

Biuletyn OIDE

Review of the Sejm's European activities

No. 5 (66), 31 May 2016

oide.sejm.gov.pl

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.

EUROPEAN DEBATES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE SEJM

On **20 May 2016** the Sejm heard the information of the Prime Minister on the European Commission's communication on the situation in Poland and held the debate ([verbatim record/PL](#) point 28).

On **20 May 2016** the Sejm also adopted the [resolution](#) on the protection of the sovereignty of the Republic of Poland and the rights of its citizens.

EU DOCUMENTS IN THE SEJM

In **May 2016** the **EU Affairs Committee (SUE)** held 7 meetings: no. 50-56. During these meetings the Committee:

- scrutinised 57 EU documents:
 - pursuant to Art. 7(4) of the Cooperation Act – 2 EU draft legislative acts concerning amendment to the Directive 2013/34/EU as regards disclosure of income tax information by certain undertakings and branches, and amendment to the Regulation (EC) No 539/2001 listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement (Ukraine),
 - pursuant to Art. 151(1) of the Sejm Standing Orders and Art. 3(2) of the Cooperation Act – 20 documents (12 communications, 5 reports, 2 join reports and 1 join communication) concerning i.a. EU strategy for liquefied natural gas and gas storage, information systems for borders management and security assurance or reform of the common European asylum system,
 - pursuant to Art. 11(1) of the Cooperation Act – EU documents, which were to be discussed by Agriculture and Fisheries Council, Justice and Home Affairs Council, Competitiveness Council, Economic and Financial Affairs Council, Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council,
 - pursuant to Art. 8(2) of the Cooperation Act – 20 EU draft legal acts concerning i.a. conclusion of the agreements by EU on the short-stay visa waiver, global market-based measure addressing emissions from international aviation or position to be taken on behalf of the EU in respect of the decisions to be adopted by Eurocontrol's Permanent Commission,
- adopted positive opinion on the declaration „*Europe of solidary states*” *Security, borders, renewed institutions* ([opinion no. 8](#), mtg no. 50). The Declaration was submitted to the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments in Luxembourg, 22-24.05.2016,
- held the first reading of Deputies' draft resolution on the obligation of the Council of Ministers to represent Sejm's position on the revision of Directive 91/477/EEC ([paper no. 204](#), mtg no. 53).

SUE together with Agriculture and Rural Development Committee and Health Committee

- heard information on EC priorities in the area of health and food safety. Vytenis Andriukaitis, the Commissioner for health and food safety, took part in the meeting (mtg no. 51),

SUE together with Digitalisation, Innovation and New Technologies Committee

- heard information of EC Vice-President, the Commissioner for digital single market Andrus Ansip, on the state of play of the digital single market (mtg no. 52).

In **May 2016** information on and documents of SUE meetings no. 50 and 53-56, 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

Petitions Committee

- **12.05.2016**, considered the petition for the adoption by the Sejm of a resolution on the Poland's complaints to the European Court of Human Rights and the European Court of Justice for infringement of the rights of Polish families by the Federal Republic of Germany, no. BKSP-145-58/16 (mtg no. 21);

Agriculture and Rural Development Committee

- **19.05.2016**, heard the information of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development and Minister of Economic Development on TIPP and CETA agreements and their impact on agriculture and agri-food industry (mtg no. 41);
- **19.05.2016**, considered the information on the production, protection and promotion of food under the provisions of Regulation of the EP and of the Council (EU) No. 1169/2011 of 25 October 2011 (mtg no. 43).

IMPLEMENTATION OF EU LAW – UST DATABASE

In May 2016

- the following **bills** implementing EU law **have been referred** to the first reading [paper no.]:
 - Government bill amending the act on copyright and related rights [546],
 - Government bill amending the act - Customs Law and some other acts [513],
 - Government bill amending the act on road transport [459],
- the following **acts** implementing EU law **have been adopted** [paper no.]:
 - Act of 20 May 2016 on energy efficiency [426],
 - Act of 20 May 2016 on the posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services [408],
 - Act of 20 May 2016 amending the act on public blood service and some other acts [294],
 - Act of 20 May 2016 on the Bank Guarantee Fund, the deposit guarantee scheme and forced restructuring [215],
 - Act of 13 May 2016 amending the act – Labour Code and some other acts [382],
 - Act of 13 May 2016 amending the act – Public procurement law and some other acts [366],
 - Act of 13 May 2016 amending the act on public roads and the act on toll motorways and the National Road Fund [190],
- the following **acts implementing EU law have been published** [paper no.]:
 - Act of 29 April 2016 amending the act on the promotion of employment and labour market institutions, act on National Labour Inspectorate and act on implementing some European Union provisions on equal treatment [431],
 - Act of 13 April 2016 on safety of trade of explosives precursors [217],
 - Act of 26 February 2016 amending the act on investment funds and some other acts [69],[70].

More information on acts implementing EU law adopted and published in May 2016 – [Biuletyn OIDE on-line](#)

SUBSIDIARITY CHECK IN NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS

Subsidiarity scrutiny in May (Information from IPEX database as of 06.06.2016)			
Draft legislative act	Deadline for subsidiarity scrutiny	Adoption / transmission of reasoned opinion	Chamber / parliament (country)
COM(2016) 128 *	10.05.2016	20.04.2016 / -	National Assembly (Bulgaria)
		05.05.2016 / 06.05.2016	Sabor (Croatia)
		- / 06.05.2016	Folketing (Denmark)
			Riigikogu (Estonia)

		10.05.2016 / 10.05.2016	
		10.05.2016 / 10.05.2016	National Assembly (Hungary)
		05.05.2016 / 09.05.2016	Saeima (Latvia)
		03.05.2016 / -	Seimas (Lithuania)
		29.04.2016 / 05.05.2016	Senate (Poland)
		03.05.2016 / 04.05.2016	Senate (Romania)
		10.05.2016 / -	National Council (Slovakia)

In **May 2016**, 15 draft legislative acts were subject to subsidiarity scrutiny. As of 6 June 2016, the national parliaments submitted 9 reasoned opinions on the non-compliance of the scrutinised draft acts with the subsidiarity principle.

* In April 2016 the reasoned opinions were submitted to the document COM(2016) 128 (see the previous [Biuletyn OIDE – April 2016](#)). According to the data uploaded by the national parliaments to IPEX database, 14 parliaments / chambers, representing, in the light of the Protocol no. 2, a total of 22 votes, sent reasoned opinions on COM (2016) 128. Parliaments have reached thereby threshold required to launch the yellow card procedure (in this case 19 votes).

INTERPARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION

28-29 May 2016, Tangier (Morocco), Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly – Union for the Mediterranean (PA-UfM)

28 May 2016, Tangier (Morocco), Summit of Presidents of the Union for the Mediterranean Parliaments

22-24 May 2016, Luxembourg, Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments

22-23 May 2016 Riga, Meeting of the Presidents of the EU Affairs Committees of the parliaments of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland

More information on interparliamentary cooperation in May 2016 – [Biuletyn OIDE on-line](#)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

NEW ON THE OIDE WEBSITE

Following sections have been updated

Resolutions of the Sejm on EU Affairs: [Resolutions of the Sejm - 8th term](#)

Debates of the Sejm on EU Affairs: [Debates of the Sejm - 8th term](#)

Subsidiarity scrutiny: [Yellow card procedure - COM\(2016\) 128](#) - third yellow card submitted to the European Commission by national parliaments

OIDE Notes: [European Semester - course of coordination cycle at the level of the Union and Poland \(2011-2016\)](#)

LATEST DEBATES - COMMENTS

Selected articles on the current political and economic issues in the EU from the specialist periodicals available on-line (accessed 07.06.2016)

- Alaranta T.: [The problematic EU-Turkey refugee deal: The EU downplays its structural foreign policy in order to secure internal unity](#), „FIIA Comment" no. 12/2016, The Finnish Institute of International Affairs, May 2016.
- Albanesi E.: [The New Italian Senato in light of the EU constitutional system](#), „College of Europe Policy Brief", College of Europe, May 2016.

- Aoun M.-C., Rutten D.: *EU Security of Gas Supplies : Solidarity Runs Through the Pipeline*, Institut français des relations internationales, May 2016.
- Beblavý M.: *Can Spain break the curse of the periphery? The upcoming Spanish election and what it means for Europe*, „CEPS Essay" no. 24, Centre for European Policy Studies, 24.05.2016.
- Boytha D.: *Priority dossiers under the Slovak EU Council Presidency*, "Briefing", European Parliamentary Research Service, May 2016.
- Coelmont J.: *Message to – and from – the European political leadership: Agreeing to disagree on strategy is a luxury the EU can no longer afford*, „Security Policy Brief", Royal Institute for International Relations - EGMONT, 02.05.2016.
- Fouéré E.: *The Agony of Macedonia: Where is the EU?*, „CEPS Commentary", Centre for European Policy Studies, 24.05.2016.
- Frantescu D. P.: *Austria's thrilling elections will have far-reaching impact on political developments in the EU*, „EPIN Commentary" no. 3225, European Policy Institutes Network, 25.05.2016.

BREXIT

- *A short guide to the EU referendum* (ed. G. Berman), „Briefing Paper" no. 07591, House of Commons Library, 17.05.2016.
- Chopin Th., Lequesne Ch.: *Differentiation as a double-edged sword: member states' practices and Brexit*, „International Affairs" vol. 92, no. 3, Chatham House - the Royal Institute of International Affairs, May 2016.
- Dennison S. i in.: *One hundred years of British solitude: Magical thinking about Brexit and security*, „Essay", European Council on Foreign Relations, May 2016.
- Downing E.: *EU Referendum: Impact on UK Agriculture Policy*, „Briefing Paper" no. 7602, House of Commons Library, 26.05.2016.
- Emerson M.: *Brexit - A last testament*, „CEPS Commentary", Centre for European Policy Studies, 23.05.2016.
- Froggatt A. i in.: *UK Unplugged? The Impacts of Brexit on Energy and Climate Policy*, „Research Paper" ,Chatham House - the Royal Institute of International Affairs, May 2016.

More publications' review:
[Biuletyn OIDE on-line](#)



European Information and Documentation Centre of the Sejm Library supports parliamentarians in searching for European documents and information as well as provides information on all aspects of the Sejm's activities relating to Poland's membership of the EU.

OIDE editorial team: Justyna Branna, Natalia Firlej, Daniela Kupis, Angelina Tazuszel, Regina Wąsowicz (editor)

Contact: tel.: 22 694 15 96, 22 694 20 97, e-mail: oide@sejm.gov.pl

© Kancelaria Sejmu