

Weekly European Agenda 25 – 31 May 2015

Monday 25 May

› Whit Monday

Tuesday 26 May

- › EP: AFET, BUDG, ECON, ENVI, AGRI, LIBE
- › EP: AFCO Hearing on the Institutional future of the European Union
- › Foreign Affairs Council (Development)
- › EC: Launch European Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy
- › EC: International Conference on the Central African Republic: from relief to resilience
- › EESC: Public hearings on the Delegation procedure and Towards a new European Neighbourhood Policy
- › EU Ombudsman presents Annual Report 2014 to Martin Schulz
- › Presidency: EU Water and Marine Director's meeting
- › Presidency: seminar Implementing the EU Maritime Security Strategy: the Case of the Baltic Sea Region
- › Presidency: Conference on the “EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 – implementation”
- › ECHR: 6 judgments
- › CoE Congress: monitoring visit to France

Wednesday 27 May

- › EP: Plenary Session in Brussels
- › G7 Finance Ministers meeting
- › EC: Weekly College meeting, with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon
- › EC/EP: Commission proposes draft 2016 EU budget. Presentation to the EP BUDG Committee.
- › EC: Katainen participates in trilogue meeting on the EFSI
- › EC: Cañete participates in the 6th Clean Energy Ministerial Meeting in Mexico
- › EESC: Plenary Session
- › EDPS meeting with NGOs on Data Protection Reform
- › Meeting of Heads of EU Agencies
- › FRA at High Level Conference on the elimination of gender-based violence
- › PACE: Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments

Thursday 28 May

- › EP: DROI, SEDE, INTA, EMPL, ITRE, TRAN, AFET
- › Competitiveness Council
- › 2nd Southern Neighbourhood Civil Society Forum
- › EC: Commission adopts its monthly infringements package
- › EC: European Maritime Day Conference
- › EESC: Plenary Session
- › CoR: ARLEM Bureau meeting
- › CoR: Conference SPACE4Growth and Jobs: the role of regional policies
- › Presidency: Working Party on Enlargement and Countries Negotiating Accession to the EU
- › Presidency: Meeting of EU Biodiversity and Nature Directors
- › ECHR: 6 judgments
- › CoE Congress: Pre-electoral mission to Albania
- › CoE Congress: International Implementation Forum for Local and Regional Authorities on Human Rights

Friday 29 May

- › EP: Interparliamentary committee meeting on the Democratic oversight of Intelligence services in the EU
- › Competitiveness Council
- › EU – Japan Summit in Tokyo
- › EC: Vice President Šefčovič on his Energy Union tour
- › EESC: Public hearing on TTIP as a tool to foster internationalization of European SME's
- › CoR: Conference The Balkan and the Black Sea Area on the move: Perspective for Regional Authorities.
- › Presidency: High-level working group on the Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan

Institutional agendas

European Parliament

Tuesday 26 May

- *Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)*: exchange of views with Peter Maurer, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross; debriefing on the 17th EP-Bosnia and Herzegovina Inter-Parliamentary meeting; Exchange of views with Catherine Samba-Panza, President of the Central African Republic (with SEDE); Public hearing on the Challenges and Perspectives in the EU-China Strategic Partnership. [Full agenda](#)
- *Committee on Budgets (BUDG)*: reporting from the trilogues on European Fund for Strategic Investments; Mobilisations of the EU Solidarity Fund; Draft amending budgets to the general budget 2015. [Full agenda](#).
- *Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON)*: scrutiny of delegated acts and implementing measures; vote on the review of the economic governance framework: stocktaking and challenges; vote on Building a Capital Markets Union. [Full agenda](#).
- *Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI)*: Report back on the ongoing inter-institutional negotiations on the Limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants, and on Novel foods; draft report on Emission limits and type-approval for internal combustion engines for non-road mobile machinery. [Full agenda](#).
- *Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI)*: Exchange of views with the Brazilian Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, Kátia Abreu; consideration of draft report on Organic production and labelling of organic products; vote on Trade in seal products; Structured Dialogue with Commissioner Phil Hogan, responsible for Agriculture and Rural Development. [Full agenda](#).
- *Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE)*: Structured dialogue with Commissioners Věra Jourová and Dimitris Avramopoulos on the Commission Work Programme for 2015 and on the preparation of the 2016 Commission Work Programme; debate on the situation in the Mediterranean and the need for a holistic EU approach to migration, with an exchange of views on the strategy on cooperation with third countries and on border management and visa-policy. [Full agenda](#).
- *Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO)*: Hearing on The institutional future of the European Union within and beyond the Treaty of Lisbon. [Programme hearing](#).
- *ENVI, AGRI joint meeting*: consideration of amendments on the Cloning of animals of the bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine species kept and reproduced for farming purposes.

