

European Commission work programme 2021

Overview for parliamentary committees

SUMMARY

This briefing is intended as a background overview for parliamentary committees (and their respective secretariats) which are planning their activities in relation to the European Commission work programme for 2021 (CWP 2021), adopted on 19 October 2020.

Since the coronavirus outbreak, the European Commission has focused on protecting the lives and livelihoods of EU citizens. After having presented an adjusted CWP 2020 on 27 May 2020 (to take account of the pandemic), the Commission, in its CWP 2021, announced its twofold ambition for the year ahead. Firstly, this involves putting all efforts into managing the crisis, achieving EU- and international-level collaboration to that end, and working on a long-term solution to get past it. Secondly, it involves delivering on the Commission's headline ambitions as set out in Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's political guidelines, and leading the acceleration of change towards a fairer, healthier, greener and more digital society, making full use of the Next Generation EU recovery plan along with the EU long-term budget for 2021-2027.

Accordingly, in its CWP 2021, the Commission announces a shift from strategy to delivery, with particular emphasis on new legislative initiatives and revisions of existing legislation. Moreover, the Commission intends, in line with the adjusted CWP 2020, to deliver on initiatives previously planned for 2020 that were postponed due to the pandemic (and which come on top of the initiatives listed in Annexes I and II of the CWP 2021).

Indeed, Annexes I and II of the CWP 2021 set out a remarkable number of legislative initiatives – 82 (80 legislative initiatives + two legislative and non-legislative initiatives, see Table 1) as compared to only 37 (33 legislative initiatives + four legislative and non-legislative initiatives) included in the original CWP 2020. In terms of timing, the Commission envisages adopting half of all the legislative initiatives included in the CWP 2021 (43) in the fourth quarter of 2021.

This briefing focuses on legislative initiatives only and is structured as follows: i) it provides an overview of the CWP 2021 with regard to its structure and key aspects; and ii) it includes information on two types of EPRS publications that might be of interest to the relevant committees in their consideration of the upcoming legislative proposals: initial appraisals of Commission impact assessments (provided by the Ex-Ante Impact Assessment Unit, IMPA) and implementation appraisals (provided by the Ex-Post Evaluation Unit, EVAL).

Finally, the annex to the briefing sets out a detailed analysis of the 82 legislative initiatives included in Annexes I and II of the CWP 2021. The annex includes information on whether the proposal is 'new' (Annex I) or a 'REFIT initiative' (Annex II); a tentative indication of the committee concerned (subject to change); the timing of the initiative; the assumed type of initiative; and information on whether an impact assessment is planned or not.

Overview of the Commission work programme 2021

The European Commission presented its CWP 2021 on 19 October 2020 in the form of a [communication](#) entitled 'A Union of vitality in a world of fragility', accompanied by four annexes providing greater detail on the Commission's legislative and non-legislative intentions for 2021.

Delivering on Europe's ambitions while managing the crisis

The coronavirus outbreak in Europe forced the Commission to refocus its original CWP 2020 on protecting the lives and livelihoods of EU citizens. As a result, an adjusted CWP 2020, [COM\(2020\) 440](#), was presented on 27 May 2020, and more than 800 (figure up to 19 October) previously unplanned measures were taken to mitigate the impact of the crisis.

In keeping with the above objective, in 2021 the Commission will continue the efforts to find, finance and secure a safe and accessible vaccine. It will also keep its focus on sustainable investments and reforms by relying on its [Next Generation EU](#) €750 billion recovery plan (outlined in its [communication](#) of 27 May) and on the next long-term EU budget for 2021-2027. According to the Commission, the €1.8 trillion package that was agreed by the co-legislators on 10 November would match the EU's vision and ambitions. This is why 'the 2021 Commission work programme sees a **shift from strategy to delivery** with an emphasis on new legislative initiatives and revisions of existing legislation'. With its CWP 2021, the Commission is clearly aiming at accelerating 'the transformative agenda on which this Commission was elected'.

In terms of the **overall tone**, while acknowledging that '2020 will ... be a year to instantly forget' for the global pandemic that 'blindsided Europe and the world', the CWP states at the same time that 'this year will also be remembered for the urgent and unprecedented action Europe took to protect lives and livelihoods' and 'for the great acceleration of change it kick-started and the great opportunity it paradoxically presented'.

