

## Newsletter March 2018

**JOINT PUBLIC HEARING**  
 COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (PETI) AND  
 COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH  
 AND FOOD SAFETY (ENVI)  
 Thursday 22.03.2018 – 9:45 – 12:30  
 COPEL ANIMAL BUILDING - ROOM JAN 402  
 CONTACT AND REGISTRY: peti.secretariat@europarl.europa.eu



### PETI-ENVI joint public hearing on endocrine disruptors

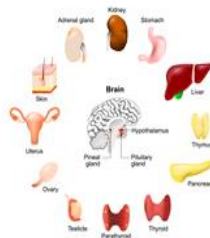
On 22 March, PETI and ENVI held a joint public hearing on endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) and their effect on public health and the environment.

The hearing was divided in two expert panels. The first addressed the EU regulatory approach to EDCs and the second presented the scientific evidence on EDC harm.

Members heard from ECHA, national regulatory agencies, NGOs, and academic scientists. Following the discussion between the panelists and the Members, the floor was open to the public.

The Commission, represented by officials from DG SANTE, DG GROW, DG AGRI, and DG ENV, presented its work on EDCs and current progress.

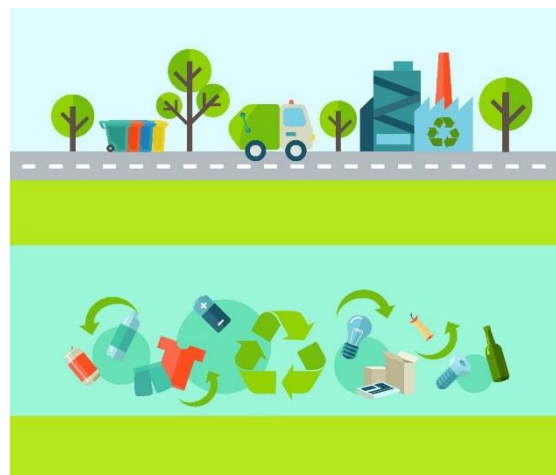
#### IMPACT OF ENDOCRINE DISRUPTORS ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT



### Study and petitions on waste management

At the PETI meeting of 21 March, Members were presented with a study entitled “Waste management in Europe: main problems and best practices” commissioned by Policy Department C for the Committee. The study was undertaken by Christian Neubauer, Project Manager, Umweltbundesamt GmbH.

The study examines the application and proper transposition of European environmental law on waste by Member States. It is an updated version of previous research conducted in 2011. Based on the results from 2011, new petitions from 2013 to 2016 were analysed with the aim to update the main findings and recommendations on the crucial areas of complaints. The main findings of the study present best practice examples and recommendations for better future approaches to waste management across the Union.



#### Documents adopted in PETI:

- Opinion on Monitoring the application of EU law 2016 (2017/2273 (INI))
- Oral question to the Commission about its strategy on the right of persons with disabilities to vote and stand for election

**Next PETI meeting:** - 23 - 24 April 2018

See [agenda](#), [documents](#) and [live broadcast](#)

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**Upcoming PETI activities  
in April 2018:**

- Oral Question and Resolution on 'Tackling precarious and temporary employment in the European Union'

- Opinion on the Coordination of social security systems (2016/0397(COD)) (for EMPL)

- WORKSHOP on 'Political and electoral rights of non-citizen residents in Latvia and Estonia'

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**Petition 0224/2017 on behalf of the Association of Bulgarian Schools Abroad - Calling for end of school exams to be available in all EU official languages**

The Committee on Petitions at its meeting of 21 March examined petition 224/2017 by Kameliya Konakchieva (Bulgarian), on behalf of the Association of Bulgarian Schools Abroad, bearing 1707 signatures, on the proposal to offer end of school exams in all of the official languages of the European Union.

The petition calls for the promotion of cooperation between Member States in the field of language learning. The petitioner suggests that the EU ought to ensure that schools in all Member States offer end of secondary school exams in all of the official languages of the EU. While fully respecting the responsibility of the Member States for the content of teaching and the organization of national education systems, the petitioner sees an opportunity for specific EU incentives in this direction, to remove obstacles to the mobility of families and students in the Union.



The petition was supported by Members, representatives of the Bulgarian Presidency and the European Commission.

On 14 November 2017, the Commission presented a Communication entitled "Strengthening European Identity through Education and Culture" as an input to the 2017 European Social Summit in Gothenburg. It sets out concrete proposals on how to achieve a European Education Area suggesting, among other things, a Council Recommendation on the mutual recognition of higher education and school leaving diplomas and a Council Recommendation on improving language learning.

The PETI Committee decided to ask the Commission to present updated information on this petition and to address the CULT Committee on the possibility to table an oral question to the Commission and the Council.

**PETI Secretariat**

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