



TRANSPORT AND TOURISM

TRAN



# TRAN NEWS

Newsletter from the European Parliament's Committee on Transport and Tourism



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30 JANUARY 2014  
11 & 20 FEBRUARY 2014



## APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT

### Noise restrictions at EU airports:

Rapporteur: Jörg Leichtfried (S&D; AT)

Ordinary legislative procedure, first reading

The main objective of the airport noise proposal is to ensure the consistent application in the EU of the ICAO set of principles and guidance known as the "Balanced Approach" for the introduction of noise-related operating restrictions at EU airports. Parliament's priorities on respecting decisions taken by local authorities and health aspects have been reflected in the final agreement.

The Committee approved the agreement with the Council and the Commission with 25 votes in favour, 5 against and 5 abstentions.

aviation authorities when supervising air navigation services providers. The Committee asked for them to be accredited by the European Agency for Aviation. It also specified rules for staff recruitment to avoid conflicts of interest.



## ADOPTION OF DRAFT REPORTS

### Single European Sky II+ package

SES Rapporteur: Marian-Jean Marinescu (EPP; RO)

EASA Rapporteur: David-Maria Sassoli (S&D; IT)

Ordinary legislative procedure, first reading

This package will create more clarity and efficiency in the SES's architecture and demonstrate the Committee's strong support for this initiative, which it sees as essential for the future of air transport in Europe.

- SES II

TRAN Members adopted increased organisational decision-making and budgetary independence as well as more responsibilities for national

In addition, the Committee favoured an impartial and independent performance review body to oversee the implementation of the performance plans. It supported the Commission's plans to convert Functional Airspace Blocks into industry-driven partnerships that could extend beyond the EU borders.

The Commission proposed separating air navigation support services to introduce market principles in this field. The Committee specified that Member States should ensure there were no statutory impediments to competition but did not want to change the current structure without a comprehensive Commission study.

The Committee adopted Mr Marinescu's report with 26 votes in favour, 1 against and 4 abstentions.

- **European Aviation Safety Agency**

An important compromise regarding the governance of the Agency was reached by defining the role of its new governing body, the "Executive Board", in a more precise and limited way. The Committee agreed to change the Agency's name to the European Union Agency for Aviation, reflecting the enlargement of its tasks beyond aviation safety. Finally the Committee did not support altering current balance of roles between the Agency, the Member States and the national aviation authorities.



The Committee adopted Mr Sassoli's report with 29 votes in favour, 1 against and no abstentions.

Timetable	
Vote in TRAN Committee	30 January 2014
Vote in plenary	March 2014 (tbc)

### Naiades package

Rapporteur: Corien Wortmann-Kool (EPP; NL)  
Ordinary legislative procedure, first reading

- **Community-fleet capacity policy**

Members agreed that it would be important to keep the conditions for using the reserve funds as simple as possible. They favoured mechanisms for leveraging these funds with other sources, such as the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) or Horizon 2020. The Rapporteur and some Members expressed concerns about the extension of the Regulation's scope given the rather limited level of funds available (€35 million).

The report reinforces measures to improve working conditions, including health protection, as well as the adaptation of the waterway fleet to technical progress as regards the environment.

The report was adopted with 30 votes in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions.

- **Technical requirements for inland waterway vessels**

Members were in favour of leaving the task of defining technical standards to issue navigation certificates to experts. The report requires the Commission to adopt technical standards for vessels powered by liquefied natural gas (LNG) by 31 December 2017. It also introduces periodic reporting on cooperation mechanisms with international organisations on the development of standards for inland navigation.



The report was adopted with 32 votes in favour, 1 against and 0 abstentions.



Members also stressed the importance of the resolution on 'NAIADES II – An action programme to support inland waterway transport' adopted in Plenary on 6 February. They recalled that the sector was facing structural difficulties and that specific EU actions were needed.

Timetable	
Consideration of amendments	11 February 2014
Vote in TRAN Committee	20 February 2014
Vote in plenary	April II 2014 (tbc)

## **ADOPTION OF DRAFT OPINIONS**

### **Discharges 2012: European Commission and Agencies**

Rapporteur: Oldřich Vlasák (ECR; CZ)

Michel Dantin (EPP; FR)

Discharge procedure, opinions to CONT

An overwhelming majority of the Committee voted in favour of the opinions suggesting that the European Parliament grant discharge in respect of the 2012 budget implementation to the European Commission, European Railway Agency, SESAR Joint Undertaking, European Maritime Safety Agency and European Aviation Safety Agency.

Members were pleased that a high proportion of the appropriations provided for Mobility and Transport had been used as well as the high rates for agency budgets. They also welcomed a significant decrease in the frequency of errors among the transactions audited by the Court of Auditors and the reinforced control provisions.

Furthermore, the Committee noted that the agencies had improved their management and addressed most problems concerning conflicts of interests and recruitment procedures. Criticisms included an increase in the Commission's administrative expenses, delays in setting up internal auditing structures within certain agencies and a relatively high number of quantifiable errors in the TEN-T projects.

Timetable foreseen	
Vote in CONT Committee	March 2013



## **NEXT TRAN COMMITTEE MEETING, BRUSSELS**

### **Provisional agenda:**

Monday 17 March, afternoon

- Port services regulation – consideration of amendments / Fleckenstein

Tuesday 18 March, morning

- Approval of the agreement on Marine Equipment Directive – **vote** / Riquet
- Port services regulation – **vote** / Fleckenstein
- Weights and Dimensions Directive – **vote** / Leichtfried

## **TRAN COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2014, BRUSSELS**

Monday, 31 March, 15h00-18h30

Tuesday, 1 April, 9h00-12h30

Tuesday, 1 April, 15h00-18h30

Thursday, 10 April, 9h00-12h30

Monday, 7 July, 15h00-18h30

Tuesday, 22 July, 9h00-12h30

Tuesday, 22 July, 15h00-18h30

Wednesday, 3 September, 9h00-12h30

Wednesday, 3 September, 15h00-18h30

Thursday, 4 September, 9h00-12h30

Monday, 29 September, 15h00-18h30

Tuesday, 30 September, 9h00-12h30

Tuesday, 30 September, 15h00-18h30

Monday, 6 October, 15h00-18h30

Tuesday, 7 October, 9h00-12h30

Tuesday, 7 October, 15h00-18h30

Monday, 3 November, 15h00-18h30

Tuesday, 4 November, 9h00-12h30

Tuesday, 4 November, 15h00-18h30

Thursday, 20 November, 9h00-12h30

Monday, 1 December, 15h00-18h30

Tuesday, 2 December, 9h00-12h30

Tuesday, 2 December, 15h00-18h30

## USEFUL LINKS

TRAN website:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/committees/homeCom.do?language=EN&body=TRAN>

Policy Department Studies in the European Parliament:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/committees/studies/searchPerform.do>

European Aviation Safety Agency newsletters:

<http://easa.europa.eu/communications/general-publications.php>

European Railway Agency newsletters:

<http://www.era.europa.eu/Communication/Newsletter/Pages/home.aspx>

European Maritime Safety Agency newsletters:

<http://emsu.europa.eu/emsu-documents/emsu-publications.html>

SESAR Joint Undertaking news

<http://www.sesarju.eu/news-press/news>

Trans-European Transport Network Executive Agency newsletters:

[http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/en/news\\_events/newsletter/](http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/en/news_events/newsletter/)

DG MOVE newsletter:

[http://ec.europa.eu/transport/newsletter/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/transport/newsletter/index_en.htm)

Greek Presidency:

<http://eu2014.gr/>

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