The six headline ambitions

The communication sets out a targeted agenda to implement the Commission's [six priorities](#) for 2019-2024 (originally presented on 16 July 2019 by the then candidate for Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen, in her [political guidelines](#)), and the key initiatives supporting them. The six priorities are:

- a European Green Deal;
- a Europe fit for the digital age;
- an economy that works for people;
- promoting our European way of life;
- a stronger Europe in the world; and
- a new push for European democracy.

As regards the 'European Green Deal' priority, the Commission will focus, inter alia, on overhauling the relevant climate and energy legislation to align it with the newly proposed target to reduce emissions by at least 55 % by 2030, as compared to 1990 levels, with climate and energy diplomacy remaining a priority with the EU's external partners.

As regards the 'Europe fit for the digital age' priority, the Commission will propose a roadmap to 2030 with clearly defined goals for areas such as connectivity, skills and digital public services. Among the different initiatives included in this priority, the Commission will also update its recently adopted new Industrial strategy for Europe, [COM\(2020\) 102](#), to take into account the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, the global competitive context, and the acceleration of the twin green and digital transitions.

Under the 'economy that works for people' priority, the Commission will put forward an 'ambitious' action plan to ensure the full implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights (considered a key instrument to contribute to socio-economic recovery), together with the full implementation

and use of the [SURE](#) (Support to mitigate Unemployment Risks in an Emergency) programme. The Commission will also propose an action plan for the social economy aimed at enhancing social investment and providing support to the social economy players and social enterprises. Legislative initiatives will be proposed to make progress on the capital markets union and the banking union towards a deeper economic and monetary union.

Within the 'promoting our European way of life' priority, the Commission will make proposals to i) reinforce the EU framework for detecting and responding to serious cross-border health threats; ii) strengthen the roles of existing agencies; and iii) establish an agency for biomedical advanced research and development, all this with a view to strengthening the EU's crisis preparedness and management of cross-border health threats. The Commission will also work with the European Parliament and the Member States to preserve and improve a functioning Schengen area, based on a new strategy for the future of Schengen and on stronger Schengen rules. In the context of the ongoing work on a new pact on migration and asylum, the Commission will propose a number of measures on legal migration.

As part of the 'stronger Europe in the world' priority, in order to address the increasing number of global challenges, crises and conflicts, the Commission will continue to give priority to the Eastern and the Southern Neighbourhoods, to the Western Balkans and to Africa. In this regard, a renewed Southern Neighbourhood partnership will be presented. The Commission will also present a new strategic approach to support disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration of ex-combatants, in order to ensure lasting stability and peace in conflict-stricken countries and regions.

Finally, as part of the 'new push for European democracy' priority, the Commission will present an EU disability rights strategy, to ensure the full implementation of the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities, and it will put forward a new proposal to combat gender-based violence.

In its CWP 2021, the Commission also reiterates the **importance of better regulation**, stating that the [pandemic-related] crisis has 'further highlighted the need for informed decisions based on evidence and [better regulation](#) principles'. As such, 'the need for impact assessments ... is more important than ever', and consultations will be streamlined to facilitate stakeholders' participation and input. The communication on better regulation, which is expected to be adopted on 15 December, would focus on burden reduction by launching the 'one-in, one-out' approach that would 'ensure that newly introduced administrative burdens are offset by relieving people and businesses [notably SMEs] of equivalent administrative costs at EU level, in the same policy area'.

The CWP 2021 communication also makes clear that the Commission will focus on explaining what it is doing and start the debate on the Conference on the Future of Europe, with a view to taking citizens' views on board.

As regards the effective application, implementation and enforcement of EU law, the Commission will continue to support and work with Member States to ensure the 'swift and correct implementation' of new and existing EU rules.

Following the Commission's presentation of its [first annual strategic foresight report](#) on 9 September, the CWP states that the Commission's work will continue to be informed by strategic foresight; in addition, it will remain guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its [goals](#), and also by the Paris Agreement.

Annexes to the Commission work programme 2021

The CWP 2021 includes **four annexes**, one fewer than the previous one: Annex V ('envisaged repeals') is, in fact, absent. The table below gives an **overview of the Commission initiatives**: these include legislative, non-legislative, and combined (i.e. a mix of legislative and/or non-legislative) initiatives. Initiatives sharing the same policy objective are usually clustered in one '**dossier**'. For example, the Fit for 55 package 'dossier' contains 12 legislative initiatives.

