



Science & Policy

What's on the EU's agenda?

April 2019



*Joint
Research
Centre*



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

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1. Activities of the European Institutions

1.1 European Commission

Date	Event	Subject
10 April	College Meeting	<i>Among others: Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Central Bank, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the European Investment Bank: Addressing the impact of a withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union without an agreement: The Union's coordinated approach; Preparation of the special meeting of the European Council (Article 50)(Brussels, 10 April 2019); Commission Decision granting an empowerment relating to the implementation of measures to safeguard the security of gas supply; Commission Decision granting a delegation of powers relating to the acceptance of accounts of certain cross-border cooperation programmes under the Instrument of Pre-Accession II;</i>
All meetings of the College of Commissioners		

1.2 Council

Date	Event	Location
2 April	Informal meeting of Energy Ministers	Bucharest, Romania
4 April	Informal meeting of Competitiveness Ministers	Bucharest, Romania
4 April	EU-Azerbaijan Cooperation Council	Brussels
5-6 April	Informal meeting of Economic and Financial Affairs Ministers	Bucharest, Romania

8 April	Foreign Affairs Council	Luxembourg
8 April	General Affairs Council	Luxembourg
10 April	Special European Council (Art.50)	Brussels
10-11 April	Informal meeting of Employment and Social Policy Ministers	Bucharest, Romania
11-12 April	Informal meeting of Cohesion Policy Ministers	Bucharest, Romania
14-15 April	Informal meeting of Health Ministers	Bucharest, Romania
15 April	Agriculture and Fisheries Council	Luxembourg
15-16 April	Informal meeting of Culture Ministers	Bucharest, Romania
2-3 May	Informal meeting of Competitiveness Ministers (Internal Market and Industry)	Bucharest, Romania
All meetings of the Council		

1.3 European Parliament

Plenary Sessions

Date	Event	Subjects	Location
3-4 April	Plenary	<i>Among others: The UK's withdrawal from the EU-Council and Commission statements, debate with the Prime Minister of Sweden, Stefan Löfven, on the Future of Europe; common rules for the internal market for natural gas; European Maritime and Fisheries Fund; multiannual plan for the</i>	Brussels

		<p><i>fisheries exploiting demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean Sea; strengthening the security of identity cards and of residence documents issued to Union citizens; EU-China relations-Council and Commission statements; establishing the 'Customs' programme for cooperation in the field of customs; establishing the instrument for financial support for customs control equipment; road infrastructure safety management; Pan-European Personal Pension Product; Work-life balance for parents and carers;</i></p>	
15-18 April	Plenary	<p><i>Among others: Protection of persons reporting on breaches of Union law; Capital Requirements Regulation; Capital Requirements Directive; loss-absorbing and recapitalisation capacity for credit institutions and investment firms; loss-absorbing and recapitalisation capacity of credit institutions and investment firms and amending Directive 98/26/EC; sovereign bond-backed securities; cross-border distribution of collective investment undertakings (Directive); cross-border distribution of collective investment undertakings (Regulation); market surveillance and compliance of products; promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services; promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services; transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain; coordination of social security systems; transparent and predictable working conditions in the European Union; debates on foreign affairs issues in the presence of the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (tbd); establishment of a European investment stabilisation function; establishment of the Reform Support Programme; European Supervisory Authorities and financial markets; European Union macro-prudential oversight of the financial system and establishing a European Systemic Risk Board; Prudential supervision of investment firms; establishing Horizon Europe- laying down its rules for participation and dissemination; Programme implementing Horizon Europe; supplementary protection certificate for medicinal products; CO2 emission</i></p>	Strasbourg

