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Brussels, 12 March 2025

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**2025 TEN SECTION WORK PROGRAMME**

In 2025, the TEN section work programme will align with the European Commission’s [priorities and guidelines](https://commission.europa.eu/document/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648_en) for 2024–2029. It will actively share its work and recommendations with EU institutions and civil society stakeholders, maximising their reach and impact.

Within its scope of competence, the TEN section will focus on two of the Commission’s seven priorities: A new plan for Europe’s sustainable prosperity and competitiveness **and** Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model. Additionally, it will contribute to the EESC’s work on Preparedness and Resilience and the Post-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework proposals.

1. **A new plan for Europe’s sustainable prosperity and competitiveness**

As part of its policy objectives, the TEN Section will primarily focus on initiatives aligned with the objectives of i) making business easier and ii) a clean industrial deal.

* 1. Making business easier

The **Competitiveness Compass**, the first major initiative of the new Commission, sets out three core areas of action – innovation, decarbonisation and competitiveness, and security and resilience – alongside five cross-cutting priorities: simplification, reducing barriers to the Single Market, financing competitiveness, promoting skills and quality jobs, and enhancing policy coordination at both EU and national levels.

*Innovation*

Building on the NIS2 Directive, the Directive on the Resilience of Critical Entities, and the Council Recommendation on a coordinated EU-wide approach to strengthening critical infrastructure resilience, the TEN section will contribute to the **Digital Networks Act**, which will shape advanced digital network infrastructures. In addition, it will engage with the **New Radio Spectrum Policy Programme (RSPP)** legislative initiative, which focuses on the strategic management of radio spectrum and the harmonisation of its use across the European Union.

Some of the legislative proposals that were due to be published in the previous mandate are expected this year: Revision of the roadworthiness package, initiatives on green corporate fleets, driverless cars, urban air taxis, revision of the Train Drivers Directive, and revision of the regulatory framework for interoperable data sharing in rail transport (ERTMS).

*Decarbonisation and competitiveness*

In a debate with relevant stakeholders, the TEN section will anticipate the publication of the **Sustainable Transport Investment Plan**, which will focus on boosting investments in sustainable transport fuels, charging infrastructure and the production and distribution of renewable and low-carbon transport fuels. The section also expects to work on the **Port Strategy** and **Connecting EU capitals by high-speed rail**, announced in the **Competitiveness Compass**.

The TEN section will contribute to the **EU Space Act.** Theaim is to establish a coherent legal framework for the EU’s currently fragmented space policy, provide legal certainty for space market operators, and create a level playing field within the sector.

* 1. A Clean Industrial Deal

The section will build on its previous work when contributing to the **Affordable Energy Action Plan**, expected to support new ways of consuming energy based on local energy communities and energy sharing. Later in the year the Commission plans to present a **Citizens’ Energy Package**, supporting the **EU Anti-Poverty Strategy** and contributing to the **European Affordable Housing Plan**.

In the transport field, the section will contribute to the work on the **Single Digital Booking and Ticketing Regulation**, the aim of which is to enable the purchase of a single ticket for multimodal journeys on one platform, ensuring passenger rights for the entire journey.

Following the success of last year’s activities in the field of **radioactive waste**, the EESC will take part in **EURAD-2** activities. The TEN Section will also actively participate in the European Industrial Alliance on SMRs in the Working Group on Public Engagement by the appointment of an EESC member as vice-chair of the WG. A mandatory referral on the next Euratom Programme 2026-2027 for the Council is also expected. The EESC will participate in the 11th edition of the **International Euratom research and training conferences on fission safety of reactor systems** (FISA) and radioactive waste management (EURADWASTE) organised in Warsaw (12-16 May 2025).

1. **Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model**

Within this priority, the TEN Section will contribute to the first-ever **EU Anti-Poverty Strategy**, tackling the housing crisis by issuing its recommendations on a future **European Affordable Housing Plan** and a **pan-European investment platform** **for affordable and sustainable housing**.

