



# Science & Policy

## What's on the EU's agenda?

March 2018



## SCIENCE & POLICY: WHAT'S ON THE EU'S AGENDA?

1 March 2018

### The DG JRC's monthly briefing to the scientific community, N° 67

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# 1. Activities of the European Institutions

## 1.1 European Commission

Date	Event	Subject
March	<a href="#">College Meeting</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>

[All meetings of the College of Commissioners](#)

## 1.2 Council

Date	Event	Location
5 March	<a href="#">Environment Council</a>	Brussels
6 March	<a href="#">Foreign Affairs Council on defence</a>	Brussels
8-9 March	<a href="#">Justice and Home Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
12 March	<a href="#">Competitiveness Council</a>	Brussels
13 March	<a href="#">Economic and Financial Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
15 March	<a href="#">Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council on social policy</a>	Brussels
19 March	<a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries Council</a>	Brussels
19 March	<a href="#">Foreign Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
20 March	<a href="#">General Affairs Council (Art. 50)</a>	Brussels
22-23 March	<a href="#">European Council (Art.50)</a>	Brussels

## 1.3 European Parliament

### Plenary Sessions

Date	Event	Subjects	Location
28 February-1 March	<a href="#">Plenary</a>	<p><i>Among others: Humanitarian situation in Syria, in particular Ghuta; European Council Informal Meeting of 23 February 2018; Commission statement: Commission decision to activate Article 7 (1) TEU as regards the situation in Poland; statement by the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy: EU priorities for the UN Human Rights Council sessions in 2018; definition, presentation and labelling of spirit drinks and protection of geographical indications thereof; situation of fundamental rights in the EU in 2016; Council and Commission statements: work and legacy of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia; prospects and challenges for the EU apiculture sector; Banking Union-Annual Report 2017; mandatory automatic exchange of information in the field of taxation; cutting the sources of income for Jihadists- targeting the financing of terrorism; EU priorities for the 62nd session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women; address by Nils Muižnieks, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights;</i></p>	Strasbourg
12-15 March	<a href="#">Plenary</a>	<p><i>Among others: Gender equality in EU trade agreements; cross-border parcel delivery services; initial qualification and periodic training of drivers of certain road vehicles and driving licences; Fisheries Agreement with Comoros; short presentations of the following reports: "Gender equality in the media sector in the EU"; "A European strategy on Cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems"; "Improving the sustainability of developing country debt"; "A European Strategy for the promotion of protein crops"; debate with the Prime Minister of Portugal, António Costa, on the Future of Europe; joint debate- Common Corporate Tax Base; Guidelines for the 2019</i></p>	

		<i>Budget; Implementation of the Treaty provisions concerning national Parliaments; Europass: framework for skills and qualifications; Creative Europe Programme (2014 to 2020);</i>	
<b>Committee Meetings</b>			
5 March	<a href="#">Committee on Transport and Tourism</a>	<i>Among others: Scrutiny: Presentation by the Commission of RPS on psychological assessment and medical fitness of flight crew; odometer manipulation in motor vehicles: revision of the EU legal framework; presentation by the Commission of overview of pilot projects and preparatory actions in transport and tourism;</i>	Brussels
5 March	<a href="#">Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs</a>	<i>Among others: Joint debate with the Committee Foreign Affairs and with the Delegation for relations with Maghreb countries (DMAG): debriefing by the UNHCR on their work in Libya; structured dialogue with Ms Věra Jourová, Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality; Annual Report on the Functioning of the Schengen area;</i>	Brussels
8 March	<a href="#">Committee on Foreign Affairs</a>	<i>Among others: Exchange of views with João Vale de Almeida, Ambassador of the European Union to the United Nations; jointly with the Subcommittee on Security and Defence: exchange of views with Raul Mateus Paula, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Niger;</i>	Brussels
8 March	<a href="#">Committee on Budgets</a>	<i>Among others: Implementation of the Development Cooperation Instrument, the Humanitarian Aid Instrument and the European Development Fund; mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund following an application from Germany; 2018 Budget; building policy; Pilot Projects and Preparatory Actions in budget 2018 and 2019; estimates of revenue and expenditure for the financial year 2019;</i>	Brussels
8 March	<a href="#">Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs</a>	<i>Among others: European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice; study "EU and Member States' policies and laws on persons suspected of terrorism-related crimes";</i>	Brussels