		<i>performance standards for new heavy-duty vehicles; debate with the Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia, Krišjānis Kariņš, on the Future of Europe; European Border and Coast Guard; Visa Code; promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles; use of digital tools and processes in company law; cross-border conversions, mergers and divisions; exposures in the form of covered bonds; covered bonds and covered bond public supervision; negotiations with Council and Commission on European Parliament's right of inquiry: legislative proposal;</i>	
11 April	<u>Committee on Budgets</u>	<i>Among others: Proposal for a Council Regulation on measures concerning the implementation and financing of the general budget of the UK;</i>	Brussels
11 April	<u>Committee on Transport and Tourism</u>	<i>Among others: Exchange of views with Commissioner Bulc on policy achievements and future prospects for transport; TRAN Results of CEF call 2018;</i>	Brussels
11 April	<u>Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs</u>	<i>Among others: Agreement between the European Union and Canada for the transfer and use of Passenger Name Record (PNR)- presentation of the results of the negotiations by Olivier Onidi, Deputy Director-General Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission; debriefing on the current negotiations with Egypt, Israel, Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey concerning the international agreements on the exchange of personal data with Europol; LIBE working group on Schengen scrutiny; Community statistics on migration and international protection; European Commission Communication on "Further strengthening the Rule of Law within the Union- state of play and possible next steps" LIBE/8/15939- presentation by the Commission; Brexit related implications as regards Justice and Home Affairs LIBE/8/15879- presentation by the Commission/Presidency on Brexit developments and their impact on LIBE matters, including the issue of the extension of the deadline and the decisions taken at the latest EU Summit;</i>	Brussels

11 April	Committee on Petitions	<i>Among others: Petitions for discussion in the Committee on the basis of the Commission's written reply or other documents received in the field of environment, fundamental rights, internal market, health- consumer's rights, education- disability, transport; and petitions proposed to close in the light of the Commission's written reply or other documents received;</i>	Brussels
11 April	Committee on Regional Development	<i>Among others: Exchange of views with Corina Crețu, Commissioner on Regional Policy; cohesion policy 2021-2027: progress to date and future challenges;</i>	Brussels
11 April	Committee on Budgetary Control	<i>Among others: Workshop on Integrated territorial investments as an effective tool of Cohesion Policy; EU Member States' national declarations;</i>	Brussels
15 April	Committee on Budgetary Control	<i>Among others: The implementation by the Commission of Article 61 of the new Financial Regulation on conflicts of interests in Member States; joint item with the Committee on Legal Affairs (JURI): appointment procedures in the EU institutions- presentation of the study followed by exchange of views with Commissioner Oettinger, responsible for Budget and Human Resources;</i>	Strasbourg
15 April	Committee on Employment and Social Affairs	<i>Among others: Coordination of social security systems; 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;</i>	Strasbourg
16 April	Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	<i>Among others: Exchange of views with Greta Thunberg, climate activist.</i>	Strasbourg
16 April	Committee on Budgets	<i>Please consult the website</i>	Strasbourg
17 April	Committee on Foreign Affairs	<i>Among others: Exchange of views with Federica Mogherini, Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy; in association with the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly (DLAT)-presentation by Federica Mogherini, Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, of the "Joint Communication to the</i>	Strasbourg

European Parliament and to the Council: European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean- joining forces for a common future";

All European Parliament Committee Meetings

1.4 Committee of the Regions (CoR)

Date	Event	Location
2 April	<u>23rd Social Policy, Education, Employment, Research and Culture (SEDEC) Commission meeting</u>	Brussels
3 April	<u>Brussels Model European Union 2019</u>	Brussels
3 April	<u>Commission for the Environment, Climate Change and Energy (ENVE) Stakeholders' meeting on implementing the Clean Energy Package</u>	Brussels
4 April	<u>23rd ENVE Commission Meeting</u>	Brussels
5 April	<u>ENVE Commission- Stakeholders' meeting on Implementing the Paris Agreement</u>	Brussels
5 April	<u>Brownfield redevelopment in the EU</u>	Brussels
9 April	<u>Hearing on the support of coal regions in transition through Cohesion Policy post 2020</u>	Brussels
9 April	<u>ENVE Commission- Stakeholders consultation on Sustainable Europe for 2030: SDG, ecological transition and the Paris Agreement</u>	Brussels
10-11 April	<u>134th CoR plenary session</u>	Brussels
11 April	<u>Missing Railway Links: A challenge for cohesion and growth in border regions</u>	Brussels

