



ACEA – Dieter Zetsche elected ACEA President for 2016

Last week, the Board of Directors of the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA) elected Dieter Zetsche, CEO of Daimler, as its President for 2016. Speaking after his election, Dr Zetsche said: "I am particularly honoured to lead ACEA next year, as 2016 marks the association's 25th anniversary. This will be an opportunity to build on the progress made by our industry over the past two and a half decades, and to tackle future innovation and challenges." "Key priorities in the coming years include decarbonising road transport, improving air quality, and paving the way for connected and autonomous vehicles – which are all an important part of our response to meeting tomorrow's transportation needs," Dr Zetsche explained. ACEA will also continue to contribute constructively to the on-going process to update and strengthen testing requirements for exhaust pollutant as well as CO2 emissions. Dr Zetsche will take over the reins from Carlos Ghosn, CEO of Renault Group. ACEA's President is elected for a year-long term, once renewable, from the CEOs, Presidents or Chairmen of its member companies.

(Source: [ACEA](#))

Tusk: EU reform deal in sight for Britain, with two exceptions

Donald Tusk, who next week chairs the first detailed talks on the issue between the British Prime Minister and his 27 peers, sent EU leaders a progress report a month after David Cameron laid out his reform goals. "We have made good progress," the European Council president said in the [letter](#). "We have to overcome the substantial political differences that we still have on the issue of social benefits and free movement." After next week's summit, he added: "We should be able to prepare a concrete proposal to be finally adopted in February." Many governments are willing to make changes to keep Britain in the Union. Tusk said the main stumbling block was Cameron's pledge to cut immigration to Britain by denying

benefits to workers from other EU states for four years after they arrive. Anti-EU campaigners said Tusk's letter showed Cameron would secure little of consequence from Brussels. But the prime minister's office said he would stick with a proposal that many leaders, especially in the EU's poorer areas, say would mean illegal discrimination and denying a fundamental freedom to EU citizens.

(Source: [Euractiv](#))

1.5 degree warming limit in COP21 deal

The United States has joined with the EU and a range of other countries at COP21 in an effort to secure a final agreement. The so called 'high ambition coalition' now comprises well over 100 countries from the rich and developing world. As well as the US, Norway, Mexico and Colombia have offered their support to the alliance. With the support of the United States and the EU, the agreement, due to be completed within days, seems set to go beyond the current goal of limiting the rise in global temperatures to 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. Instead, the [latest draft](#), states a new goal to keep the rise "to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius". It is the first draft that does not offer alternate options for the goal. If the text remains intact, it would be a symbolic defeat for some countries that have opposed the more ambitious goal, particularly oil exporting Gulf states.

(Source: [Euractiv](#))



Toward a driverless future with Commissioner Bieńkowska

Elżbieta Bieńkowska, European Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, took a part in the presentation of a fully autonomous car at Munich airport. The event was designed to highlight the role that driverless cars could play in enabling safer and more efficient vehicles, while also addressing legislative and consumer challenges posed by this new technology. Elżbieta Bieńkowska said: "Driverless cars represent a new opportunity for the mobility of Europeans and the competitiveness of European automotive industry. However, there must be careful thought into creating the best framework as this technology becomes a reality and users must be at the heart of this deployment." The event coincided with the launch of the new European Commission high level group for the automotive sector bringing together all relevant stakeholders: 'GEAR 2030'. GEAR 2030 aims to develop recommendations to reinforce the competitiveness and to tackle the main challenges the automotive sector will face in the next 10 years. Automation, in particular, is a major trend that will be looked at by GEAR 2030 as it will enable for safer and more efficient vehicles, therefore strengthening the sector. (Source: [Debating Mobility](#))

Week ahead

European Parliament

Plenary Meeting

Monday 14 December

- Joint Debate: Energy Union; Trade Marks

Tuesday 15 December

- Joint Debate: Economic and Monetary Union
- Debate: Council and Commission Statements – Outcome of the COP21
- Debate: Commission Statement – Labour Mobility

Wednesday 16 December

- Key debate: Council and Commission Statements – Preparation of the European Council meeting of 17 and 18 December
- Vote: Developing a sustainable European industry of base metals
- Joint debate: EU-Vietnam Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Partnership and Cooperation

European Parliament

Committee meetings

Monday 14 December

- ECON – European Semester for economic policy coordination: Annual Growth Survey 2016
- IMCO and ITRE – Towards a Digital Single Market Act
- ENVI – Objection to Rule 106: Real Driving Emission test procedure

European Council

Tuesday 15 December

- General Affairs Council – The Council will address the interinstitutional agreement on better regulation, is due to adopt conclusions on enlargement and the stabilisation and association process and is expected to endorse the 18-month programme of the Council.

Wednesday 16 December

- Environment Council – Ministers will aim to reach a general approach on a directive on the reduction of national emissions of certain pollutants. The Council is expected to adopt conclusions on the 2015 mid-term review of the EU biodiversity strategy to 2020.

Thursday 17 – Friday 18 December

- European Council – amongst fight against terrorism, migration, economic and monetary union and the Single Market, Ministers will discuss the state of play of the referendum in the UK and address some of the remaining political issues before a concrete proposal can be adopted in February 2016.

