

CMU Policy Update

June

European Parliament

Leading MEPs designated for the SME listing package – June

The European Parliament has decided on the MEPs who will work on the Parliament's positions for the European Commission's proposal on SME listings.

The leading MEP ("rapporteur") will be the centre-Right **Anne Sander (EPP/FRA)**. The supporting MEPs from other political Groups ("shadow rapporteurs") are **Neena Gill (S&D/UK)**, **Kay Swinburne (ECR/UK)**, **Ramon Tremosa i Balcells (ALDE/SPA)** as well as **Paloma López Bermejo (GUE-NGL/SPA)**.

The European Parliament will co-legislate in this file on an equal footing with the EU member states in the Council. Both institutions will first form their respective positions on the Commission proposal, and will then have to find a mutually agreeable compromise.

For further information on the Commission proposals, please see Accountancy Europe's [CMU Policy Update](#) from April/May.

Council

Austrian Presidency publishes its priorities for Q2 2018 – 6 June

The Austrian Presidency of the Council has published its [work programme](#) for the next six months ahead. As was to be expected, CMU items will be fairly high on the agenda.

The Presidency will prioritise, in particular, finalising dossiers that are already on the table. In particular, the Presidency will "ensure an appropriate follow-up" to the **FinTech Action Plan**. Here, a particular focus will be on opportunities and risks of virtual assets, and on appropriate regulatory and supervisory measures. By contrast, it is interesting to note the absence of explicit references to sustainable finance.

Council finalizes its position on PEPP – 19 June

The Council has agreed on its [position](#) to the Commission proposal for a Pan-European Personal Pension Product (PEPP). The Council has introduced major amendments to the provisions concern portability and default option. However, member states wish to see a stronger role for national supervisors, instead of the more pan-European approach proposed by the Commission under the supervision of the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA).

The Council calls for the following changes, for example:

- PEPP authorization: PEPP providers will have to receive authorization from the national competent authority in order to sell their PEPP-labelled products in that member state. The competent authority would then notify EIOPA of its decision, which would subsequently document registrations of providers and products in a central public register
 - The Commission's original text proposed for PEPP authorization to be made by EIOPA
- The member states also propose to get rid of the so-called “national compartments”. The plan would be to replace them with sub-accounts connected to the principal PEPP. They would enable to register made contributions and payments, and to provide any incentives available in the member state in question
- Additional layers of detail are proposed to the so-called default option that would at the very least protect the capital invested. Overall, the investment options in the Commission proposal have been criticized by the European Parliament and a number of stakeholders for being too vague

With the Council's position now agreed, the member states can proceed to negotiate on the file with the European Parliament, once the latter has finalised its own position. The vote is expected in the ECON Committee for 11 July.

Events

- 03-04/09/2018, *Finance transformation: going beyond disruption to create value*, AICPA & CIMA, London. [Source](#)
- 27/09/2018, *European Banking Summit 2018*, EBF, Brussels. [Source](#)
- 11/10/2018, *The Future of European Financial Infrastructure*, QED, Brussels. [Source](#)
- 17/10/2018, *6th Annual QED Conference on Cybersecurity*, QED, Brussels. [Source](#)
- 06/11/2018, *Supervisory convergence of ESAs: The impact on day-to-day supervision*, Financial Future, Brussels. [Source](#)
- 04/12/2018, *Where do we stand now with the Capital Markets Union?* Financial Future, Brussels. [Source](#)
- Q4 2018, *7th Annual EU Financial Regulation Conference*, QED, Brussels. [Source](#)