1. The TEN Section will contribute to the cross-cutting **Preparedness Union Strategy**, which aims to strengthen, prepare and enhance the resilience of the Union, drawing on the insights from Sauli Niinistö’s special report.
2. **REFIT**

In addition, this year we will work on several initiatives which will undergo a fitness-check or evaluation by the Commission. These will include, in particular, fitness checks of **energy security architecture** and **EU airports legislation** (revisions to the Air Services Regulation, the Airport Slot Regulation and the Directive on airport charges), and the evaluation of **radioactive waste directives**, the **Fishing Vessel Safety Directive**, and the ex-post evaluation of the **Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) 2014-2020**. Furthermore, the Committee will also work on the forthcoming proposal reviewing the **Gas Storage Regulation**, ahead of its expiry at the end of 2025, to establish the framework for achieving future storage targets.

1. **Exploratory opinions**

Continuing with our work on housing, we will deliver an exploratory opinion on an **EU Affordable Housing Plan** requested by the Danish Presidency and will contribute to the request concerning **Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and their impact on Rare Diseases**. Additionally, the section expects to cooperate with the Commission on energy communities and prosumerism through an exploratory opinion.

1. **Own initiative-opinions**

## In February the EESC plenary adopted an own-initiative opinion on **The physical completion of EU’s internal market in the new geopolitical situation**, tackling the importance of transport infrastructure for the EU’s internal market and competitiveness.

## The Section will draft an own-initiative opinion that contributes to the EESC’s overarching priority on the cost-of-living crisis, focusing on **price hikes in transport, energy and housing, and highlighting the role of quality public services in addressing these challenges**.

## An own-initiative opinion **Balanced European Energy System** will explore how to integrate weather-dependent energy sources into the energy system and its impact on technological innovation and economic growth, the EU’s global competitiveness in the green transition and energy poverty.

* **Planning sustainable urban mobility** is a top challenge for cities, especially given financial constraints. The opinion will explore the current state of implementation of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans, highlight tools to support Member States and local authorities, and emphasise the importance of financial, organisational, and participatory resources.
* An own-initiative opinion will tackle **the role of services of general interest for competitiveness, social cohesion and democracy in the European Union.**
1. **Events**
* On 10 April, a joint conference with the Polish Ministry of Health entitled **Towards an EU Action Plan on Rare Diseases: National Plans and European Cooperation** will be held in Warsaw as part of the programme of the Polish Presidency of the EU, to advance European efforts and commitments in the field of rare diseases.
* On 11 June, the **5th EESC Conference on energy affordability** will take stock of the Action Plan on Affordable Energy, especially shared concerns and criticalities. The common goal should be specific policies to mitigate the impact of rising energy prices on low-income households, including with a gender-sensitive approach. The event will also develop recommendations for the forthcoming Citizens’ Energy Package.
* In the first semester, a conference will take place in Vienna, focusing on the **European Affordable Housing Plan**, State aid rules, housing support measures, reduction of construction costs, and energy and transport poverty.
* In September, under the Danish Presidency of the EU, a joint event will be organised with a Danish Novo Nordisk Foundation on **Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Computing.**
1. **Permanent Groups**

The **Permanent Group on Energy** will hold one meeting with key energy sector stakeholders to feed into the subsequent work of the TEN Section. A second meeting of the Group could be envisaged as a follow-up to the visit to the Joint Research Centre facilities in Petten in 2024, with a focus on small modular reactors.

The president of the **Permanent Group on Transport** will participate as speaker in the international conference **A new era of European Transport – challenges of the TEN-T policy** in Łódź, during the Polish presidency, focusing on transport financing in the next Multiannual Financial Framework. A TEN delegation will participate in the **Annual Summit of the International Transport Forum**, the world’s largest gathering of transport ministers and the biggest global platform for dialogue on transport policy, this year dedicated to transport resilience to global shocks.