8 March	<a href="#">Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality</a>	<i>Among others: International Women's Day (IWD);</i>	Brussels
12 March	<a href="#">Committee on Foreign Affairs</a>	<i>Among others: Exchange of views with Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe;</i>	Strasbourg
12 March	<a href="#">Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Strasbourg
12 March	<a href="#">Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Strasbourg
19-20 March	<a href="#">Committee on Development</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
19-20 March	<a href="#">Committee on Budgetary Control</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
19-20 March	<a href="#">Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
19-20 March	<a href="#">Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
19-20 March	<a href="#">Committee on Culture and Education</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
19 March	<a href="#">Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
21 March	<a href="#">Committee on Constitutional Affairs</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
21 March	<a href="#">Committee on International Trade and Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection</a>	<i>Amongst others: Import of cultural goods;</i>	Brussels
21-22 March	<a href="#">Special Committee on Terrorism</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels

21-22 March	<a href="#">Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
21-22 March	<a href="#">Subcommittee on Human Rights</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
21-22 March	<a href="#">Subcommittee on Security and Defence</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
21-22 March	<a href="#">Committee on International Trade</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
21-22 March	<a href="#">Committee on Employment and Social Affairs</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
21-22 March	<a href="#">Committee on Industry, Research and Energy</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
21-22 March	<a href="#">Committee on Fisheries</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
21-22 March	<a href="#">Committee on Petitions</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
26-27 March	<a href="#">Committee on Regional Development</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels
27 March	<a href="#">Committee on Legal Affairs</a>	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Brussels

[All European Parliament Committee Meetings](#)

## 1.4 Committee of the Regions (CoR)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
7 March	<a href="#">The European Defence Fund: The EU investing in our security</a>	Riga, Latvia

8 March	<a href="#">Changing the rules of international trade, a necessary condition for facing the challenges of agriculture, food and planet</a>	Brussels
8 March	<a href="#">CoR Task Force on Ukraine</a>	Brussels
8 March	<a href="#">The European Pillar of Social Rights: Stepping up to the challenge of implementation</a>	Brussels
9 March	<a href="#">18th Commission for Natural Resources (NAT) Commission meeting</a>	Brussels
15 March	<a href="#">Commission for the Environment, Climate Change and Energy (ENVE) Commission Study Visit on "The role of the local government in development of a circular economy"</a>	Łódź, Poland
19 March	<a href="#">Financing the integrated development of rural areas</a>	Brussels
21 March	<a href="#">Briefing of the Spanish regions position on Cohesion Policy beyond 2020</a>	Brussels
22 March	<a href="#">128th CoR plenary session</a>	Brussels

[Further Events of the Committee of the Regions](#)

## 1.5 European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
1 March	<a href="#">The future of democracy in Europe</a>	Athens, Greece
6 March	<a href="#">3rd Meeting of the EU-Moldova Civil Society Platform</a>	Brussels
6-7 March	<a href="#">4th European Migration Forum</a>	Brussels
7 March	<a href="#">State of the Energy Union 2017- Social fairness and civil society participation in Europe's energy transition</a>	Brussels
6 March	<a href="#">Supporting vulnerable regions and citizens: Boosting sustainable growth and cohesion</a>	Sofia, Bulgaria



8 March	<a href="#">EU Gas Market Policy between Market Integration and External Energy Policy – Amending the Gas Market Directive</a>	Brussels
15 March	<a href="#">Your Europe, Your Say! 2018</a>	Brussels
20 March	<a href="#">European Consumer Day 2018</a>	Sofia, Brussels
21 March	<a href="#">Fact-finding mission on the future of live-in care work in Europe</a>	Berlin, Germany
23 March	<a href="#">Fighting illicit tobacco</a>	Brussels