11 April	Regions and Cities Making the SDGs Happen	Brussels
11 April	Stakeholder consultation on Research Infrastructures	Brussels
29 April	Stakeholder consultation on Agropastoralism	Brussels
1 May	2019 EU Regions Week Master Class	Brussels
6 May	Stakeholder consultation on African swine fever and the EU pork market	Brussels
Further Events of the Committee of the Regions		

1.5 European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

Date	Event	Location
2 April	European Citizens' Initiative Day 2019: Digital voices	Brussels
2 April	A European Labour Authority to fight more efficiently social and wage dumping	Brussels
3 April	Limited profitability: the cornerstone of Social Economy Enterprises	Brussels
3 April	European Migration Forum- 5th meeting	Brussels
4 April	Strengthening the international role of the euro: European and international perspectives	Brussels
8-9 April	38th meeting of the EU-Turkey Joint Consultative Committee	Brussels
10 April	European Entrepreneurship Forum	Brussels
12 April	Towards a more resilient and sustainable European economy with a vision for completing EMU	Brussels

16-17 April	7th Western Balkans Civil Society Forum	Brussels
Further events of the European Economic and Social Committee		
1.6 International Relations		
Date	Event	Venue/Location
9 April	EU China Summit	Brussels
11-12 April	EU Canada Summit	Montreal

2. Conferences & Meetings

2.1 DG JRC Conferences and Events

Date	Event	Organiser	Location
4 April	Smart cities & sustainable development- Romania	JRC, City of Ilfov	Ilfov, Romania
10-11 April	2019 JRC workshop on checks and management of agricultural land in integrated administration and control system	JRC, DG AGRI, Council of Castilla and Leon, Spanish Agrarian Guarantee Found (FEGA)	Seville, Spain

[Further upcoming DG JRC Events](#)

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

2.2 Further European Conferences and Meetings

1-2 April	Stakeholder workshop on nanoscience and nanotechnology	European Food Safety Agency (EFSA)	Parma, Italy
2 April	4th Union for the Mediterranean ministerial conference on employment and labour	Under the co-presidency of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the EU, Union for the Mediterranean, Republic of Portugal, EC, DG EMPL	Cascais, Portugal
2 April	#EUmovers award ceremony	EC	Brussels
2-4 April	The Consultative Forum (CF) of the European Food Safety Authority	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU, The Romanian National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority	Bucharest, Romania
2-3 April	12th European Forum on the rights of the child	EC	Brussels
3-4 April	5th European Migration Forum	EC, EESC	Brussels
3 April	6th Meeting of the Informal Network of the Law Enforcement Authorities and Expertise Competent in the Field of Cultural Goods (CULTNET)	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU, Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs/ General Inspectorate of Romanian Police	Bucharest, Romania
3 April	Meeting of the European Network of First Instance Remedies	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU, National Council for Solving Complaints	Bucharest, Romania
4 April	Competition and Consumer Day Conference	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Bucharest, Romania
4-5 April	Interpretation- Preparing for interpreting 3.0	EC, DG SCIC	Brussels

4 April	Revitalising and modernising the small retail sector	EC	Vienna, Austria
4 April	Investor day for women innovators	European Innovation Council (EIC) Pilot	Brussels
4 April	Participatory financing for sustainable energy	EC	Brussels
4 April	EDPS-ENISA conference: Towards accessing the risk in personal data breaches	European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS), EU Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA)	Brussels
5 April	High Level Conference on Agricultural Research and Innovation- a basis for the development of European agriculture, rural areas and bioeconomy	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Bucharest, Romania
8 April	Sustainable Europe 2030	European Political Strategy Centre (EPSC)	Brussels
8 April	EU Sport Forum	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Bucharest, Romania
8-9 April	6th international conference on novel psychoactive substances	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), University of Hertfordshire, Maastricht University	Maastricht, The Netherlands
8-9 April	Conference on the 15th anniversary of the 2004 EU enlargement: Looking back, looking forward	EPSC, ECFIN	Vienna, Austria and Bratislava, Slovakia
9 April	Digital Day 2019	EC	Brussels
9 April	The future of work: Today. Tomorrow. For all.	EC	Brussels