Wednesday 27 May

- Political group meetings
- *Plenary Session in Brussels*. Address by Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations; Commission statement on the preparation of the G7 Summit on 7-8 June; Decision on the opening of interinstitutional negotiations on Aid scheme for the supply of fruit and vegetables, bananas and milk in the educational establishments; Commission statement on EU development aid to Eritrea in the light of documented human rights abuses; Council and Commission statements on Cyber-attacks against the media - new level of threat to cybersecurity; Oral Question on ending the practice of forced marriage of girls.
- *Committee on Budgets (BUDG)*: Presentation of the Commission's Draft Budget 2016

Thursday 28 May

- *Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI)*: vote on Trade in certain goods which could be used for capital punishment, torture or other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment; exchange of views on the human rights situation in Egypt. [Agenda](#).

- *Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE)*: debriefing on the Foreign Affairs Council of 18 May with EEAS Deputy Secretary General Maciej Popowski; exchange of views on the EU's Train and Equip initiative with the EEAS and DG DEVCO.
- *Committee on International Trade (INTA)*: exchange of views with DG Trade on the state of play of International Trade Negotiations; Vote on Recommendations to the European Commission on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP); vote on the Cloning of animals of the bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine species kept and reproduced for farming purposes. [Full agenda.](#)
- *Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL)*: vote on Untapping the potential of Research and Innovation in the Blue Economy to create Jobs and Growth; vote on Resource efficiency: moving towards a circular economy; Adoption of a letter on the EMPL Committee Contribution on the Structured Dialogue; Exchange of views, as part of the structured dialogue, with Valdis Dombrovskis (Vice President) and Marianne Thyssen (Commissioner). [Full agenda.](#)
- *Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)*: consideration of draft report on Towards a European Energy Union; vote on Scientific and technological cooperation between the EU and the Faroe Islands associating the Faroe Islands to Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020); the roadmap for completing the Digital Single Market, Exchange of views with Commissioner Günther Oettinger. [Full agenda.](#)
- *Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN)*: opinion on the Implementation of the 2011 White Paper on Transport; draft report on Sustainable Urban Mobility; Presentation of a study on Social inclusion in EU public transport; consideration of draft opinion on The Paris Protocol - A blueprint for tackling global climate change beyond 2020; exchange of views with the EU coordinators for the Atlantic Corridor, the North Sea-Mediterranean Corridor, and the Orient/East-Med Corridor. [Full agenda.](#)
- *AFET, DROI, SEDE* joint meeting for an exchange of views with Habib Essid, Head of Government of Tunisia

Thursday 28 – Friday 29 May

- *Conference on the Democratic oversight of Intelligence services in the European Union.* Interparliamentary Committee meeting European Parliament (LIBE) - National Parliaments. Opening session: the repercussions on intelligence oversight of a rapidly changing world; workshop 1: Upcoming challenges for oversight bodies – changing nature of security threats and rapid technologic developments; workshop 2: Fostering cooperation and exchange of best practices between intelligence oversight bodies in the EU; workshop 3: the role of national committees of inquiry and oversight committees in a globalized world.

Council of Ministers

Tuesday 26 May

- *Foreign Affairs Council (Development)*. EU Development ministers will adopt conclusions on a new global partnership for poverty eradication and sustainable development after 2015 in view of the UN summits on Development; discuss gender and development as well as migration and development; debate the joint communication on capacity building in support of security and development; and discuss the post-2015 agenda with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

Wednesday 27 May – Friday 29 May

- *G7 Finance ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting* in Dresden, in preparation of the G7 Summit in Germany on 7-8 June. With participation of Commissioner Moscovici.

Thursday 28 May – Friday 29 May

- *Competitiveness Council*. Ministers will exchange views on the new EU strategy for the digital single market, including decisions on the digital transformation of industry and a roadmap for a European research area; reach political agreement on the reform of 'package travel' rules to extend consumer protection; and discuss the mandatory indication of origin for non-

food products sold in the EU.

Friday 29 May

- *EU-Japan Summit* in Tokyo. On the agenda: EU-Japan trade, including negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement and negotiations for a strategic partnership agreement; regional and foreign policy issues; and global challenges such as the climate change negotiations and counter-terrorism cooperation. With the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, and Donald Tusk, Jean-Claude Juncker, Federica Mogherini and Cecilia Malmström.

