



## The Estonian Presidency Programme for the Transport, Telecommunication and Energy Council (TTE)

The European Commission presented the Clean Energy Package for All Europeans in November 2016. This rounds up the legislative action to **achieve the functioning of the Energy Union** during the current legislative mandate. In order to ensure a market-based energy supply, reduce the EU's energy dependence, and establish a future-proof climate policy, the Commission has proposed to tackle four areas of the energy policy – energy efficiency, redesigning the electricity market, governance of the Energy Union and renewable energy.

The Estonian Presidency is committed to ensuring the quality, balance and efficacy of the legislation and will seek to attain practical results in so far as possible. Building on the work done by the Maltese Presidency, the Estonian Presidency will strive to progress on the **clean energy package** proposals. Particular attention will be given to the **electricity market design** which is a central building block for the Energy Union. A well-functioning market is the main driver for the deployment of renewable energy and the best motivator for energy efficiency. While understanding the complexity of the electricity market and renewable energy proposals, the Estonian Presidency strives to agree on the core issues among Member States. A **streamlined governance** setup in the energy and climate policy framework will be the main tool for achieving long-term goals, consolidating cross-sectoral efforts and reducing the administrative burden. The regulation should give a clear direction to the energy and climate policy sought by the society, investors and the international partners of the EU. The Estonian Presidency will work with the Member States on the proposal to reach an agreement.

The **electricity market design will be at the core of the informal meeting of energy ministers** in September, to address the key issues raised at the negotiations of the electricity market initiatives. The aim is to support the progress of the legislative deliberations in the Council.

The overarching energy policy narrative of the Estonian Presidency will be based on a strong link to its horizontal digital priority. The Presidency will propose a **public-private partnership declaration on digitising the energy sector**. Digitisation empowers consumers and sustainable energy transition like no other policy.

In the area of **transport**, the Estonian Presidency will prioritise **road initiatives** of the Low-Emission Mobility Package and active implementation of the **Aviation Strategy for Europe**.

In **land transport**, the Estonian Presidency will consider all three pillars of the road initiatives which are essential to achieving a competitive, resource efficient and well-functioning road transport market. The Presidency will especially focus on access to the international road haulage market and profession, as well as the proposal on guaranteeing road transport workers' social rights and safety. Discussions will be started also on the road pricing matters.

In **aviation**, the Presidency will carry on the work of the Maltese Presidency to reach an agreement with the European Parliament on the basic regulation of the European Aviation Safety Agency. The Presidency will also aim for tangible progress on the upcoming proposal on safeguarding connectivity





and competition in international transport. A high level of connectivity, fostering fair competition and level playing field between air carriers in the European Union aviation market is vital.

The Presidency will aim to start negotiations with the European Parliament on the directive on qualifications and training for road transport workers, which aims to increase road safety. In addition, some progress will be made on the upcoming rail passenger rights regulation. Based on the interest of Member States and complementary to already negotiated comprehensive agreements, the Presidency may bring forward negotiating mandates with third countries.

In **maritime field** the Estonian Presidency will start the discussions on the upcoming port reception facilities regulation with an aim to achieve maximum progress.

The Estonian Presidency also wishes to facilitate the debate on the International Maritime Organisation's roadmap to address greenhouse gases of international shipping in order to make good progress towards a proportional, yet ambitious global agreement.

A horizontal priority has been set to work towards eliminating the obstacles to **digitisation of transport** to achieve a seamless and more effective transport system in Europe. The Estonian Presidency will work on Council conclusions on digitisation of the EU transport sector to bring about further efficiency and administrative simplification within and between the transport modes.

Council conclusions are also planned on the results of the interim evaluation of implementation of the European satellite navigation programmes **Galileo and EGNOS** in 2014-2016, aimed to establish a concise link between past lessons learned with developing a long-term vision and ambition for future programmes.

The Estonian Presidency will organise a **ministerial meeting of transport ministers** in September 2017 on the topic of **connectivity**, pointing out that well-connected Member States are the backbone of the European single market. A **joint session with the energy ministers** is also foreseen to take stock of the implementation of the trans-European transport and energy network (TEN) so far. The Presidency also hopes to analyse the results of the mid-term review of the Connecting Europe Facility. It is also time to start discussions on the future financing framework for the TEN networks.

The Estonian Presidency also wishes to facilitate discussions on means to achieve equal air connectivity for all regions in Europe as an important precondition for further economic development, growth and jobs. The matter will be discussed also at the ministerial meeting in September.

While every Council formation will look at aspects of building a digital society, the Telecommunications Council will focus on key horizontal enablers, in particular connectivity, the data economy, trust and security, and eGovernment.

Every sector of the gigabit economy will require fast, always-on, always-available connectivity. The proposed **Electronic Communications Code** presents a major overhaul of telecommunications rules to prepare Europe for the era of 5G. The code should promote investment, competition and the development of new services. Swift progress on the code is the main legislative priority of the Estonian





Presidency in the Telecommunications Council. The Estonian Presidency aims to agree on a general approach on the code and if possible, start the negotiations with the European Parliament. The Presidency also aims for a general approach on the **BEREC regulation**.

In the field of **postal services**, the ambition of the Estonian Presidency is to conclude negotiations on the **Regulation on parcel delivery**.

The Digital Single Market is inconceivable without the **free movement of data within the EU**. The Estonian Presidency will devote significant attention to developing the European data economy, including through a joint informal meeting of ministers of telecommunications and competitiveness that will discuss the free movement of data and emerging issues such as data ownership and reuse.

Keeping Europe safe and secure requires building trust and security in the digital domain. The proposed **Regulation on Privacy and Electronic Communications** is a significant complement to European telecommunications and data protection rules. The Presidency will aim for a progress report. The Council will also begin discussions on the **ENISA mandate** and measures on cybersecurity **standards, certification and labelling**. The General Affairs Council will agree on the conclusions on the **Review of the EU cybersecurity strategy**.

We should expect public services to keep pace with digital transformation. Well-functioning cross border public services are particularly important for Europe, removing significant barriers for citizens and businesses. The Estonian Presidency will follow the implementation of the eGovernment Action Plan 2016-2020, and begin a discussion on long-term European plans for eGovernment, culminating in a **ministerial meeting and declaration on eGovernment in October**.

