

## WEEK IN BRUSSELS

Week ending Friday 12 July

### EU and industry join forces to invest €22 billion in research and innovation

The European Commission, EU member states and European industry will invest more than €22 billion over the next seven years in innovation for sectors that deliver high quality jobs. Most of the investment will go to five public-private partnerships in innovative medicines, aeronautics, bio-based industries, fuel cells and hydrogen, and electronics. These research partnerships will boost the competitiveness of EU industry in sectors that already provide more than 4 million jobs. They will also find solutions to major challenges for society that are not being solved quickly enough by the market alone, such as reducing carbon emissions or providing the next generation of antibiotics. Commenting on the announcement, José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, said: "The EU must remain a leader in strategic global technology sectors that provide high quality jobs. This innovation investment package combines public and private funding to do just that. This is a perfect demonstration of the leverage effect of the EU budget for growth and jobs."

(Source: ACEA)

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-13-668\\_en.htm?locale=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-668_en.htm?locale=en)

### European Parliament committee pushes for ILUC accounting

The European Parliament's environment committee has said that the indirect land-use change (ILUC) impacts of biofuels should be integrated into EU sustainability criteria set under the renewable energy directive. In a vote on Thursday, 11 July, committee members also said ILUC impacts should be accounted for under the fuel quality directive from 2020. The plenary vote is due in the autumn and the parliament's industry, research and energy committee (ITRE), will bring its own amendments to the vote, as members believe that more work is needed before

ILUC impacts can be properly calculated. The environment committee, which is leading a parliamentary debate on ILUC, also voted to raise slightly the limit on food-based biofuels proposed by the European Commission to 5.5%, compared with 6.5% favoured by ITRE. In addition, the lead committee added a target for advanced biofuels. These would account for 2% of final energy use in transport by 2020. The committee called for specific sustainability criteria for advanced biofuels, particularly those made from waste. They also want an EU assessment of their environmental impacts published by December 2015. In addition, the MEPs want to extend the fuel quality directive's decarbonisation targets, from the existing 6% by 2020 to 9% by 2025. The biodiesel sector does not want ILUC factors in legislation. These factors are estimated emissions expressed in terms of grams of CO<sub>2</sub> per megajoule. In the Council of Ministers, member states are struggling to reach agreement on how to tackle ILUC impacts, with a proposal to drop the controversial 5% limit altogether in favour of a 2% target for advanced biofuels now on the table.

(Source: ENDS)

<http://www.endseurope.com/32593/ep-committee-pushes-for-iluc-accounting>



### Industrial production down by 0.6% in EU

Figures published by Eurostat show that in May 2013 compared with April 2013, seasonally adjusted industrial production fell by 0.3% in the euro area and by 0.6% in the EU. In addition in May 2013 compared

with May 2012, industrial production decreased by 1.3% in the euro area and by 1.6% in the EU. Industrial production fell in thirteen member states, rose in nine and remained stable in the United Kingdom. The largest decreases were registered in Romania (-10.7%), Lithuania (-6.3%) and Sweden (-3.8%), and the highest increases in Portugal (+6.1%), Latvia (+2.2%) and Estonia (+2.0%).

(Source: Eurostat)

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STAT-13-106\\_en.htm?locale=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STAT-13-106_en.htm?locale=en)



## First round of negotiations on EU-US trade deal conclude

The first round of negotiations for a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) have concluded. All topics on the table for the trade deal were discussed during this first week, ranging from market access, agriculture, investment, government procurement, services, energy and raw materials to financial services. The EU Chief Negotiator Ignacio Garcia Bercero will hold a press conference with US Chief Negotiator Dan Mullaney to give a debriefing from the first round of talks on Friday 12 July.

(Source: Europa)

<http://europa.eu/rapid/midday-express.htm>