9 April	<u>Conference on health and safety at work</u>	European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions (Eurofound), Romanian Presidency of the EU Council	Bucharest, Romania
9-10 April	<u>2nd policy learning forum on supporting teachers and trainers for vocational education and training of the future</u>	European Centre for Vocational Development (CEDEFOP)	Thessaloniki, Greece
10 April	<u>5th interregional cooperation forum: 'Europe, let's cooperate!'</u>	Interreg Europe	Brussels
11 April	<u>The future of manufacturing in Europe</u>	European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound)	Brussels
12 April	<u>Central Asian sustainable energy conference</u>	DG ENER	Brussels
12 April	<u>The Aviation Day Conference</u>	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU, Ministry of Transport	Bucharest, Romania
12 April	<u>SOFAIR conference</u>	EC, European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT), JRC, Cleantech Bulgaria	Sofia, Bulgaria
15 April	<u>High Level Conference to mark the adoption of the new EU Strategy for Central Asia– Connectivity for sustainable development</u>	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU, Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Bucharest, Romania
16 April	<u>International conference on the 2030 Agenda: Partnerships for sustainable development</u>	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU, The General Secretariat of the Government	Bucharest, Romania

17 April	Online exposure of the European Cultural Heritage: Cultural Heritage Impact on Digitalization of the Society	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU, Ministry of Culture and National Identity	Bucharest, Romania
25 April	Our forests, our future: Sustainable forest management to address societal challenges	EC	Brussels
25 April	EU Refining Forum	DG ENER	Brussels
27-30 April	Transport Research Arena 2020	EC, Finnish Ministry of Transport and Communications, Finnish Transport and Communications Agency, Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency, European Technology Platforms, Conference of European Directors of Roads (CEDR)	Helsinki, Finland
29 April	Addressing price volatility and the financing needs of young farmers and agriculture	DG AGRI, European Investment Bank (EIB)	Brussels
29-30 April	14th European Nuclear Energy Forum	EC	Prague, Czechia
30 April	EU LIFE information and networking day	EC	Brussels
30 April	Citizens' dialogue in Brussels with Commissioner Tibor Navracsics	EC	Brussels
2-4 May	State of the Union Conference 2019	European University Institute	Florence, Italy
3-5 May	Conference on diaspora public policies	Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU	Bacău, Romania
4 May	EU institutions Open Day	EU institutions	Brussels

2.3 International Conferences and events

Date	Event	Organiser	Location
28 April-4 May	The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Plenary-IPBES7	UN Environment, UNESCO, FAO, UNDP	Paris
8-9 May	European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA) 25th anniversary: Science and Society in Present-Day Europe	ALLEA	Bern, Switzerland
13-17 May	Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)	Geneva, Switzerland
27-31 May	27th UN-Habitat Assembly	UN Habitat	Nairobi, Kenya
1-5 July	Innovations in Disaster Risk Reduction 2019 Workshop	Central European University (CEU), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Budapest, Hungary
22-26 July	Geospatial Technologies and Remote Sensing for Monitoring SDGs 2019 Workshop	CEU, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)	Budapest, Hungary
23-25 October	Lisbon Addictions 2019	Portuguese General Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies (SICAD), Journal Addiction/Society for the Study of Addiction, European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), International Society of Addiction Journal Editors (ISAJE)	Lisbon, Portugal
20-23 November	World Science Forum 2019	World Science Forum	Budapest, Hungary

3. DG JRC News

April	DG JRC Newsletter April 2019
2017	JRC Annual Report
Open	Open access to JRC Research Infrastructures- Call Actinide User Laboratory-ActUsLab
Open	The EU is recruiting researchers- Call for expressions of interest
Open	JRC Alumni Network Membership: Already Member of the JRC Alumni Network? Not yet-Take the opportunity to join!

