Identity

The IMCO opinion focused on the new European Digital Identity Wallets, a key aspect of the proposal. These wallets would empower all European citizens, consumers, and businesses to securely access online services without relying on identification means provided by large platforms, thereby avoiding the unnecessary sharing of personal data. Thus users would have full control of the data they share, ensuring a high level of consumer protection. The opinion also sought to tackle the current situation with weak or non-existent digital verification which represents a considerable burden both in terms of cost and bureaucracy, compounded by the

differing operational and regulatory requirements across Member States.

Opinion for the LIBE Committee on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the resilience of critical entities

The Directive enhancesthe resilience of critical entities in the internal market by laying down harmonised minimum rules and assisting them by means of coherent and dedicated support and supervision measures. IMCO's opinion focuses mainly on the identification of critical entities and coherence with the <u>NIS 2 Directive</u>, significant disruptive effect of critical entities on the functioning of the internal market and incident notification through the single point of contact of a Member State.

For more information see here.

<u>Opinion</u> for the JURI Committee with recommendations to the Commission on Digital Services Act: adapting commercial and civil law rules for commercial entities operating online

The IMCO opinion focused on the need for transparency and accountability for online advertising; protection of consumers from scams and active monitoring of advertisements by platforms in the context of the COVID-19 crisis; consumer rights in the area of smart contracts and of pre-formulated standard clauses and contractual terms, as well prevention of gold-plating practices.

For more information see here.

<u>Opinion</u> for the JURI Committee with recommendations to the Commission on the framework of ethical aspects of artificial intelligence, robotics and related technologies

The IMCO opinion recommended that the JURI report drafted in 2020 in preparation for the then future AI Act included considerations for: ensuring high consumer protection; having rules applying across the whole value chain; taking a human-centric and risk-based approach; requiring high quality and unbiased training data; guaranteeing algorithm transparency and explainability to consumers; ensuring availability of remedies and dispute resolution; promoting digital literacy and diversity in developer teams; establishing a European center of expertise and coordination between national authorities for effective oversight and avoiding fragmentation of the internal market through regulation.

Other Legislative Opinions

Title

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the 2030 Policy Programme "Path to the Digital Decade"

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union, repealing Directive (EU) 2016/1148 (NIS 2)

For more information see here.

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European data governance (Data Governance Act)

For more information see here.

Opinion for the JURI Committee on Civil liability regime for artificial intelligence

For more information see here.

Non-Legislative Opinions

Associated Committee

Title	References
Opinion for the ITRE Committee on a European strategy for data	
The IMCO opinion covers aspects related to the creation of a genuine single market for data. It also focused on the issue of access to and control of consumers' data, in particular of vulnerable consumers such as minors, elderly people or persons with disabilities. It highlights the need to create common European data spaces. The opinion also touches upon environmental issues, cloud services, interoperability and portability of data as well as data sharing and new technologies.	information see

Other Non-Legislative Opinions

Title

Opinion for the LIBE Committee on artificial intelligence in criminal law and its use by the police and judicial authorities in criminal matters

For more information see here.

Opinion for the LIBE Committee on Digital Services Act and fundamental rights issues posed

For more information see here.

<u>Opinion</u> for the JURI Committee on artificial intelligence: questions of interpretation and application of international law in so far as the EU is affected in the areas of civil and military uses and of state authority outside the scope of criminal justice

For more information see here.

Opinion for the JURI Committee on Intellectual property rights for the development of artificial intelligence technologies

For more information see here.

Opinion for the CULT Committee on artificial intelligence in education, culture and the audiovisual sector

III. Consumer Policy

Legislative Reports

Title References

<u>Parliament first reading</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on combating late payment in commercial transactions

The proposal seeks to replace the current Late Payment Directive 2011/7/EU with a Regulation, to address the shortcomings of the legal framework in force. It present lacks sufficient preventive measures and suitable deterrents, whereas the new rules seek to improve the payment discipline of all concerned actors (public authorities, large companies and SMEs) and protect companies from the negative effects of payment delays in commercial transactions. The main change would entail limiting the payment period and the duration of the procedure of acceptance or verification to a maximum of 30 days, and by eliminating any reference to the concept of grossly unfair practices and clauses. The committee vote is to take place in March 2024. Interinstitutional negotiations are expected to start after the European elections.

For more information see here.

<u>Parliament first reading</u> on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on substantiation and communication of explicit environmental claims (Green Claims Directive) – joint with the ENVI Committee

The Green Claims Directive introduces rules for substantiation and verification of explicit green claims and for labelling schemes. Parliament's position proposes a simplified verification system for some explicit environmental claims. Two other important changes concern green claims made on carbon offsetting and those made on products containing hazardous substances. Parliament's position also amends the transposition period and introduces a provision for a transitional period for small businesses. Interinstitutional negotiations are expected to start after the European elections.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

<u>Parliament first reading</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Regulation (EU) No 524/2013 and amending Regulations (EU) 2017/2394 and (EU) 2018/1724 with regards to the discontinuation of the European ODR Platform

MEPs agreed with the Commission legislative proposal to discontinue the underused online platform (ODR), in order to make way for a more effective digital tool. This legislative

For more information see <u>here.</u>

document is being considered alongside the below legislative file (ADR).

<u>Parliament first reading</u> on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2013/11/EU on alternative dispute resolution for consumer disputes, as well as Directives (EU) 2015/2302, (EU) 2019/2161 and (EU) 2020/1828

Parliament approved new rules to enhance out-of-court consumer redress mechanisms. Members want airline carriers to participate, on a mandatory basis, in the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanism. The new revised directive aims to increase consumer and trader awareness of ADR processes. MEPs sought to streamline dispute resolution by bundling similar cases with consumers' consent, facilitating direct consumer-trader interaction, and maintaining high-quality ADR entities. Interinstitutional negotiations are expected to start after the European elections.

For more information see here.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on liability for defective products – joint with the JURI Committee

This directive seeks to update the existing legislation to better align product liability rules with the challenges posed by products in the digital age. The proposed updates aim to address several key objectives. Firstly, they aim to tackle issues stemming from global value chains by ensuring that there is always a business within the EU that can be held accountable for defective products purchased directly outside the EU, particularly through online marketplaces. Secondly, the directive aims to simplify the burden of proof in complex cases and loosen restrictions on making claims, all while maintaining a fair balance between individuals/consumers and product producers. Finally, the directive aims to enhance legal certainty by aligning the product liability regime more closely with the current legislative framework for products and product safety rules. Through these updates, the directive endeavors to provide a more robust and adaptable framework for addressing product liability concerns in the digital age.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules promoting the repair of goods and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/2394, Directives (EU) 2019/771 and (EU) 2020/1828

The Directive obliges manufacturers to provide information concerning spare parts in their website, make them available to all parties in the repair sector at a reasonable price and

forbid practices that prevent the use of second-hand or 3D printed spare parts by independent repairers. The provision of the European Repair Information Form will be voluntary. A European online repair platform with national sections instead of 27 national platforms will be established to allow consumers to find repairers. The Directive allows consumers to choose between repair and replacement. If the consumer chooses to repair, the seller's liability period will be extended by 12 months from the moment when the product is brought into conformity. Each Member State will have to introduce at least one measure to promote repair, such as repair vouchers and funds, information campaigns, repair courses or support for community-led repair spaces.

<u>First reading agreement</u> on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on amending Directives 2005/29/EC and 2011/83/EU as regards empowering consumers for the green transition through better protection against unfair practices and better information

The Directive provides consumers with enhanced protection against unfair commercial practices and better and clearer information. The directive contains the harmonised label intended to increase the visibility of the voluntary commercial guarantee of durability and informing consumers about their right of legal guarantee of conformity. Moreover, the new rules prohibit claims based on emissions offsetting schemes that a product has neutral, reduced or positive impact on the environment. Moreover, presenting software updates as necessary where they only enhance functionality features or inducing the consumer into replacing or replenishing the consumables of a good earlier than necessary will be forbidden. Strong measures against early obsolescence are also included in the text.

For more information see here.

<u>Directive (EU) 2023/2673</u> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 November 2023 amending Directive 2011/83/EU as regards financial services contracts concluded at a distance and repealing Directive 2002/65/EC

The Directive repeals the <u>Distance Marketing of Financial Services Directive</u> 2002/65/EC (DMFSD) and transfers its provisions into the Consumer Rights Directive, while simplifying and modernising them. The law will boost consumer protection online and provide legal clarity to traders. It serves as a "safety net" - all financial services which are not covered by specific <u>sectoral legislation</u> (e.g. <u>consumer credits</u>, <u>mortgages</u>) are covered by these rules. Some of the key provisions concern a ban on dark patterns, pre-contractual information including adequate explanations, right to request human intervention, and a

withdrawal function prominently displayed on the online interface and easily accessible.

<u>Directive (EU) 2023/2225</u> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 October 2023 on credit agreements for consumers and repealing Directive 2008/48/EC

The Directive repeals Directive 2008/48/EC on credit agreements for consumers. Among the changes is the significant extension of the scope. Under the new rules, the information requirements have also been adapted to ensure they are appropriate for digital devices, and information free of charge will have to be provided to consumers. The Directive also provides for more rules on a proper assessment of a consumer's creditworthiness prior to offering credit. It includes stricter rules on advertising to reduce miss-selling to over-indebted consumers, including details on information that must be included, and banned practices. The text also lays down rules on what should be included in precontractual information and when it communicated. New measures also include caps on charges, to prevent abuse and ensure consumers cannot be charged excessive interest rates or annual rates. Finally, the Directive will also grant consumers the right to withdraw from a credit agreement with no reason within 14 days of its signing.

For more information see here.

<u>Directive (EU) 2021/2118</u> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2021 amending Directive 2009/103/EC relating to insurance against civil liability in respect of the use of motor vehicles, and the enforcement of the obligation to insure against such liability

This Directive included several new provisions into the current Motor Insurance Directive, seeking to protect policyholders and victims of road accidents. It ensures that victims of accidents are compensated even if the insurance company goes bankrupt. Also, an EU-harmonised "Claims History Statement" will prevent discrimination when a policyholder moves from one EU member state to another. Citizens will also be able to compare prices, tariffs and coverage offered by different providers more easily thanks to new free-of-charge and independent price comparison tools. At the same time, in order to avoid overregulation, the amended rules exclude vehicles going slower than 14km/h (such as garden tractors and mobility scooters) and electric bicycles from insurance obligations. Vehicles intended exclusively for motorsports are also excluded from the Directive.

Non-Legislative Reports

Title References

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 12 December 2023 on addictive design of online services and consumer protection in the EU single market

The Resolution calls for a ban on addictive techniques like endless scrolling or autoplay, to introduce a digital "right to not be disturbed" and ban recommender systems. Highlighting the lack of transparency consumers and enforcers experience on online services, MEPs believe companies should be obliged to develop ethical and fair digital products and services "by design" without dark patterns, misleading, or addictive design. It means to give input to the Commission's digital fairness fitness check and points out Parliament's right to legislative action, in case Commission does not bring the necessary proposals.

For more information see here.

<u>European Parliament resolution</u> of 18 January 2023 on consumer protection in online video games: a European single market approach

The Resolution underlines that, despite the measures already taken, a single, coordinated approach between Member States towards better protection of consumers is needed. Many consumers playing these games are minors, who need to be especially protected from harms like gaming disorders and mechanisms such as loot boxes, which work with gambling-like features. In this context, the Resolution calls on the Commission to explore the possibility to entrench parental control rating systems such as PEGI in EU law.

For more information see here.

European Parliament Resolution of 7 April 2022 on the right to repair

The resolution is structured around three main parts, which correspond to the three legislative initiatives of Eco-design Regulation, Empowering Consumers in the green transition and Right to Repair. Firstly, the motion recalls the need to design products that last longer and can be repaired. Secondly, it calls on the Commission to ensure that consumers are empowered to choose repairable products. Thirdly, the motion recognises the need to strengthen consumer rights and introduce longer legal guarantee periods for certain product categories.

Legislative Opinions

Associated Committee

Title References

Opinion for the ITRE Committee on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on roaming on public mobile communications networks within the Union (recast)

The validity of the Regulation was extended by 10 years, until 2032, in order to provide certainty to the roaming market and to minimise regulatory burdens. It applies both to charges levied by network operators at wholesale level and to charges levied by roaming providers at retail level. IMCO's opinion aimed to make improvements to contractual provisions on the quality of service while roaming, adequate information for customers on the means of access to emergency services and possibility for the Commission to assess price caps on intra-EU communications.



IMCO Members at a committee meeting (Copyright: European Parliament (2023))

IV. Customs Policy

Legislative Reports

Title References

<u>Parliament first reading</u> on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Union Customs Code and the European Union Customs Authority, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 952/2013

Parliament wants to integrate the Customs Single Window Regulation into the proposal and reduce application dates for the new Customs Data Hub and EU Customs Authority. In addition, MEPs streamlined the provisions on the authorised and economic operator (AEO) and the new scheme for Trust and Check trader, as well as aspects related to the EU Customs Data Hub, and Risk Management. Simplifications for SMEs have been introduced and the role of the European Parliament within the Management Board of the EU Customs Authority was strengthened. The vote in plenary took place in March. Interinstitutional negotiations will begin in the new legislative term. Interinstitutional negotiations are expected to start after the European elections.

For more information see here.

Regulation (EU) 2022/2399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 November 2022 establishing the European Union Single Window Environment for Customs and amending Regulation (EU) No 952/2013

The Regulation establishes common rules for a harmonised and integrated EU single window environment for customs (SWE-C). This environment comprises a set of fully integrated electronic services provided at EU and national level in order to facilitate information sharing and digital cooperation between customs authorities and partner competent authorities and to streamline the goods clearance process for economic operators. The Regulation lays down rules for the national single window environments for customs and on digital administrative cooperation and information sharing through interoperable data sets, within the SWE-C.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Regulation (EU) 2021/444 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2021 establishing the customs programme for cooperation in the field of customs and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1294/2013

The objectives of the programme are to support the development and uniform implementation of customs legislation and policy, customs cooperation, administrative and IT capacity building, including human skills and training, and the development and operation of European electronic systems, and innovation in the field of customs policy. The

financial envelope for the implementation of the programme for the period 2021-2027 is set at EUR 950 million.

Regulation (EU) 2021/1077 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 establishing, as part of the Integrated Border Management Fund, the instrument for financial support for customs control equipment

The objective of the instrument is to contribute to adequate and equivalent levels of customs control performance through the transparent purchase, maintenance and upgrading of relevant, modern and reliable customs control equipment, which should also be secure, safe and environmentally friendly. The financial envelope for the implementation of the instrument for the period 2021–2027 is set at EUR 1 006 407 000.

For more information see here.

Legislative Opinions

Title

Opinion for the joint AFCO, AFET, and INTA Committee on Union's rights in enforcing and implementing the UK Withdrawal Agreement (WA) and the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) (2022/0068(COD))

For more information see here.

Non-Legislative Opinions

Associated Committee

Title	References
Opinion for the joint AFET-INTA Committee on the implement EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA)	tation report on the
The implementation report recalls that the conclusion of the TCA, limits the negative consequences of the UK's withdrawal from the EU and establishes a cooperation framework which should form the basis of a strong and constructive future partnership, avoiding the most disruptive elements of a 'no-deal' scenario and providing legal certainty for citizens and businesses. The IMCO opinion calls on the Commission to ensure that the EU and the UK cooperate closely in customs, by ensuring an effective exchange of information, constructive dialogue and effective methods of cooperation between customs administrations, and to	information see

regularly monitor	the	impact	of	the	TCA	on	the	internal
market and consu	mers							

Other Non-Legislative Opinions

Title

Opinion for the AFCO Committee Implementation report on the Agreement on the withdrawal of the UK from the EU

For more information see here.