Table 1 – CWP 2021 annexes

Annex	Dossiers	Dossier files
Annex I: New initiatives	44 dossiers	56 legislative initiatives 2 legislative and non-legislative initiatives ¹ 1 legislative or non-legislative initiative ² 27 non-legislative initiatives
Annex II: REFIT initiatives	41 dossiers	24 legislative initiatives amending existing legislation 17 non-legislative initiatives (evaluations and fitness checks)
Annex III: Priority pending proposals	50 dossiers	50 priority files
Annex IV: Withdrawals	14 dossiers	14 intended withdrawals

¹ EU 2021 Rail Corridor Initiative, including the revision of the Rail Freight Corridor Regulation and actions to boost passenger rail; Individual learning accounts. These two initiatives have been counted as legislative only, and therefore not counted also as non-legislative.

² Initiative against abusive litigation targeting journalists and rights defenders.

Source: Authors' elaboration based on the CWP 2021.

- **Annex I** includes 44 dossiers linked to the von der Leyen Commission's six priorities. Each dossier includes at least one legislative or non-legislative initiative. The **56 legislative initiatives** include: 18 initiatives related to the 'European Green Deal' priority; eight related to the 'Europe fit for the digital age' priority; 11 related to the 'economy that works for people' priority; one related to 'a stronger Europe in the world' priority; nine related to 'promoting our European way of life' priority; and nine linked to 'the new push for European democracy' priority. The **27 non-legislative initiatives** include: three linked to the 'European Green Deal' priority (two action plans and a third initiative whose nature is not indicated), three linked to the 'a Europe fit for the digital age' priority (strategy, action plan, targets); five linked to the 'economy that works for people' priority (action plans, recommendation, communications); six linked to the 'stronger Europe in the world' priority (communications and joint communications); seven linked to 'promoting our European way of life' priority (action plan, strategies, communications, EU agenda), and three initiatives related to the 'new push for European democracy' priority (strategies and communications). Annex I also includes **two legislative and non-legislative initiatives** (one related to the 'European Green Deal' priority, the other one related to the 'promoting our European way of life' priority), and **one legislative or non-legislative initiative** related to the 'a new push for European democracy' priority.
- **Annex II** includes 41 dossiers linked as well to the von der Leyen Commission's six priorities, corresponding to 41 initiatives for regulatory simplification, including both legislative and non-legislative initiatives. The **24 initiatives amending existing legislation** are more than double those included in the adjusted CWP 2020 (10), and are distributed across the six priorities as follows: 10 initiatives related to the 'European Green Deal' priority; five related to the 'Europe fit for the digital age' priority; one related to the 'economy that works for people' priority; seven related to 'promoting our European way of life' priority; one linked to 'the new push for European democracy' priority. The **17 non-legislative initiatives** (evaluations, revisions, and fitness checks) include: two initiatives linked to the 'European Green Deal' priority (evaluations), 10 initiatives linked to the 'a Europe fit for the digital age' priority (five revisions and five evaluations); two linked to the 'economy that works for people' priority (evaluations); two linked to 'promoting our European way of life' priority (evaluations); one initiative related to the 'new push for European democracy' priority (fitness check).

- **Annex III** includes 50 priority pending proposals, also divided according to the six von der Leyen Commission priorities: six related to the 'European Green Deal' priority; seven related to the 'Europe fit for the digital age' priority; thirteen related to the 'economy that works for people' priority; four related to 'a stronger Europe in the world' priority; 16 related to 'promoting our European way of life' priority; four linked to 'the new push for European democracy' priority.
- In **Annex IV**, the Commission provides a list of 14 pending legislative proposals that it intends to withdraw by July 2021.¹ These proposals will be withdrawn because they are either obsolete (11), or because no agreement is envisaged (three).

Focusing on Annexes I and II

CWP 2021 Annex I

As previously indicated, **Annex I** of the CWP 2021 includes **44 general dossiers** – while the total number (**86**) of **initiatives** included in this annex is twice as high (**legislative (56), non-legislative (27) or 'mixed' legislative/non legislative (three)**). This difference is due to the fact that some of these dossiers include several individual legislative or non-legislative initiatives (see Table 1). As one can clearly see, the majority of the initiatives included in Annex I concern legislative initiatives (56), which become 58 if we add the two 'mixed' legislative and non-legislative initiatives (see Table 2 below). This means that legislative initiatives take up approximately 70 % of the total number of initiatives.

