

## Cameron begins talks with European leaders on EU reform

British Prime Minister David Cameron is in Latvia to begin talks with European leaders as part of his efforts to reform the UK's relationship with the EU. The Eastern Partnership Summit in Riga is focussed on the EU's relationship with ex-Soviet states and Mr Cameron is expected to outline changes he wants to see in the margins of the Summit, including the restrictions on benefits for migrants. The Summit is the first opportunity since the election for the Prime Minister's to meet with his European counterparts. He will meet German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande for one-on-one talks next week as he seeks to build momentum behind his reform agenda. (Source: BBC) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-32840696>

## ACEA – EU new car registrations up 6.9%

ACEA, the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association, has published EU new car registration figures for April 2015. Demand for new passenger cars in the EU increased for the twentieth consecutive month up 6.9%, totalling 1,166,482 units and recording the best result in terms of volume for the month of April since 2009. All major markets contributed positively to the overall expansion, especially Italy (+24.2%), which posted double-digit growth, followed by Germany (+6.3%), the UK (+5.1%), Spain (+3.2%) and France (+2.3%) that also performed better than in April 2014. Four months into the year, new passenger car registrations increased by 8.2%, totalling 4,695,058 units. All major markets posted growth, contributing to the overall upturn of the EU market. Registrations in Spain (+23.9%), Italy (+16.2%), the UK (+6.4%), Germany (+6.4%) and France (+5.6%) increased over this period. (Source: ACEA)

<http://www.acea.be/press-releases/article/passenger-car-registrations-8.2-over-four-months-6.9-in-april>

## ACEA calls on Commission to make complete proposal on measuring RDE

On Tuesday, member states gave support to a European Commission proposal for an incomplete regulation on Real Driving Emissions (RDE). A new RDE test procedure will require manufacturers to make major changes in testing and developing new vehicles. ACEA has been calling on the Commission and member states to agree all necessary RDE evaluation conditions by June-July 2015 at the latest, alongside several others that are critical for an effective RDE regulation. In addition ACEA has called for a two-step date framework, which would allow industry the proper lead-time to apply the complex RDE regulation and make very significant hardware changes to future vehicles. ACEA has said that these and other issues must be resolved if the new testing conditions are to be implemented by September 2017.

(Source: ACEA)

<http://www.acea.be/press-releases/article/acea-calls-on-commission-to-urgently-make-complete-proposal-on-measuring-re>



# Commission adopts Better Regulation Agenda

The European Commission has adopted its Better Regulation Agenda. This comprehensive package of reforms covering the entire policy cycle is expected to boost openness and transparency in the EU decision-making process, improve the quality of new laws through better impact assessments of draft legislation and amendments, and promote constant and consistent review of existing EU laws, so that EU policies achieve their objectives in the most effective and efficient way. The Better Regulation Package will be directly implemented by the Commission in its own preparation and evaluation of legislation and through cooperation with the European Parliament and Council. To this end, the Commission will now enter negotiations with the Parliament and Council over a new Interinstitutional Agreement (IIA) on Better Law-making.

(Source: European Commission)

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-15-4988\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-4988_en.htm)

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## ENVI – exchange of views on Energy Union Strategy

The Environment Committee in the European Parliament held an exchange of views with Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President of the Commission, on the Energy Union Strategy in the context of Commission Work Programme 2015 and the priorities for 2016 as part of the structured dialogue. Key topics for the ENVI Committee include the

- implementation of the 2030 climate and energy framework,
- international climate negotiations;
- and climate and decarbonisation aspects of the Energy Union.

The Commissioner outlined the three pillars of the Commission's work on the Energy Union: the political, diplomatic and legislative. During his intervention, Maroš Šefčovič repeatedly stressed the importance of taking a common European approach to the Energy Union to ensure its success. It is argued that a fragmented European energy policy, with 28 individual Energy Unions, will not solve Europe's energy security issues.

(Source: CBI)

## Week ahead

### Commission

Wednesday 27 May

- Commission proposes 2016 EU Budget

### Council

Thursday 28 & Friday 29 May

- Competitiveness Council – Exchange of views on the new EU strategy for the digital single market.

Friday 29 May

- EU-Japan summit, Tokyo – Donald Tusk and Jean-Claude Juncker will meet with Japan PM Shinzo Abe at the 23rd bilateral summit.

### European Parliament

Tuesday 26 May

- ENVI – Report back on negotiations of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plant. Establishment of a market stability reserve for the Union greenhouse gas emission trading scheme. Resource efficiency: moving towards a circular economy.

Thursday 28 May

- TRAN - Implementation of the 2011 White Paper on Transport: taking stock and the way forward towards sustainable mobility. The Paris Protocol - A blueprint for tackling global climate change beyond 2020.
- ITRE – Towards a European Energy Union. The roadmap for completing the Digital Single Market.
- EMPL - Green Employment Initiative: Tapping into the job creation potential of the green economy.
- INTA - Recommendations to the European Commission on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership.