

# Biuletyn OIDE

Review of the Sejm's European activities

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*Newsletter of the EUROPEAN INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE (Biuletyn OIDE), published also on the Centre's website, contains a monthly review of the Sejm's activities relating to Poland's membership of the EU. Slightly more extensive on-line bulletin includes also links to full texts and databases, marked in the paper version by underlining.*

## EU DOCUMENTS IN THE SEJM

**5 August 2015** – the Sejm accepted the information on the Republic of Poland's participation in the activities of the European Union in January-June 2015 (Latvian Presidency of the EU Council) – [resolution](#). The information was earlier debated in plenary on 24 July 2015, with participation of the Undersecretary of State in Foreign Affairs Ministry, Artur Nowak-Far ([verbatim record/PL](#), point 49).

## EU DOCUMENTS IN THE SEJM

**In July and August 2015 the EU Affairs Committee (SUE)** held 9 meetings: no. 346-354. During these meetings the Committee:

- scrutinised 62 EU documents:
  - pursuant to Art. 7(4) of the Cooperation Act – 4 EU draft legislative acts concerning i.a. EU general budget for 2016 or uniform format for visas, and 1 letter on amendments to the draft general budget 2016 – financing of the ESFI Guarantee Fund,
  - pursuant to Art. 151(1) of the Sejm Standing Orders and Art. 3(2) of the Cooperation Act – 32 European Commission documents (18 reports, 12 communications and 2 joint communications) concerning i.a. European Citizens' Initiative "Stop Vivisection", synthesis of the EC management achievements in 2014 or framework strategy for a resilient energy union with a forward-looking climate change policy,
  - pursuant to Art. 11(1) of the Cooperation Act – EU documents, which were to be discussed by Agriculture and Fisheries Council,
  - pursuant to Art. 8(2) of the Cooperation Act – 17 EU draft legal acts and 1 recommendation concerning i.a. financial contributions to be paid by states to finance the European Development Fund in 2015, authorization for Italy to introduce a special measure on the common system of value added tax or implementation of the broad guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States whose currency is the euro,
- issued a positive opinion on:
  - the candidatures of Prof. Nina Półtorak and Prof. Krystyna Kowalik-Bańczyk for judge posts of the Court of the European Union ([opinion no. 67](#)),
  - the candidates for members of the European Social and Economic Committee ([opinion no. 68](#)),
- heard information on the results of the European Council summit held on 25-26.06.2015, presented by Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Rafał Trzaskowski (mtg no. 348),
- heard information on common report from the EC President and the presidents of European Council, Eurogroup, ECB and EP: "Completing Europe's Economic and Monetary Union" (so called "five presidents' report"). Information was presented by Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Rafał Trzaskowski and Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Finance Artur Radziwiłł (mtg no. 348),
- considered Government's information on the application of Art. 3.2 of Protocol No. 36 on transitional provisions, annexed to the Treaties, on the consideration of Recommendations for Poland at the meeting of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council held on 13.07.2015, presented by Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Economy Grażyna Henclewska (mtg no. 348),
- considered Government's information on the Republic of Poland's participation in the activities of the European Union in the period January-June 2015 during Latvian Presidency (paper no. 3611, mtg no. 348),
- heard information on the results of Eurozone summit held on 21.07.2015, presented by Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Finance Artur Radziwiłł (mtg no. 351).

#### **SUE together with Foreign Affairs Committee** (mtg no. 350):

- met with the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Embassy of the Latvian Republic Anda Ābele and heard information on the results of Latvian Presidency of the EU Council,
- met with the Ambassador of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg Georges Faber and heard information on the programme of the Latvian Presidency of the EU Council.

#### **SUE together with Agriculture and Rural Development Committee** (mtg no. 354)

- considered Senate's resolution on the act on shaping the agricultural system (paper no. 3753).

In **July and August 2015** information on and documents of SUE meetings no. 346-349 and 351-353, provided by the EU Affairs Committee secretariat, were published in the [EDL-S](#) (European Legislative Documents in the Sejm) and [IPEX](#) databases.