According to the CWP, almost all **of the legislative initiatives in this Annex would be accompanied by an impact assessment (57 out of 58)**, the one left out being 'Consular protection – review of EU rules'. This means that 99 % of the legislative initiatives in this Annex would be accompanied by an impact assessment.

CWP 2021 Annex II

As mentioned above, **Annex II** includes **41 general dossiers**, the difference here being that each dossier includes only one initiative.

Out of the 24 legislative initiatives included in this Annex, 22, that is, 92 % of them (as well as one non-legislative initiative) **will be accompanied by an impact assessment, according to the CWP.**²

Not all initiatives included in the annexes are described in the same **level of detail in the CWP**. Initiatives included in Annex II (REFIT) are generally described in more detailed than those included in Annex I.

In addition, the majority of legislative initiatives included in Annex II provide a clear and specific reference to the legislation that is likely to be impacted by the Commission's legislative proposals, while in Annex I only one initiative for revising existing legislation provides a specific reference to the legislative act concerned.

Finally, it is pertinent to note that the general distinction between Annex I legislative initiatives ('new' initiatives) and Annex II legislative initiatives ('REFIT' initiatives, i.e. those revising/amending existing legislation) is not always followed through. Thus, Annex I ('new' initiatives) includes several initiatives that will amend existing legislation and could have been more appropriately included in Annex II ('REFIT' initiatives). Among these, for example, we find the revision of the Energy Tax Directive and the revision of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) Regulation, to name just a few. The CWP does not provide an explanation for this, although it might be assumed that Annex I will have higher political weight and corresponding visibility and might thus be chosen for the 'prominent' legislative initiatives.

Possibility of more (or fewer) initiatives than planned and timing of legislative proposals

Possibility of more (or fewer) initiatives than planned

Similarly to what was indicated both in the original and the adjusted CWP 2020, where the Commission stressed that the set of initiatives contained in the annexes was neither exhaustive nor definitive (original CWP 2020) and that the information provided was 'indicative only and subject to change' (adjusted CWP), annex I to the CWP 2021 indicates that 'the information provided in brackets next to each initiative [i.e. type of initiative, timing, presence or absence of an accompanying impact assessment, legal basis] is indicative only and subject to change during the preparatory process, notably in view of the outcome of an impact assessment process'.

As has happened in the recent past, the Commission might be forced to readjust its original planning due to unforeseen and urgent circumstances. The Commission is also likely to submit legislative initiatives in addition to those announced, as, in particular, some initiatives included in the adjusted CWP 2020 were postponed until 2021 due to the pandemic. It might also submit proposals outside the framework of its work programme in addition to those announced therein. The reverse is also true, as it is possible that the Commission may decide not to submit a proposal included in the CWP in view of the outcome of an impact assessment process indicating that the 'no change' option is the best of several options considered. As such, the list of initiatives contained in the annexes should therefore be considered as neither exhaustive nor definitive.

Timing

As regards the **timing of the initiatives**, Annex I includes precise information on the timing for all the planned initiatives, indicating the quarter in which the initiative is expected to be proposed. Annex II is less precise but only with regard to the envisaged 17 non-legislative initiatives (evaluations and fitness checks), while all the 24 legislative initiatives amending existing legislation include an indication of the quarter in which the initiative should be expected.

In both cases, as changes might happen during the year, the information contained in Annexes I and II should be read together with additional Commission documents, such as tentative agendas for forthcoming Commission meetings, roadmaps and inception impact assessments.

Table 2 shows the distribution of the legislative proposals among Annex I and Annex II according to the quarter in which they should be proposed; it is immediately apparent that the fourth quarter of 2021 is expected to have the highest percentage of legislative proposals, amounting to 50 of the legislative proposals included in the CWP 2021.

Table 2 – Chronological schedule for CWP 2021 legislative proposals

	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	2021
Annex I: New initiatives	3*	21	9**	25***	59
Annex II: REFIT initiatives	1	4	2	17	24
Total	4	25	11	42	82
*	The Commission has indicated one delivery for Q1/Q4, which has been attributed to Q1				
**	Under the section 'A European green deal', the Commission has envisaged to deliver in Q3 an initiative (<i>EU 2021 Rail Corridor Initiative, including the revision of the Rail Freight Corridor Regulation and actions to boost passenger rail</i>) that it has considered legislative <u>and</u> non-legislative at the same time. This initiative has been counted as legislative only and has therefore been included in the table.				
***	Under the section 'Promoting the European way of life', the Commission has envisaged to deliver in Q4 an initiative (<i>Individual learning accounts</i>) that it has considered legislative <u>and</u> non-legislative at the same time. This initiative has been counted as legislative only, and therefore included in the table.				
***	Under the section 'A new push for European democracy', the Commission has envisaged to deliver in Q4 an initiative (<i>Initiative against abusive litigation targeting journalists and rights defenders</i>) that it has considered legislative <u>or</u> non-legislative at the same time. This initiative has not been counted as either legislative or non-legislative, and has therefore not been included in the table.				