6 March	The Future of Government 2030+ final event
<p>The aim of the #futurgov project was to tackle emerging societal challenges, analyse trends in our rapidly changing digital society and to launch an EU-wide debate on the possible "future role of government" and "governance models" in this context looking up to 2030 and beyond. The wellbeing of people and society, as a key target of governmental decisions and activities, beside creating and maintaining sound conditions for businesses and environment, was emphasized. The project addresses the question in a novel way by combining design and foresight approaches with citizen engagement methods, with special focus given to citizens' insights.</p>	

13-14 March	Special Workshop - 10 years of LPIS Quality Assurance
<p>The JRC and DG AGRI organised the Special Workshop "10 years of LPIS QA" in Varese. The workshop aimed at enabling Member States and its LPIS (Land Parcel Identification System) custodians to perform a good and effective QA analysis and plan/develop appropriate remedial actions for LPIS improvements. The purpose of the workshop was to bring together LPIS responsible and LPISQA technical experts from the Member States</p>	

and the Commission, reflect on a decade's experience and look to the future of LPIS QA.

15 March

[Making the Rules: The Governance of Standard Development Organisations and their Policies on Intellectual Property Rights](#)

The workshop discussed how Standard Development Organisations (SDOs) carry out their policy-making. It explored how policy-making is constrained by applicable law and by the relationships that create a “standardisation ecosystem”. The workshop was based on the new JRC Science for Policy Report “[Making the rules – The Governance of Standard Development Organisations and their Policies on Intellectual Property Rights](#)” (PDF). The analysis was based on 17 SDO case studies, a survey of SDO stakeholders, an expert workshop, and a comprehensive review of the legal and economic literature. As far as public authorities are concerned, the report analysed the state of play as a combination of a procedural approach to SDO governance in general, combined with a safe-harbour approach to IPR policy-making in particular, and made recommendations for development and improvement in that respect.

15 March

[Science meets Parliaments: Migration](#)

As one of the main Member States directly affected by migration, Greece is actively dealing with the issue of integration and participation. With the help of local and international scientific expertise, the Hellenic Parliament discussed and analysed during this one-day conference its current legislative and regulatory framework.

17-19 March

[Urban renewal- The Netherlands](#)

The Dutch city of Nijmegen joined forces with the Belgian city of Ghent to tackle the issue of urban development by exploring future scenarios for specific neighborhoods in both cities, cutting across spatial planning and social policies.

19-20 March

[TAIEX-REGIO Multicountry Workshop on State Aid Map in Energy Sector](#)

The [JRC-managed Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy](#) organised a TAIEX-REGIO Multicountry Workshop on State Aid Map in Energy Sector (ref. 68071). It brought together state aid practitioners from several EU Member States within the scope of the [REGIO Communities of Practitioners](#).

Main objectives were to be a forum for discussion on the application of state aid rules in the energy sector and to co-construct a State aid map in Energy to help the application of state aid rules to practitioners from Managing Authorities and Intermediate Bodies implementing support measures to energy-related projects under European Structural and Investment Fund priorities related to research and innovation, low carbon economy and smart energy distribution (Thematic Objectives 1, 4 and 7e, respectively).

28-29 March

[Standards4Quantum workshop- making quantum technology ready for industry](#)

The 'Putting Science into Standards' initiative promotes closer cooperation of research, industry, and standardisation communities. Part of this initiative, the workshop "Making Quantum Technology ready for Industry" aimed at providing an overview on how standardisation will benefit work, on what standardisers can be supportive, using a practical example of an emerging key enabling technology.

28-29 March

[Sustainable development & Environmental preservation- Spain](#)

The region of Asturias is currently facing a dilemma: developing its raw materials sector or preserving the natural beauty of the region. This challenge was addressed at the Spanish SmR innovation camp, which included the participation of stakeholders from both the scientific and the academic world.

29-31 March

[Eco-innovation/sustainable development- Bulgaria](#)

The municipality of Sofia organised an event on the topic of energy and climate change, linking to the Smart Specialisation Strategy of the city. The innovation camp involved a wide range of stakeholders and pursued the previous engagement of Sofia in the "Science meets Regions" initiative.

[All DG JRC news](#)

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