## **WORK IN COMMITTEES**

### **Infrastructure Committee**

- **23.07.2015**, heard (during off-site meeting) the information of the President of the Office of Rail Transport (ORT) on the impact of changes in European law on the activities of the ORT President (mtg no. 386);

### **Innovation and New Technologies Committee**

- **22.07.2015**, considered the information of the Minister of Infrastructure and Development on the results of the implementation of the Operational Programme Innovative Economy (mtg no. 166);

### **Agriculture and Rural Development Committee**

- **09.07.2015**, considered the amendments proposed during the second reading of the bill on supporting sustainable development of the fisheries sector including resources of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, papers no. 3463 and 3572 (mtg no. 274);
- **08.05.2015**, considered: the information of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) on the implementation of the bill on supporting rural development including resources of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development under the Rural Development Programme (RDP) for 2014-2020; information of the President of the Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture on the information system for handling the RDP for 2014-2020; the answer of the Minister of Health to the desideratum no. 27 on the state of implementation of the Directive 2014/40/EU of 03.04.2014, the so-called tobacco directive; information of the Minister of Health and ARD Minister on the bill implementing the Directive 2014/40/EU; information of the ARD Minister on the participation in the activities of the Agriculture and Fisheries Council in June 2015 (mtg no. 281);

### **Local Government and Regional Policy Committee and Foreign Affairs Committee**

- **05.08.2015**, held the first reading and considered the Government bill amending the act on the European grouping of territorial cooperation, paper no. 3762 (LGRPC - mtg no. 384; FAC – mtg no. 190).

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF EU LAW – UST DATABASE**

In **July and August 2015** the following **bills** implementing EU law have been **referred to the first reading** [paper no.]:

- Government bill amending the act on medical devices and some other acts [\[3764\]](#),
- Government bill amending the act on a European grouping of territorial cooperation [\[3762\]](#),
- Government bill amending the act on payment periods in commercial transactions, the act – Civil Code and some other acts [\[3760\]](#),
- Government bill amending the act on inland water shipping [\[3747\]](#),
- Government bill amending the act on personal income tax, act on corporate income tax and some other acts [\[3697\]](#),
- Government bill amending the act on providing information on the environment and environmental protection, public participation in environmental protection and on environmental impact assessment and some other acts [\[3677\]](#),
- Government bill on biocidal products [\[3670\]](#),
- Government bill amending the Act - Aviation law [\[3663\]](#),
- Government bill on amending the act on maritime areas of the Republic of Poland and maritime administration and some other acts [\[3661\]](#),
- Government bill amending the Act - Penal Code and some other acts [\[3659\]](#),
- Government bill on maritime labour [\[3645\]](#),
- Government bill on insurance and reinsurance activity [\[3644\]](#),

- o Government bill amending the act - Banking law, act on trading in financial instruments and some other acts [\[3595\]](#).

The list of **acts implementing EU law: adopted by Sejm in July and August 2015** and **published in the Official Journal** during this period – [Biuletyn OIDE on-line](#)

## SUBSIDIARITY CHECK IN NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS

Subsidiarity scrutiny in June – reasoned opinions (Information from IPEX database as of 03.07.2015)			
Draft legislative act	Deadline for subsidiarity scrutiny	Adoption / transmission of reasoned opinion	Chamber / parliament (country)
COM(2015) 303	21.09.2015	-	-
COM(2015) 365	19.10.2015	-	-
COM(2015) 341	19.10.2015	-	-

In July and August 2015 3 draft legislative acts were subject to subsidiarity scrutiny. As of 4 September 2015, the national parliaments submitted no reasoned opinions on the non-compliance of the scrutinised draft acts with the subsidiarity principle.

More information on reasoned opinions and proposals – [Biuletyn OIDE on-line](#)

## INTERPARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION

### 12 and 13 July 2015, Luxembourg, [Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC](#)

- o Meeting of the Presidential Troika of COSAC
- o Opening of the meeting, adoption of the agenda
- o Priorities of the Luxembourgish Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- o Procedural issues and miscellaneous matters
- o Strengthening of the political dialogue by introducing a "green card" and improvement of the reasoned opinion procedure ("yellow card")
- o Closing remarks

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### ON THE OIDE WEBSITE

Following sections have been updated

**OIDE Notes:** [Eastern Partnership](#), [European Semester - course of coordination cycle at the level of the Union and Poland \(2011-2015\)](#).

**Bibliographies:** [Act on the cooperation of the Council of Ministers with the Sejm and the Senate in EU affairs \(2004 and 2010\)](#), [Selected publications](#), [EU institutional system and law - selected monographs and textbooks \(since 2010\)](#), [EU documents: publication, access, languages](#), [Citizenship of the European Union](#).