Source: Authors' elaboration of CWP 2021.

Distribution of legislative initiatives by parliamentary committee

Analysis of the CWP shows that the planned legislative initiatives included in Annexes I and II do not cover all parliamentary committees. Looking at the CWP, it seems that 14 parliamentary committees are likely to address the legislative initiatives in 2021.

The annex to this briefing presents an overview of the legislative initiatives included in Annexes I and II of the CWP, provisionally divided by **parliamentary committee**. Needless to say, it is not always possible to determine with certainty which committee(s) will be responsible for which file. Thus, the '**committee**' column should be taken as a **very tentative indication**. Once the proposals are adopted by the Commission and are referred to the Parliament, the final decision will be subject to the official referral procedure, results of which might well differ from our tentative prediction. The difficulty is amplified by the fact that information on the scope of the future proposals is insufficient to allow for a more certain allocation of files per committee. Examples include the proposal to establish a new European biomedical research and development agency, or the revision of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), including maritime, aviation and CORSIA, as well as a proposal for ETS as an own resource.

Overview of suggested further reading

This section provides information about two types of EPRS briefings that might be of interest to parliamentary committees (and their respective secretariats) in their consideration of the forthcoming legislative proposals. These are: **initial appraisals of Commission impact assessments**, prepared by the Ex-Ante Impact Assessment Unit (IMPA), and **implementation appraisals**, prepared by the Ex-Post Evaluation Unit (EVAL) of the EPRS Directorate for Impact Assessment and European Added Value.

Initial appraisals of Commission impact assessments – ex-ante perspective

Initial appraisals of Commission impact assessments are pro-active briefings prepared by IMPA, which provide a concise (usually up to eight pages in length) critical **overview and analysis of the quality of the impact assessments** (IAs) drawn up by the European Commission to accompany its legislative proposals. Initial appraisals check that certain quality criteria have been met and identify the basic methodological strengths and weaknesses of the Commission's text, in the light of its own better regulation guidelines and relevant European Parliament resolutions.

Initial appraisals are transmitted to the committee(s) responsible and the committee(s) for opinion, whenever possible at the initial stages of the committees' consideration of the corresponding legislative proposal. In accordance with the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016, the European Parliament has committed to taking full account of Commission IAs when considering the Commission's legislative proposals. In this context, the initial appraisals of the Commission's impact assessments seek to support the informed and effective consideration of the Commission's legislative proposals at committee stage by providing a focused and timely input, geared to promoting evidence-based policy-making. All initial appraisals are published and can be accessed on the [Parliament's Think Tank website](#) (see an [example](#)). A review of the quality of 132 Commission impact assessments adopted between July 2015 and December 2018 was carried out by IMPA in 2019 (see [study](#)).

Implementation appraisals – ex-post perspective

Implementation appraisals are pro-active briefings prepared by the EVAL Unit, providing an **overview and analysis of the operation of existing EU legislation**. Implementation appraisals thus cover only those initiatives within the CWP that revise existing legislation (excluding legislative proposals that do not amend existing EU legislation but constitute entirely new EU legislation).

Implementation appraisals are primarily intended to support parliamentary committees in their detailed consideration of legislative proposals amending existing EU legislation. Specifically, their aim is to provide an overview and analysis of publicly available sources on the implementation, application and effectiveness of a piece of EU legislation throughout the various stages of the policy cycle. Sources used include – but are not limited to – published reports, communications and studies coming from the EU institutions, EU agencies and advisory bodies, as well as accessible documents from various external stakeholders, including national parliaments or EU citizens.

Thus, implementation appraisals cover, as a rule, those legislative proposals that are included in the CWP as part of the Commission's regulatory fitness and performance (REFIT) programme (essentially, revisions of existing legislation). Given that some of the 'new' initiatives from Annex I also include some revision of existing legislation, implementation appraisals can also cover legislation from Annex I.

The overall aim is to provide implementation appraisals for most CWP initiatives that revise/amend existing legislation, and certainly for those legislative initiatives that constitute legislative priorities in a given year.

Implementation appraisals are intended to be published before the legislative proposal reaches Parliament or, at the latest, before the parliamentary committee responsible starts its consideration of a legislative proposal. All implementation appraisals are publicly accessible on the [Parliament's Think Tank website](#) (see an [example](#)).

Finally, publications that might be of interest to committees in their consideration of forthcoming CWP proposals on Parliament's Think Tank website include [legislation in progress](#) briefings, the [legislative train schedule](#), and topical publications (for example on the [digital services act](#)).

Conclusion

According to the communication, **the European Commission sees the CWP 2021 as a shift from strategy to delivery**, with an emphasis on new legislative initiatives and revisions of existing legislation.

Based on its Annexes I and II, it appears that **in 2021 the Commission intends to present 82 legislative initiatives**, as indicated in Table 2, or more than twice the number of legislative initiatives included in the original CWP 2020 (37), although six of those were subsequently postponed to 2021 in the adjusted CWP 2020 (see [briefing](#)). In terms of their timing, **the majority of legislative initiatives are envisaged to be presented in the second or fourth quarters**, constituting 30 % and 51 % of the total, respectively.

The Commission's commitment to the Better Regulation principles is clearly shown by the overwhelming number of legislative initiatives that are envisaged to be accompanied by an impact assessment (79 out of 82, i.e. 96 %) and the high number of ex-post evaluations planned (11 plus one fitness check).

These legislative initiatives are likely to be delivered to at least 14 parliamentary committees, as presented in the first column of the Annex to this briefing. However, as it is not always possible to determine with certainty which committee(s) will be responsible for which file, **the 'committee' column of the chart** should be taken as a **very tentative indication**.

EPRS will provide (to the extent possible, given time and resource constraints) parliamentary committees with two types of publications of possible interest in their consideration of CWP legislative proposals envisaged for 2021: **initial appraisals of Commission impact assessments**, prepared by the IMPA unit, and **implementation appraisals**, prepared by the EVAL unit.

Finally, the CWP 2021 contains only a general indication of the substance of the forthcoming proposals included in its Annex I (new initiatives), while Annex II (REFIT initiatives) is more detailed. To obtain the full picture of any initiative included, additional information must be gleaned from other European Commission documents. Furthermore, the list of initiatives contained in the annexes is **neither exhaustive nor definitive** and may be adjusted later to fit changing circumstances, as we have just seen with the coronavirus crisis.

Annex: Tentative distribution of legislative files in the CWP 2021 by parliamentary committee

- For assigned committee (tentative), refer to the section on 'Distribution of legislative initiatives by parliamentary committee' included in this briefing.
- Presentation refers to the timing indicated in the CWP 2021 for the submission of the legislative proposal.
- N (new initiatives): legislative initiative included in Annex I of the CWP 2021.
- R (REFIT): legislative initiative included in Annex II of the CWP 2021.
- Whenever several committees are mentioned in the table, this is to be understood either as a likely joint procedure between the mentioned Committees under Rule 58 of the EP Rules of Procedure, or as an indication that, based on the information included in the CWP 2021 and its annexes, at the time of drafting of this briefing it was difficult to determine which of the mentioned committees would take the lead. Moreover, several committees are mentioned in those cases where a specific legislative initiative is expected to contain several proposals for legislative acts, e.g. 'Digital levy and a proposal for digital levy as own resource', which might concern a number of committees respectively.
- It should be noted that in some cases, where there is an indication saying 'new initiative', there is actually existing legislation (that will, depending on the case, only be revised or extended by the respective legislative initiative). In order not to create any confusion and to adhere to the CWP communication (which, as mentioned above, is not always coherent as in some cases revisions of existing legislation are also mentioned in Annex I as new initiatives), all initiatives included in Annex I are, for the purpose of this briefing, marked as 'new initiatives'.