[Further events of the European Economic and Social Committee](#)

## 1.6 International Relations

Date	Event	Venue/Location
7-8 March	<a href="#">EU-India conference on advanced biofuels</a>	New Delhi, India

# 2. Conferences & Meetings

## 2.1 DG JRC Conferences and Events

Date	Event	Organiser	Location
2-3 March	<a href="#">TEDx Varese Salon</a>	DG JRC, TED	Varese, Italy
5-6 March	<a href="#">HUMAN behaviour and MACHINE INTElligence (HUMAINI)</a>	DG JRC	Barcelona, Spain
7 March	<a href="#">Synergies between Joint Undertakings and ESIF for research and innovation strategies (RIS3)</a>	DG JRC	Brussels

8 March	<a href="#">Peer eXchange and Learning (PXL) workshop on the entrepreneurial discovery process (EDP)</a>	DG JRC	Magdeburg, Germany
8-9 March	<a href="#">Workshop: Safer Li-Ion Batteries by Preventing Thermal Propagation?</a>	DG JRC	Petten, The Netherlands
12-15 March	JRC Exhibition and political launch of the Knowledge Centre for Food Fraud and Quality	DG JRC, EP, Council, CoR, EESC, ECB	Strasbourg, France
16 March	Launch of the Knowledge Centre for Food Fraud and Quality	DG JRC	Brussels
20 March	<a href="#">Opportunities and Synergies between RIS3 and EIT-RIS</a>	DG JRC, EIT Climate-KIC	Ljubljana, Slovenia

[Further upcoming DG JRC Events](#)

[Further upcoming events in the EU Newsroom Calendar](#)

## 2.2 Further European Conferences and Meetings

1 March	<a href="#">Citizens' dialogue in Paris with Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis</a>	EC	Paris, France
1-2 March	<a href="#">8th ASEM Culture Ministers' Meeting</a>	EC, Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU,	Sofia, Bulgaria
1-2 March	<a href="#">International financial integration in a changing policy context– the end of an era?</a>	DG ECFIN, EC	Brussels
5 March	<a href="#">12th meeting of the Network of public finance economists in public administration</a>	DG ECFIN, EC	Brussels
5-6 March	<a href="#">Civil Protection Forum</a>	DG ECHO, EC	Brussels
6 March	<a href="#">Entrepreneurship conference 'Follow your ideas- become an entrepreneur'</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU, Ministry of Economy and Young Entrepreneurs, EC	Sofia, Bulgaria

6 March	<a href="#">Health as the Real Winner: Presidency conference on options to provide better medicines for all</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
7-8 March	<a href="#">EU-India conference on advanced biofuels</a>	DG ENER, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas of India	New Delhi, India
8 March	<a href="#">European Network of Ombudsmen Conference 2018: The Future of the EU - Ensuring an inclusive and fair society for citizens</a>	European Ombudsman	Brussels
8 March	<a href="#">'This is a woman's world' opening day roundtable</a>	DG ECHO, UNHCR	Brussels
8 March	<a href="#">Integrated social services for activating minimum income recipients: success factors and reform pathways</a>	DG EMPL	Brussels
15-16 March	<a href="#">Conference: Intellectual Property</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
16-18 March	<a href="#">7th European Forum on Social Entrepreneurship</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
18-19 March	<a href="#">Meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on EUROPOL</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
19 March	<a href="#">XX Annual Conference of the Municipal Energy Efficiency Network EcoEnergy "Fighting Energy Poverty: Improved Energy Efficiency Policies with Enhanced Participation of Local Authorities"</a>	EC, Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
20 March	<a href="#">High-level conference on European multimodal freight transport – For better transport connectivity</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
20 March	<a href="#">High-level Horizon 2020 conference of the European Year of Cultural Heritage</a>	DG RTD, DG DIGIT	Brussels
26 March	<a href="#">International Conference: Cybersecurity Challenges</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
26-27 March	<a href="#">Technological Balkans- European Gateway for India and America (Innovations, Regulations, Investments)</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria

27 March	<a href="#">International Conference on Road Safety</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
27 March	<a href="#">Public hearing on the 2018 review of Solvency II implementing measures</a>	EC	Brussels
11-27 April	<a href="#">European Military Transport Aviation Flight Exercise (ETAP-C)</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
19 April	<a href="#">Clean Energy- The way ahead</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
19-20 April	<a href="#">High Level Forum "Together for Strong Digital Agriculture"</a>	Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Sofia, Bulgaria
19-20 April	<a href="#">Education to Do: From Digital Consumers to Digital Creators</a>	EC, Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU, Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science	Sofia, Bulgaria
<a href="#">EIT 2018 Call for Proposals for new EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) in Urban Mobility and Added Value Manufacturing</a>		EIT	Brussels

### 2.3 International Conferences and events

Date	Event	Organiser	Location
11-15 March	<a href="#">Society of Toxicology (SOT) 57th Annual Meeting and toxicology exhibition</a>	SOT	San Antonio, USA
21-23 March	<a href="#">11th European Breast Cancer Conference</a>	European Cancer Organisation (ECCB)	Barcelona, Spain
26-28 March	<a href="#">Nest Einstein Forum (NEF): Challenge of Invention to Innovation (Ci2i)</a>	NEF	Kigali, Rwanda
11-13 April	<a href="#">Europa Forum Lech: Eu@27- Focus on added value</a>	Europa Forum Lech	Lech am Arlberg, Austria
9-14 July	<a href="#">EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF)</a>	ESOF	Toulouse, France
15-31 August	<a href="#">European Forum Alpbach</a>	European Forum	Alpbach, Austria

		Alpbach	
21-22 September	INGSA International Conference	Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)	Tokyo, Japan
25-28 September	<a href="#">World Social Science Forum (WSSF)</a>	WSSF	Fukuoka, Japan
5-9 November	<a href="#">2018 Symposium on International Safeguards</a>	IAEA	Vienna, Austria

## 3. DG JRC News

<b>2016</b>	<a href="#"><b>DG JRC Annual Report</b></a>
<b>January</b>	<a href="#"><b>DG JRC Newsletter February 2018</b></a>
<b>Open</b>	<a href="#"><b>Open access to JRC Research Infrastructures- Call: Nuclear infrastructure (closing date 7 March 2018) Non-nuclear infrastructure (closing date 13 April 2018)</b></a>
<b>Open</b>	<a href="#"><b>The EU is recruiting researchers- Call for expressions of interest</b></a>
<b>Open</b>	<a href="#"><b>JRC Alumni Network: Membership registration for JRC Alumni</b></a>

## February Highlights

23 February

### [First Annual JRC Alumni Network Event](#)

The **First Annual JRC Alumni Network Event** was held at the JRC headquarter in Brussels and at the House of European History. It brought together Alumni from all JRC sites and leading JRC experts.

In the morning, the guest were welcomed by Director Delilah Al Khudhairi ( Director Dir.A Strategy and Work Programme Coordination, Joint Research Centre). Between **09:00 and 12:30**, the following **workshops** encountered the interest of our JRC Alumni Network Community: "*Health, consumers and reference materials*", "*Environment and climate change*", "*The next Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (FP9)*", "*Knowledge management in the European Commission*" and "*The JRC Alumni Network: how to make it attractive and efficient*". Each workshop was moderated by at least one expert from the JRC.

In the afternoon, between **13:00 and 20:00** the event was held at the recently opened **House of European History**. **Charlina Vitcheva** (Deputy Director-General, DG Joint Research Centre) held the keynote "*JRC and its Alumni*" and **Karl Falkenberg** (former Director-General of DG ENV) the motivational speech "*Evidence-based policy making. Science or fiction?*". The event offered several networking opportunities, scientific discussions and a poster session that was followed by a poster award ceremony chaired by **Clara De La Torre** (Director Directorate H, DG Research and Innovation) and a reception.

[All DG JRC news](#)