### LATEST DEBATES – COMMENTS

*Selected articles on the current political and economic issues in the EU from the specialist periodicals available on-line (accessed 04.09.2015)*

- Anghel S.E.: [Outcome of the European Council of 25/26 June 2015](#), „Briefing”, European Parliament - European Parliamentary Research Service, July 2015.
- Begg I.: [Could it be 'Brepulsion' rather than 'Brexit'?](#), „European Policy Analysis” iss. 2015:18, Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies, July 2015.
- Bertoncini Y.: [The EU and Greece: exiting "IMF - Europe" rather than the Euro](#), „Tribune”, Jacques Delors Institut, 02.07.2015.

- Biscop S.: [Global and Operational: A New Strategy for EU Foreign and Security Policy](#), „IAI Working Paper” iss.15|27, Istituto Affari Internazionali, July 2015.
- Borońska-Hryniewiecka K.: [The Best of Both Worlds: The Unexploited Potential of Inter-parliamentary Cooperation in the EU](#), „PISM Policy Paper” nr 27 (129), Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych, 20.08.2015.
- Brsakoska Bazerkoska J.: [The EU and Macedonia's political crisis – another date with history?](#), „Commentary” no. 23, European Policy Institutes Network, 02.07.2015.
- Dennison S. i inn.: [The road back to European power](#), „Policy Brief”, European Council on Foreign Relations, 09.07.2015.
- Grant Ch.: [Could eurozone integration damage the single market?](#), „CER Bulletin” iss. 103 August/September 2015, Centre for European Reform, 27.07.2015.
- Grevi G.: [European integration starts abroad](#), „Commentary” no. 24, FRIDE, July 2015.
- Helwig N.: [The EU global strategy on foreign and security policy: Political direction by member states is needed in shaping Europe's foreign policy goals](#), „FIIA Comment” no. 13 (2015), The Finnish Institute of International Affairs. 19.08.2015.
- Inderberg T. H.: [Consensus, contradiction, and conciliation of interests: the geo-economics of the Energy Union](#), „Policy Brief”, European Policy Centre, 08.07.2015.
- Jędrzejewska S.: [Revision of the Multiannual Financial Framework \(Article 19, MFF Regulation\) Transfer of unused allocations for 2014](#), „Briefing”, European Parliament -European Parliamentary Research Service, July 2015.
- Kaca E.: [The Labours of HR Federica Mogherini: Her Pursuit of a Strategy and Effectiveness?](#), „PISM Strategic File” no. 14 (77), Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych, 24.07.2015.
- Kvorning Lassen Ch.: ["Five Presidents Report" Review](#), „Policy Brief”, European Institute for European Policy, 11.08.2015.
- Llaudes S., Sánchez Andrada F.: [EULEX: a mission in need of reform and with no end in sight](#), „Analyses of the Elcano Royal Institute” no. 41/2015, Elcano Royal Institute, 27.07.2015.
- Maňko R.: [Reform of the European Small Claims Procedure](#), „Briefing”, European Parliament - European Parliamentary Research Service, July 2015.
- Puccio L.: [Parliament's draft recommendations on TTIP talks](#), „At a glance”, European Parliament - European Parliamentary Research Service.
- Sapała M.: [The European Structural and Investment Funds](#), „Briefing”, European Parliament - European Parliamentary Research Service, July 2015.
- Schumacher T., Carp S.: [From survival to revival: The Riga Summit 2015 and the revised ENP](#), „Security Policy Brief” no. 65, EGMONT – The Royal Institute for International Relations, July 2015.
- Sobják A.: [Time to Put Hungary on the EU's Refugee Agenda](#), „PISM Strategic File” no. 15 (78), Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych, 31.07.2015.
- Stuchlik A., Poptcheva E.M.: [Third-country migration and European labour markets. Integrating foreigners](#), „Briefing”, European Parliament - European Parliamentary Research Service, July 2015.
- Toporowski P.: [A Post-Crisis Eurozone: Still an Attractive Offer for Central Europe](#), „PISM Policy Paper” no. 22 (124), Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych, 10.07.2015.
- Toporowski P.: [Reforma strefy euro po greckim kryzysie: konkurencyjność na bocznym torze](#), „Biuletyn PISM” nr 74 (1311), Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych, 28.08.2015.
- Zuleeg F., Emmanouilidis J.A.: [A Greek tragedy in the making](#), „Commentary”, European Policy Centre, 06.07.2015.
- Żornaczuk T.: [Czarnogórski maraton: półmetek do UE, ostatnia prosta do NATO](#), „Biuletyn PISM” nr 64 (1301), Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych, 01.08.2015.

More publications' review:  
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