European Commission and High Representative

Tuesday 26 May

- *Launch European smart specialisation platform on energy.* With Commissioner Tibor Navracsics. Joint initiative of the DG for Regional and Urban Policy, Energy, and the Joint Research Centre. The platform will collaborate with interested regions/countries to: analyse current energy priorities and policies, and / identify good practices as well as priorities and roadmaps for bottom-up trans-regional and transnational cooperation to accelerate the development and deployment of energy technologies.
- *International Conference on the Central African Republic: from relief to resilience,* with Federica Mogherini, Neven Mimica and Christos Stylianides. The conference will focus on the actions taken in response to the humanitarian challenges in the country and those posed by resilience in the medium-term, and provides a forum for exploring the scope for donors to contribute more towards the Central African Republic's short-term humanitarian needs and sustainable recovery.

Wednesday 27 May

- *Weekly college meeting.* The college will receive UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.
- *Commission proposes 2016 EU Budget.* The EU budget for a given year is determined based on the expected needs to cover EU programmes and policies, fully respecting the limits set by the European Parliament and EU Member States for the seven-year budget cycle (the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020). Following adoption by the College, the draft budget will be presented to the European Parliament and to the Council.
- Vice President Jyrki Katainen participates in the trilogue on the Regulation for a European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI).
- Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete participates in the 6th Clean Energy Ministerial Meeting, in Mérida, Mexico.

Thursday 28 May

- *2nd Southern Neighbourhood Civil Society Forum,* co-hosted by the Committee of the Regions (CoR), the European External Action Service (EEAS), the European Commission (DG DEVCO and DG NEAR) and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). The main topics on the agenda will be the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy and civil society's role in de-radicalisation efforts. High Representative Federica Mogherini, European Parliament President Martin Schulz and Commissioner Johannes Hahn will address the Forum.
- *The Commission adopts its monthly infringements package.* These decisions cover all Member States and most of EU policies and seek to enforce EU law across Europe in the interest of both citizens and businesses.
- *European Maritime Day Conference.* With Commissioner Karmenu Vella. The conference will focus on ports and coasts as engines for Blue Growth. The plenary session will introduce the main political challenges of coastal cities and ports. The different aspects of this theme will be declined over the two days in three thematic sessions and about 20 workshops.

Friday 29 May

- Vice President Maroš Šefčovič on an *Energy Union tour* in Lower Saxony, Germany and the Netherlands: meets politicians and CEOs, visits some energy projects and debates with students of the Energy Academy on the challenges in the Energy Union.

European Economic and Social Committee

Tuesday 26 May

- Bureau meeting
- *Public Hearing on the Delegation procedure: lack of transparency or democracy at risk?* The aim of this hearing is to rekindle debate with stakeholders (civil society, experts and academics) and frame new recommendations for the EU institutions with law-making powers. This hearing will also provide an opportunity to hear the views of the EU institutions after their renewal especially in view of the new inter-institutional agreement and its implications and possible amendments on delegated acts.
- *Public Hearing Towards a new European Neighbourhood Policy.* Discussions on the European perspective on the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Civil Society Perspective on the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy.

Wednesday 27 May

- *508th Plenary Session:* vote on the opinion Trade in Seal Products; debate on, amongst others, the following opinions: Completing EMU – the political pillar; Investor protection and investor to state dispute settlement in EU trade and investment agreements with third countries; Tax transparency package. [All documents.](#)

Thursday 28 May

- *508th Plenary Session:* Debate on the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda with Commissioner Neven Mimica and Tanya Cox, chair of the Beyond 2015 European Task Force; Debate on the European Agenda on Migration with Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos; own-initiative opinion on the EU industrial policy for the food and drinks sector; information report how media is used to influence social and political processes in the EU and Eastern neighbouring countries; opinion on employment guidelines; setting up an EU/Chile joint consultative committee. [All documents.](#)

Friday 29 May

- *Public Hearing 'Can TTIP be a tool to foster the internationalization of European SME's'* in the framework of the EESC opinion on TTIP and its impact on SME's. The hearing will focus on the main obstacles to the internationalization of SME's, how to facilitate SME's participation in transatlantic trade and investment, and the possible impact of trade agreements on SME's.