The **Permanent Group Services of General Interest** will organise a seminar with Korczak University and the Polish EAPN Committee under the patronage of the Polish Presidency (Warsaw, March 2025) on the role of quality services of general interest in meeting local, regional or national needs in the field of housing. It will seek cooperation with the European Parliament’s new special committee on the housing crisis, which is tasked with finding solutions for providing decent, sustainable and affordable housing in the EU.

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Annex: Rolling programme of the TEN section in 2025

**TEN SECTION ROLLING PROGRAMME 2025**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Policy objective** | **Source** | **Policy** | **Legisl. or not** | **Indicative publication** |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| European Port Strategy and Industrial Maritime Strategy | Competitiveness & Decarbonisation | CC | Transport | N-L | [2025] |
| High Speed Rail Plan | Competitiveness & Decarbonisation | CC |   | N-L | [2025] |
| Action plan on affordable energy | Competitiveness & Decarbonisation | EC WP 2025; CC | Energy | N-L | Q1 2025 |
| Digital Networks Act | Innovation | EC WP 2025; CC | Digital  | L | Q4 2025 |
| EU Space Act | Competitiveness | EC WP 2025; CC | Space | L | Q2 2025 |
| Sustainable Transport Investment Plan | Competitiveness & Decarbonisation | EC WP 2025; CC  | Transport | N-L | Q3 2025 |
| Single booking and ticketing |   | Commissioner |   | L | [2025] |
| Citizens’ Energy Package  |   |   |   | N-L | Q3 2025 |
| EU Preparedness Union Strategy | Preparedness and Resilience | EC WP 2025 | cross-cutting | N-L | Q1 2025 |
| Fitness check on the legislative acquis in the digital policy area | REFIT | EC WP 2025 | Digital  |   | Q4 2025 |
| Fitness check on energy security architecture | REFIT | EC WP 2025 | Energy |   | Q2 2025 |
| Fitness Check of EU airports legislation | REFIT | EC WP 2025 | Transport |   | Q4 2025 |
| Evaluation of radioactive waste directives | REFIT | EC WP 2025 | Energy |   | Q4 2025 |
| Evaluation of the Fishing Vessel Safety Directive | REFIT | EC WP 2025 | Transport |   | Q1/Q2 2025 |
| Evaluation of Regulation (EU) 2016/796 of EU Agency for Railways | REFIT | EC WP 2025 | Transport |   | Q3 2025 |
| Ex-post evaluation of Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) 2014-2020 | REFIT | EC WP 2025 | Digital  |   | Q3/Q4 2025 |
| Revision of the Gas Storage Regulation  |   |   | Energy | L | Q1 2025 |
| New Radio Spectrum Policy Programme |   | Previous mandate | Digital  | L |   |
| Revision of the Train Drivers Directive |   | Previous mandate | Transport | L |   |
| Revision of the roadworthiness package |   | Previous mandate | Transport | L |   |
| Greening corporate fleets |   | Previous mandate | Transport |   |   |
| Revision of the regulatory framework for ERTMS |   | Previous mandate |   | L |   |
| For a European Affordable Housing Plan – the contribution of civil society |   | Exploratory DK Presidency | Housing |   |   |
| Energy communities and prosumerism |   | Exploratory EC | Energy |   |   |
| The physical completion of EU’s internal market in a new geopolitical situation |   | OIO | Transport |   |   |
| Price hikes in transport, energy, housing: role of quality public services in tackling high cost of living |   | OIO | SGI |   |   |
| Towards a balanced European energy system |   | OIO | Energy |   |   |
| Planning sustainable urban mobility in the EU |   | OIO | Transport |   |   |
| The role of Services of General Interest for competitiveness, social cohesion and democracy in the EU |   | OIO | SGI |   |   |
| **Legend:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **EC WP 2025: European Commission Work Programme** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **CC: Competitiveness Compass** |  |  |  |  |  |

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