Committee (tentative)	Expected legislative initiative	Presentation (Quarter)	Assumed type of initiative	Impact Assessment Expected
AFCO	Revision of the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations (N)	Q3 2021	New initiative	YES
AFCO	Greater transparency in paid political advertising (N)	Q3 2021	New initiative	YES
AFCO	Revision of the Council Directive laying down detailed arrangements for the exercise of the right to vote and stand as a candidate in elections to the European Parliament for citizens of the Union residing in a Member State of which they are not nationals (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
AFCO/LIBE	Revision of the Council Directive laying down detailed arrangements for the exercise of the right to vote and to stand as a candidate in municipal elections by citizens of the Union residing in a Member State of which they are not nationals (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
AGRI	Revision of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Statistics on Agricultural Input and Output (SAIO) (R)	Q1 2021	Existing legislation	NO

Committee (tentative)	Expected legislative initiative	Presentation (Quarter)	Assumed type of initiative	Impact Assessment Expected
AGRI	Revision of geographical indications (R) ³	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
AGRI	Revision of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
ECON	Revision of the Energy Tax Directive (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ECON	Investment protection and facilitation framework (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ECON	Revision of Regulation (EU) No 909/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on improving securities settlement in the European Union and on central securities depositories and amending Directives 98/26/EC and 2014/65/EU and Regulation (EU) No 236/2012 (CSDR) (R)	Q2 2021	Existing legislation	YES
ECON	Revision of the tobacco taxation Directive (N)	Q3 2021	New initiative	YES
ECON	Revision of prudential rules for insurance and reinsurance companies (Solvency II) (N)	Q3 2021	New initiative	YES
ECON	Revision of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive and Regulation (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
ECON	Revision of the bank crisis management and deposit insurance framework (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
ECON	Revision of the State Aid General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) in light of the Green Deal (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	NO
ECON	Revision of the Guidelines on State aid for the fishery and aquaculture sector, Block Exemption Regulation (FIBER) and Regulation on de minimis (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
ECON	Revision of the Guidelines on State aid to the Agricultural and Forestry Sectors and in Rural Areas and Agricultural Block Exemption Regulation (ABER) (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
ECON	Amendment of the Directive on general arrangements for excise duties (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
ECON/ENVI	Establishment of an EU green bond standard (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ECON/LIBE	Anti-money laundering legislative package (N)	Q1 2021	New initiative	YES

Committee (tentative)	Expected legislative initiative	Presentation (Quarter)	Assumed type of initiative	Impact Assessment Expected
ECON/BUDG	Digital levy and a proposal for digital levy as own resource (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
EMPL	Improving the working conditions of platform workers (N)	Q1/Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
EMPL	Individual learning accounts (N) ⁴	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
ENVI	Effort-sharing Regulation (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ENVI	Revision of the Regulation on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ENVI	Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ENVI	New legal framework on the restoration of healthy ecosystems (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ENVI	Revision of Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 on Shipments of Waste (R)	Q2 2021	Existing legislation	YES
ENVI	Revision - Update of concentration limit values of persistent organic pollutants in waste - Amendments to Annexes IV and V on waste of the Regulation on persistent organic pollutants in waste (R)	Q2 2021	Existing legislation	YES
ENVI	Revision of the Regulation setting CO ₂ emission performance standards for new passenger cars and for new light commercial vehicles (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ENVI	Revision of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
ENVI	Ozone layer protection (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
ENVI	Revision of Directive 94/62/EC on Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive in order to reinforce the essential requirements for packaging to be placed on the EU market (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
ENVI	Revision of blood, tissues and cells legislation (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
ENVI	European health data space (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
ENVI	Development of post-Euro 6/VI emission standards for cars, vans, lorries and buses (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES

Committee (tentative)	Expected legislative initiative	Presentation (Quarter)	Assumed type of initiative	Impact Assessment Expected
ENVI	Sustainable products policy initiative, including a revision of the Ecodesign Directive (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
ENVI/BUDG	Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and a proposal for CBAM as own resource (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ENVI/BUDG	Revision of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), including maritime, aviation and CORSIA as well as a proposal for ETS as own resource (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ENVI/ITRE	Reducing methane emissions in the energy sector (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
IMCO	Revision of the Construction Products Regulation (EU No 305/2011) (R)	Q3 2021	Existing legislation	YES
IMCO	New design requirements and consumer rights for electronics (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
INTA	Follow-up to the White Paper on foreign subsidies : Levelling the playing field (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
INTA	Follow-up to the White Paper on foreign subsidies : Public procurement (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
INTA	Towards the future generalised scheme of preferences legal framework granting trade advantages to developing countries (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
INTA	Revision of Regulation 258/2012 on export authorisation, and import and transit measures for firearms (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
INTA	Instrument to deter and counteract coercive actions by third countries (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
ITRE	A trusted and secure European e-ID (N)	Q1 2021	New initiative	YES
ITRE	Amendment to the Renewable Energy Directive to implement the ambition of the new 2030 climate target (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ITRE	Amendment of the Energy Efficiency Directive to implement the ambition of the new 2030 climate target (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
ITRE	Revision of the energy performance of Buildings Directive (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES

Committee (tentative)	Expected legislative initiative	Presentation (Quarter)	Assumed type of initiative	Impact Assessment Expected
ITRE	Revision of the Third Energy Package for gas (Directive 2009/73/EU and Regulation 715/2009/EU) to regulate competitive decarbonised gas markets (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
ITRE/ENVI	Proposal to establish a new European biomedical research and development agency (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
JURI	Sustainable corporate governance (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
JURI	Review of the Database Directive (N)	Q3 2021	New initiative	YES
JURI	Revision of the Directive 99/2008/EC on the protection of the environment through criminal law (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
JURI/IMCO	Revision of the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC (R)	Q2 2021	Existing legislation	YES
JURI/LIBE	Data Act (N)	Q3 2021	New initiative	YES
JURI/LIBE	Digitalisation of cross-border judicial cooperation (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
LIBE	Amendment of the Regulation establishing the Schengen Evaluation Mechanism (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
LIBE	Revision of the Schengen Borders Code (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
LIBE	Legislation to effectively tackle child sexual abuse online (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
LIBE	Revision of Directive 2003/109/EC on long-term residents (R)	Q3 2021	Existing legislation	YES
LIBE	Consular protection – review of EU rules (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	NO
LIBE	Digital information exchange on cross-border terrorism cases (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
LIBE	Digitalisation of visa procedures (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
LIBE	Revision of the Directive on the freezing and confiscation of the proceeds of crime (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
LIBE	Proposal to modernise existing intra-EU law enforcement cooperation by creating an EU police cooperation code (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
LIBE	Proposal for a Directive on Asset Recovery Offices (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES

Committee (tentative)	Expected legislative initiative	Presentation (Quarter)	Assumed type of initiative	Impact Assessment Expected
LIBE	Initiative to extend the list of EU crimes to all forms of hate crime and hate speech (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
LIBE	Joint Investigation Teams collaboration platform (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
LIBE	Revision of Directive 2011/98/EU on the Single permit (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
LIBE/FEMM	Proposal to prevent and combat specific forms of gender-based violence (N)	Q4 2021	New initiative	YES
PECH	Revision of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European Fishery Statistics, repealing Regulation (EC) No 1921/2006, Regulation (EC) No 762/2008, Regulation (EC) No 216/2009, Regulation (EC) No 217/2009 and Regulation (EC) No 218/2009 (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
TRAN	Revision of the Directive on deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure (N)	Q2 2021	New initiative	YES
TRAN	Revision of the Directive on Intelligent Transport Systems, including a multimodal ticketing initiative (N)	Q3 2021	New initiative	YES
TRAN	Revision of the Regulation on the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) (N)	Q3 2021	New initiative	YES
TRAN	EU 2021 Rail Corridor Initiative, including the revision of the Rail Freight Corridor Regulation and actions to boost passenger rail (N) ⁵	Q3 2021	New initiative	YES
TRAN	Revision - Computer reservation systems (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
TRAN	Revision - Maritime Accident Investigation (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
TRAN	Revision - Port State control (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES
TRAN	Revision - Flag State control (R)	Q4 2021	Existing legislation	YES

ENDNOTES

- ¹ The intended withdrawals include legislative proposals for six regulations, six Council decisions and two directives. The priority areas concerned are: the 'European Green Deal', with five intended withdrawals, 'a Europe fit for the digital age', with four intended withdrawals, 'an Economy that works for people', with three intended withdrawals, and 'promoting our European way of life', with two intended withdrawals.
- ² The following two legislative initiatives will not be accompanied by an IA: 'Revision of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Statistics on Agricultural Input and Output' (initiative 7), and 'Revision of the State Aid General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) in light of the Green Deal' (initiative 18).
- ³ As stated in Annex II, 'this revision will strengthen geographical indications (GIs) for all agricultural sectors while maintaining the specificities of GIs in the wines and spirit drinks sectors'. In this context, it should be noted that, while geographical indications as such are governed by Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs (AGRI competence), while GIs for aromatised wine and spirit drinks are subject to separate regulations (ENVI competence).
- ⁴ Legislative and non-legislative initiative.
- ⁵ Legislative and non-legislative initiative.

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