Opinion for the AFCO Committee on Conclusion of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community

For more information see <u>here</u>.

V. EU Budget

Non-Legislative Opinions for the BUDG Committee

Title

Opinion on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2024 – all sections

For more information see here.

Opinion on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2023 – all sections

For more information see here.

Opinion on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022 – all sections

For more information see here.

Opinion on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2021 – all sections

For more information see here.

Opinion on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2020 – all sections

IMCO Scrutiny and oversight activities

Hearing of Commissioners

- Ms Sylvie Goulard, Commissioner-designate for the Internal Market (candidature withdrawn)
- Mr Thierry Breton, Commissioner for the Internal Market
- Ms Margrethe Vestager, Executive Vice President Europe Fit for Digital Age
- Mr Didier Reynders, Commissioner for Justice
- Mr Gentiloni, Commissioner for the Economy

Structured dialogue with Commissioners

Commissioner for the Internal Market

The Committee held several exchanges of views with Commissioner Breton on the COVID-19 crisis. The Committee asked the Commission to preserve the internal market rules and ensure the circulation of goods and services, avoid uncoordinated measures, and provide help to citizens and businesses. Further to that, broad debates were held on the digital services act and digital market act with a view to tackling effectively the challenges of the digital economy. Members requested to put an emphasis on consumer protection and to provide for more stringent rules for online market places. Members' questions to the Commissioner focused on the resilience of the internal market in the context of the recovery from COVID-19, the war in Ukraine, and possible future crises. The need to boost investment in the green and digital transition was also stressed.

Executive Vice President - Europe Fit for Digital Age

The Committee repeatedly questioned Executive Vice-President Vestager on the Digital Services Act and Digital Markets Act. This covered the periods before the presentation of the Commission proposals, during the legislative negotiations and after adoption of the acts. As regards the post-adoption phase, Members called for a strong focus on implementation and enforcement of digital single market legislation, including these two acts. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee requested guidance on facilitating e-commerce and the role of online platforms while ensuring consumer protection. In the light of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, IMCO Members recalled the urgency of developing safe digital infrastructures and stopping the distribution of disinformation and promoting European values in the digital world. Members asked the Executive Vice-President to develop a vision for virtual worlds that promotes innovation, ensures consumer protection and is future-proof and fully compliant with EU legislation and values.

Commissioner for Justice

The Committee held exchanges of views with Commissioner Reynders. In particular. Members called on the Commission to monitor the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on consumers and stressed the need to address issues such as unfair commercial practices, cancelled transport and package travel services in a coordinated way. Apart from the COVID-19 crisis, the Committee asked the Commission to deliver the relevant legislative proposals announced in the New Consumer Agenda and the Annual Work Programmes and requested to maintain a strong focus on the digital and green transitions. The IMCO Members pointed out the importance to ensure coherence of all interlinked initiatives such as the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products, Green Claims, Empowering consumers for the green transition and the Right to Repair initiatives in order to avoid duplication of requirements, provide clear information to consumers and set clear obligations for businesses. The Committee repeatedly underlined the importance of proper enforcement and harmonisation of consumer rights and called on the Commission to further support and coordinate Member States' public enforcement actions as well as individual and collective private enforcement of consumer rights in this regard.

Commissioner for the Economy

IMCO held several exchanges of views with Commissioner Gentiloni on the customs union. The Committee addressed the Commission on the implementation of IT systems and their delays in the Member States and how the Commission aims to assist Member States to reach implementation deadlines. Members also asked repeatedly about the customs reform, including the proposal on a revised Union Customs Code, which had been delayed by the Commission several times. In this regard, they highlighted the report by the Wise Group on challenges facing the customs union, especially due to eCommerce and the new geo-political context, and their impact on new initatives.



Structured dialogue with Margrethe VESTAGER, Executive Vice President of the European Commission for a Europe Fit for the Digital Age, 27 March 2023 (Copyright: European Union (2023))

Delegated and implementing acts

Reference	Title
0004/0607/DEA	
2024/2623(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) supplementing Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council by establishing classes of performance in relation to the resistance to fire of construction products
2024/2615(DEA)	Commission Delegated Decision amending Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the evidence of formal qualifications and the titles of training courses
2024/2612(DEA)	Commission Delegated Directive amending Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the minimum training requirements for the professions of nurse responsible for general care, dental practitioner and pharmacist
2024/2611(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards adding processed manure as a component material in EU fertilising products
2024/2574(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2015/758 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the standards relating to eCall
2024/2538(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 as regards decisions relating to binding information in the field of customs valuation and decisions relating to binding origin information
2023/3039(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 as regards the proof of the customs status of Union goods and the customs formalities relating to electronic cargo sensor devices
2023/3010(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 as regards common data requirements for the purposes of exchange and storage of certain information under the customs legislation
2023/2982(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for supply, service and works contracts
2023/2978(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for supply, service and works contracts, and design contests

2023/2977(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for public supply, service and works contracts, and design contests
2023/2976(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for concessions
2023/2968(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation on the conditions for classification, without testing, of solid wood panelling and cladding with regard to their reaction to fire and amending Decision 2006/213/EC
2023/2931(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council, by laying down rules on the performance of audits for very large online platforms and very large online search engines
2023/2871(DEA)	Commission Delegated Directive amending Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the updating of the list of defence-related products in line with the updated Common Military List of the European Union of 20 February 2023
2023/2870(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending and correcting Delegated Regulation (EU) No 134/2014 as regards certain references to Regulations of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the availability of certain pure gases
2023/2814(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/30 as regards the date of application of the essential requirements for radio equipment and correcting that Regulation
2023/2813(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU)2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Single Market Programme
2023/2802(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 of the European Parliament and of the Council by laying down detailed rules concerning the specific test procedures and technical requirements for the type-approval of certain motor vehicles with regard to their advanced driver distraction warning systems and amending that Regulation

2023/2765(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2014/53/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the technical specifications for the charging receptacle and charging communication protocol for all the categories or classes of radio equipment capable of being recharged by means of wired charging
2023/2764(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation correcting certain language versions of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/1958 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 of the European Parliament and of the Council by laying down detailed rules concerning the specific test procedures and technical requirements for the type-approval of motor vehicles with regard to their intelligent speed assistance systems and for the type-approval of those systems as separate technical units
2023/2715(DEA)	Commission delegated decision amending and correcting Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the evidence of formal qualifications and the titles of training courses
2023/2619(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 to provide for simplified customs formalities for trusted traders and for sending parcels into Northern Ireland from another part of the United Kingdom
2023/2584(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council with the detailed methodologies and procedures regarding the supervisory fees charged by the Commission on providers of very large online platforms and very large online search engines
2023/2577(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/907 as regards the certificates of competency and the professional qualifications in certain Member States
2022/3018(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 as regards extending the possibilities for making customs declarations orally or by any other act deemed to be a customs declaration, the invalidation of declarations in specific cases, and specifying the exchange of information for entry summary declarations
2022/2964(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the minimum content of calcium oxide in straight solid inorganic macronutrient fertilisers

2022/2877(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2021/444 of the European Parliament and of the Council with provisions on the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation framework
2022/2872(DEA)	Commission Delegated Directive amending Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the updating of the list of defence-related products in line with the updated Common Military List of the European Union of 21 February 2022
2022/2757(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1077 of the European Parliament and of the Council with provisions on the establishement of a monitoring and evaluation framework
2022/2732(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Annexes I, II, IV and V to Regulation (EU) 2018/858 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the technical requirements for vehicles produced in unlimited series, vehicles produced in small series, fully automated vehicles produced in small series and special purpose vehicles, and as regards software update
2022/2714(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 of the European Parliament and of the Council to take into account technical progress and regulatory developments concerning amendments to Vehicle Regulations adopted in the context of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
2022/2669(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the requirements applicable to EU fertilising products containing inhibiting compounds and the post processing of digestate
2022/2668(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2018/858 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the procedure for the imposition of administrative fines and the methods for their calculation and collection
2022/2606(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Annexes II, III and IV to Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council for the purpose of adding recovered high purity materials as a component material category in EU fertilising products
2022/2599(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council by laying down criteria on agronomic efficiency and safety for the use of byproducts in EU fertilising products

2022/2525(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 of the European Parliament and of the Council by laying down detailed rules concerning the specific test procedures and technical requirements for the type-approval of motor vehicles with regard to their event data recorder and for the type-approval of those systems as separate technical units and amending Annex II to that Regulation
2022/2509(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/985 as regards its transitional provisions for certain agricultural and forestry vehicles fitted with engines in the power range greater than or equal to 56kW and less than 130kW in order to address the impact of the COVID-19 crisis
2021/2970(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for supply, service and works contracts, and design contests
2021/2969(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for public supply, service and works contracts, and design contests
2021/2968(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for concessions
2021/2967(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for supply, service and works contracts
2021/2956(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Directive 2014/53/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the application of the essential requirements referred to in Article 3(3), points (d), (e) and (f), of that Directive
2021/2864(DEA)	Commission Delegated Decision amending Annex V to Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the evidence of formal qualifications and the titles of training courses
2021/2844(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 as regards certain provisions relating to the origin of goods
2021/2819(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Annexes II, III and IV to Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council for the purpose of adding pyrolysis or gasification materials as a component material category in EU fertilising products

2021/2795(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Annexes II, III and IV to Regulation (EU) No 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council for the purpose of adding thermal oxidation materials and derivates as a component material category in EU fertilising products
2021/2793(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Annexes II and IV to Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council for the purpose of adding precipitated phosphate salts and derivates as a component material category in EU fertilising products
2021/2774(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 of the European Parliament and of the Council by laying down detailed rules concerning the specific test procedures and technical requirements for the type-approval of motor vehicles with regard to their intelligent speed assistance systems and for the type-approval of those systems as separate technical units and amending Annex II to that Regulation
2021/2772(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Annexes II and VII to Regulation (EU) 2018/858 of the European Parliament and of the Council
2021/2771(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending, for the purpose of adaptation to technical progress, Annexes I, II, III and IV to Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules on the making available on the market of EU fertilising products
<u>2021/2717(DEA)</u>	Commission Delegated Regulation laying down the detailed arrangements under Directive (EU) 2021/555 of the European Parliament and of the Council for the systematic exchange, by electronic means, of information relating to refusals to grant authorisations to acquire or possess certain firearms
2021/2716(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Annex X to Regulation (EU) 2018/858 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the standardised access to vehicle on-board diagnostics information and repair and maintenance information, and the requirements and procedures for access to vehicle security information
2021/2661(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 of the European Parliament and of the Council by laying down detailed rules concerning the specific test procedures and technical requirements for the type-approval of motor vehicles with regard to their driver drowsiness and attention warning systems and amending Annex II to that Regulation

2021/2630(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 of the European Parliament and of the Council by laying down detailed rules concerning the alcohol interlock installation facilitation in motor vehicles and amending Annex II to that Regulation
2021/2589(DEA)	Commission Delegated Directive amending Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the updating of the list of defence-related products in line with the updated Common Military List of the European Union of 17 February 2020
2020/2908(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 as regards common data requirements, and Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/341 as regards the codes to be used in certain forms
2020/2890(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 as regards the time-limits for lodging entry summary declarations and pre-departure declarations in case of transport by sea from and to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man
2020/2753(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/985 as regards its transitional provisions in order to address the impact of the COVID-19 crisis
2020/2619(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending and correcting Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 952/2013, and amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/341 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 952/2013, laying down the Union Customs Code
2020/2546(DEA)	Commission Delegated Decision amending Annex V to Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the evidence of formal qualifications and the titles of training courses
2020/2530(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation correcting the Polish language version of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/208 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 167/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to vehicle functional safety requirements for the approval of agricultural and forestry vehicles
2019/2906(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for supply, service and works contracts
2019/2905(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for supply, service and works contracts, and design contests

2019/2904(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the threshold for concessions
2019/2903(DEA)	Commission Delegated Regulation amending Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council in respect of the thresholds for public supply, service and works contracts, and design contests
2023/2607(RPS)	Draft Commission Decision on children's products requirements
2022/2519(RPS)	Commission Regulation correcting certain language versions of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2195/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Common Procurement Vocabulary (CPV)
2021/2536(RPS)	Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to fertilisers for the purpose of including a new type of EC fertiliser in Annex I
2021/2527(RPS)	Commission Directive amending Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards specific limit values for aniline in certain toys
2020/2742(RPS)	Commission Directive amending Annex II to Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the prohibition of allergenic fragrances in toys
2020/2741(RPS)	Commission Directive amending Annex II to Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the labelling of allergenic fragrances in toys
2020/2654(RPS)	Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to fertilisers for the purpose of including a new type of EC fertilisers in Annex I
2019/2775(RPS)	Commission Directive amending Appendix C to Annex II to Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council for the purpose of adopting specific limit values for chemicals used in certain toys, as regards formaldehyde
2019/2774(RPS)	Commission Directive amending, for the purposes of adaptation to technical and scientific developments, point 13 of part III of Annex II to Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the safety of toys, as regards aluminium
2019/2735(RPS)	Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 1230/2012 as regards type-approval requirements for certain motor vehicles fitted with elongated cabs and for aerodynamic devices and equipment for motor vehicles and their trailers

Questions to the EC and the Council

Titel

Question for Oral Answer on the right to repair, 16 March 2022

Question for Oral Answer on Barriers to the free movement of goods, 28 October 2021

Question for Oral Answer on EU-EEA-Switzerland: internal market cooperation in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and more than 25 years of efforts to fully implement internal market rules, 17 March 2021

<u>Question for Oral Answer</u> on Evaluation of the Geo-blocking Regulation, 23 February 2021

Question for Oral Answer on automated decision-making processes: ensuring consumer protection and the free movement of goods and services, 23 January 2020



President Roberta Metsola addressing the plenary session of January 2023, during which a ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the single market was held and a resolution on the same topic adopted (Copyright: European Parliament (2023))

Fact finding and outreach activities

Missions and ad hoc delegations

Title	Date
Ad hoc Delegation to Washington D.C. (USA)	30 October - 2 November 2023
The delegation, intended as a follow-up of an earlier mission to San Francisco in May 2022, offered insights into the US digital policy landscape. It showed increased openness to EU legislation like the AI Act and DSA/DMA, but noted obstacles due to differing legal frameworks and political systems. Key takeaways: opportunities exist for greater cooperation, especially via the TTC and Congressional AI Caucus; continued EU-US dialogue through established channels is essential for seizing shared goals in emerging tech governance and consumer protection.	
Ad hoc Delegation to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem (Israel)	19 - 23 June 2023
The delegation offered insights into Israel's advanced digital economy and innovation ecosystem. Key takeaways: public-private initiatives spur progress in cloud computing, AI, and autonomous vehicles; aligning on standards and interoperable customs frameworks supports efficiency; consumer protection mechanisms ensure digital market fairness; innovations in vehicle safety tech illustrate regulation pushing standards; fostering startups in niche fields via dedicated entities aids EU collaboration. Overall, Israel provides models in digital services, customs, standards, and consumer protection applicable across various strategic technology sectors.	
Ad hoc Delegation to Tokyo and Kyoto (Japan)	15 - 19 May 2023
The main aim of the delegation was to discuss the Japanese regulatory approach to digital products and services, as Japan is one of the world leaders in the sector. Key takeaways: opportunities exist for greater cooperation, especially as Japan is in dire need to rapidly further develop their AI capacities. The timing of the delegation was extremely important, as it allowed conveying a message from the European Parliament to the organisers of the G7 summit in Hiroshima, which was then reflected in the Hiroshima G7 Leaders Communique.	
Ad hoc Delegation to Singapore	3 - 7 April 2023

The delegation's objective was to examine the control procedures in the world's biggest port for goods destined for the EU and to learn from Singapore's experience with its recently launched productivity drive to facilitate the transformation into a digital economy, as well as consumer protection in digital markets. Key takeaways: Singaporean standards of control of goods destined for the EU remain high; experiences on how to facilitate the transformation into a digital economy and – at the same time – guarantee the protection of consumers in digital markets; ASEAN experiences of access to the EU market and promotion of the EU model of digital transformation and high standards of consumer protection.	
Mission to Helsinki (Finland) and Tallinn (Estonia)	20 - 22 February 2023
The mission offered insights into circular economy and digital governance models. Key takeaways: financial incentives and convenience aid public behavior change toward sustainability; collaboration between academia and industry, as with Finland's sustainability engineering, boost innovation; Estonia's secure public digital infrastructure provides models for data confidentiality, availability and integrity; designing for circularity from product conception, as pioneered in the textile sector, enables value perpetuation. Overall, the visits provided applicable best practices across sectors furthering the green and digital transition.	
Mission to Dublin (Ireland)	19 - 21 December 2022
The mission offered insights into Brexit's impact on the Ireland-UK relationship and the Northern Ireland Protocol. Key takeaways: the Protocol supports all-island economic ties but customs declarations have surged; consumer protection cooperation faces gaps without a UK framework; supply chains, like in distilling and dairy, need tailored solutions; SMEs struggle with imports and certification; overall, a negotiated settlement on the Protocol seems necessary to safeguard social and economic progress from the Good Friday Agreement.	
Ad hoc Delegation to South Korea	31 October - 4 November 2022
The delegation offered insights into South Korea's advanced digital economy ecosystem and innovative capabilities. Key takeaways: homegrown platforms and infrastructure underpin digital adoption; semiconductor and battery	

industries are strategic strengths; consumer protection focuses on safety, education and dispute resolution; cooperation opportunities exist in emerging tech, data usage, and trade via the EU-Korea digital partnership; challenges remain on platform regulation, materials dependencies, and regional instability. Overall, South Korea provides several models across digital services applicable to the EU.	
Ad hoc Delegation to San Francisco (USA)	23 - 27 May 2022
The aim of the delegation was to exchange views on the digital policy agenda, especially on the newly agreed EU rules on online platforms – the Digital Services Act (DSA) and Digital Markets Act (DMA), which brought the EU in a new era of digital platform regulation. Key takeaways: as Europe is pioneering new digital laws that will have an impact beyond the EU, US companies took particular interest in Parliament's role in the process; gathering evidence and exchanging ideas on regulating big tech and moderating illegal content online; security and cybersecurity issues; transparency guidelines on how users should behave on the platforms; liability and level of autonomy reached by self-driving cars; using AI to combat counterfeit goods and secure product safety.	
Mission to Navarra (Spain)	11 - 13 April 2022
-	
The mission offered insights into Navarra's successful digital economy governance. Key takeaways: Navarra's long-term digital strategy, infrastructure investments, and business incentives have attracted innovative high-tech companies in biotech, AI and advanced materials; public-private partnerships spur progress in personalised medicine, high-performance computing for AI and telecom; cross-border collaboration and talent recruitment aid development; Navarra could serve as a model for other EU regions pursuing sustainable digital growth across key strategic sectors.	
economy governance. Key takeaways: Navarra's long-term digital strategy, infrastructure investments, and business incentives have attracted innovative high-tech companies in biotech, Al and advanced materials; public-private partnerships spur progress in personalised medicine, high-performance computing for Al and telecom; cross-border collaboration and talent recruitment aid development; Navarra could serve as a model for other EU regions pursuing	24 – 26 February 2020

Public hearings

Title	Date
Exchange of views with Mr Enrico Letta on the future of the single market	19 September 2023 & 22 February 2024
Public hearing on the Package Travel Directive and Consumer Protection	4 December 2023
Public hearing on late payments	25 October 2023
Public hearing on toy safety	19 September 2023
Exchange of views with candidate countries on 'EU Digital Single Market - Are you in? Opportunities for candidate countries'	18 July 2023
Public hearing on online safety of vulnerable consumers (minors)	29 June 2023
Public hearing on platforms intermediating short-term accommodation rentals	25 April 2023
Public hearing on the state of consumer rights in the EU in times of crisis	24 April 2023
Public hearing on the European Media Freedom Act - (associated with the CULT Committees)	6 February 2023
Public hearing on the European Media Freedom Act - (associated with the LIBE Committee)	30 January 2023
Public hearing on standardisation	23 January 2023
Public hearing on the right to repair	8 December 2022
Public hearing on Celebrating 30 years of the Single Market	27 October 2022
Public hearing on making construction products fit for the 21st century	10 October 2022
Public hearing on transparency and targeting of political advertising - (in association with the LIBE Committee)	11 July 2022
Exchanges of views on the impact of the Russian aggression in Ukraine	28 March, 17 May, 15 & 16 June 2022
Public hearing on digital product passports: enhancing transparency & consumer information -	16 May 2022
Public hearing on upholding consumer rights when shopping outside the EU	20 April 2022

Public hearing on the Artificial Intelligence Act – (joint with the LIBE Committee)	21 March 2022
Public hearing on Risks from the use of Dark Patterns for consumers and the Digital Single Market -	16 March 2022
Public hearing on the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on professionals -	28 February 2022
Exchange of views with Maria A. Ressa, The Nobel Peace Prize 2021 laureate - (in association with the INGE Special Committee)	1 February 2022
Public hearing on sustainable public procurement - (in association with the ENVI Committee)	1 December 2021
Public hearing on a whistle-blower's testimony: negative impact of big tech companies' products on users	8 November 2021
Public hearing on dual quality of goods in the Single Market	28 October 2021
Public hearing on consumer protection and automated decision-making tools in a modern economy	27 September 2021
Public hearing on ensuring effective protection of European consumers in the digital economy	21 June 2021
Public Hearing on the implementation of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement	26 May 2021
Public hearing online platforms and interference - (in association with the INGE Special Committee)	10 May 2021
Public hearing on Hearing on interference through advertisement - (in association with the INGE Special Committee)	13 April 2021
Public hearing on Consumer protection in the context of digitalisation during the COVID-19 pandemic	18 March 2021
Public hearing on digital advertising and consumer information	17 February 2020
Public hearing on the Product Liability Directive - Protecting consumers in the digital single market	22 January 2020

Policy departments, studies and workshops

Title	Date
Study on Market surveillance for effective consumer protection in the EU	October 2023
Study on the performance of the Package Travel Directive and broader consumer protection issues in the implementation of passenger rights	September 2023
Study on e-commerce and the EU Green Deal	December 2022
Study on a comparative analysis of Member States' customs authorisation procedures for the entry of products into the EU	December 2022
Study on personalised pricing	November 2022
Study on consumer protection in the context of overdraft facilities and overrunning	September 2022
Study on new technologies and new digital solutions for improved safety of products on the internal market	June 2022
Study on the Digital Single Market and the digitalisation of the public sector	May 2022
Study on the impact of influencers on advertising and consumer protection in the Single Market	February 2022
Study on Online advertising: the impact of targeted advertising on advertisers, market access and consumer choice	June 2021
Workshop on the DSA and DMA - a forward-looking and consumer-centered perspective	May 2021
Study on the impact of COVID-19 on the Internal Market	February 2021
Study on legal obstacles in Member States to single market rules	December 2020
Webinar on the impact of Covid-19 on the Internal Market and consumer protection	November 2020
Study on EU Defence Package: Defence Procurement and Intra-Community Transfers Directives	October 2020
Study on the role of Points of Single Contact and other information services in the Single Market	October 2020
Study on loot boxes in online games and their effect on consumers, in particular young consumers	August 2020
Study on online platforms' moderation of illegal content online	June 2020
Workshop on E-commerce rules fit for the digital age	February 2020

Working groups

Title Date

Working Group on the Implementation of the Digital Services Act (DSA)

The committee established a working group in September 2022 to scrutinise the implementation of the DSA. The working group aims to ensure proper DSA enforcement and a safer online environment. The first 2021 meeting reviewed Commission implementation steps; the latest 2023 and 2024 meetings addressed fighting illegal and false content and 2024 election integrity, with very large online platforms representatives discussing DSA application. The working group continuoulsly assessed concrete Member State and Commission actions to fully implement and enforce legislation.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Working Group on the Implementation of the Digital Markets Act (DMA)

of IMCO's Working function Group on the Implementation of the DMA is to scrutinise implementation of the DMA. In total, 4 meetings of the Working Group were held. In addition, the DMA implementation was addressed in one full IMCO Committee meeting. On these occcasions, Members discussed a number of key issues for the implementation of the DMA, such as the Commission's designation of gatekeepers and their compliance with the obligations imposed on them by the DMA; interoperability under the DMA; and the Commission's allocation of resources to DMA implementation.

For more information see <u>here</u>.

Working Group on the Digital Single Market (DSM)

The Working Group on the DSM was established in 2011 during the 7th Legislature. Since its inception, the group has convened 35 meetings. The Working Group focused on crafting a comprehensive regulatory framework for the EU's digital environment. Key topics included the DSA (ensuring online safety), the DMA (promoting fair competition), and the Artificial Intelligence Act (addressing AI risks). The group also addressed online advertising, data privacy, cybersecurity, and the impact of the digital economy on workers and the environment.

Annex

Committee Members

List of IMCO full and substitute Members.

Coordinators

List of IMCO Coordinators.

Secretariat

Head of Unit: Ms Elena MAINARDI

Contact: imco-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu

Relevant websites

IMCO website

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/imco/home/highlights

Legislative Observatory

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/home/home.do

EPRS - European Parliamentary Research Service

http://www.eprs.sso.ep.parl.union.eu/eprs/auth/en/1161.html

Think Tank

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/home.html