Committee of the Regions

Thursday 28 May

- *15th ARLEM Bureau meeting.* Enlarged bureau meeting of representatives of local and regional governments from the Mediterranean partner countries and CoR members in Brussels. On the agenda: a round table on the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy; the adoption of ARLEM's position on the review of the ENP; a discussion on draft reports 'A sustainable urban agenda for the Mediterranean region' and 'Employment and territorial development in the Mediterranean region'; planning of ARLEM work for 2015.
- *Conference SPACE4Growth and Jobs: The role of regional policies and programs.* Together with Nereus, the Network of European Regions using space technologies. The conference aims to highlight the role of Space to foster new business and economic growth, and gives the opportunity to review and analyse regional strategies and programs with a specific view to the dimension of space.

Friday 29 May

- *Conference The Balkan and the Black Sea Area on the move: Perspective for Regional Authorities.* This conference will provide an update on the prospects for developing the EU's policies in the South-East of Europe and present regional perspectives in the context of the review of the European Neighbourhood policy and development of the Danube and the Adriatic-Ionian Macro-Regional Strategies. The conference will also focus on regional

cooperation in the wider Balkan and Black Sea area.

EU bodies and agencies

Tuesday 26 May

- EU Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly presents her Annual Report on 2014 to European Parliament President Martin Schulz

Wednesday 27 May

- European Data Protection Supervisor Giovanni Buttarelli will meet with NGOs on the Data Protection Reform package.
- Meeting of Heads of EU Agencies. Heads of Administration will discuss issues related to financial and human resources, working arrangements, the outcome of the 2013 discharge procedure, and develop a long term strategic programme for the network. On Thursday, the discussion will continue with an exchange of view with the Parliament, Commission and Council.
- FRA at the high-level conference on the elimination of gender-based violence in Prague, which follows-up on the FRA's survey on violence against women and to provides a platform for exchange of knowledge and best practices in preventing and combating gender-based violence.

Latvian Presidency

Tuesday 26 May

- *EU Water and Marine Director's meeting* to ensure a harmonised EU inland and marine waters policy in all Member States. Directors will discuss issues relating to water resource management policies and protection measures, as well as the re-use of water resources. Participants will discuss together harmonised implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the Water Framework Directive and set the directions of the implementation strategy for 2016 - 2019.
- *Seminar: Implementing the EU Maritime Security Strategy: the Case of the Baltic Sea Region* to explore and address the core issues relevant to the Baltic Sea Region and provide possible solutions suitable also for other regions.
- *Conference on the "EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 - implementation"* to contribute to the drafting of the biodiversity strategy mid-term evaluation report, share experiences and jointly develop recommendations for future action.

Thursday 28 May

- *Informal Meeting of the Working Party on Enlargement and Countries Negotiating Accession to the EU (COELA)* with the main negotiators from the three candidate countries – Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey - as well as representatives from DG Enlargement and the Enlargement Unit at the General Secretariat of the Council. The meeting will focus on topical issues relating to the accession negotiations and progress by the candidate countries.
- *Meeting of EU Biodiversity and Nature Directors* to promote the successful and harmonised implementation of the EU's nature policy. The meeting will cover issues related to the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy, such as securing available and necessary funding for its implementation (e.g.cost accounting), planning of EU funds and attainment of the objectives in cooperation with all EU Member States.

Friday 29 May

- *High-level working group on the Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan*. The meeting aims to assess progress in establishing the energy market and building the missing interconnections in order to ensure the competitiveness of the Baltic Sea Region's energy policy, energy security and sustainability, and initiative discussions on the future prospects for the BEMIP format.

Parliamentary Assembly (Council of Europe)

Wednesday 27 May

- *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*. Election of chair and vice-chair, exchange of views and establishment of preliminary work plan.

Thursday 28 May

- *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*. Adoption of reports “The functioning of democratic institutions in Azerbaijan” and the “Consideration of the annulment of the previously ratified credentials of the delegation of the Russian Federation – follow-up to paragraph 16 of Resolution 2034 (2015)”; exchange of views on the honouring of commitments by Ukraine, with the participation of the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in Ukraine and in the Trilateral Contact Group on the implementation of the peace plan in the east of Ukraine; post-monitoring dialogue with Turkey and with “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”. [Agenda](#).

European Court of Human Rights (Council of Europe)

Tuesday 26 May

- Six judgments in writing regarding Belgium, Turkey and Hungary.

Thursday 28 May

- Six judgments and / or decisions regarding Portugal, Slovenia and Hungary.

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (Council of Europe)

Tuesday 26 – Friday 29 May

- Monitoring visit to France

Thursday 28 May

- Pre-electoral mission to Albania in preparation of the local election on 21 June 2015.
- International Implementation Forum for Local and Regional Authorities “Focusing on Human Rights” (Graz, Austria), also with the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights.