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| **No 26/2015** | **20 April 2015** |

**The EESC debates the Energy Union with Commission Vice President Maroš Šefčovič, the TTIP with Cecilia Malmström and EU's economic priorities with Pierre Moscovici**

On **Wednesday 22 April at 2.45 p.m.**, the 507th plenary session of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) will hold a debate on the Energy Union led by **the Vice President of the European Commission** **responsible for the Energy Union** **Maroš Šefčovič**. **At 4.00 p.m.** the EESC plenary will welcome the **Commissioner responsible for Trade,** **Cecilia Malmström**, for a debate on trade policy and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).

On **Thursday 23 April at 10 a.m. the Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs, Pierre Moscovici** will discussthe EU's economic priorities for the coming years at the EESC plenary session.

**EESC plenary session – 22 and 23 April 2015**

**with Commission Vice President Šefčovič and Commissioners Malmström and Moscovici**

**Charlemagne building (European Commission), De Gasperi room (3rd floor), Brussels**

Watch the plenary session [here](http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.events-and-activities-507-plenary-session-webstream) - The full agenda is available [here](http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.events-and-activities-507-plenary-session-agenda)

**Other opinions to be put to the vote during the plenary session:**

* Biomedical engineering and care services **(rapporteur: Edgardo Maria IOZIA, co-rapporteur: Dirk JARRÉ)** [**More**](http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.ccmi-opinions.32831)

##  Biomedical engineering is not simply a subset of modern medicine. Modern medicine predominantly achieves important advances through the use of products of biomedical engineering.

The biomedical engineering industry will become increasingly important due to technological development and the potential of new techniques to enhance care and rehabilitation represents a major step forward in terms of healthcare and quality of life.

* Implications of climate and energy policy on agricultural and forestry sectors **(Rapporteur: Mindaugas MACIULEVIČIUS)** [**More**](http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.nat-opinions.34333)

The agriculture and forestry sectors are areas which are complex and not fully understood and the transition to sustainably intensified agriculture and active forest management has to be seen as a long-term goal. Research, innovation and development are the main drivers for this transition. The EU can lead this process through responsible political decisions and innovative partnerships that respect Europe's diversity and strengthen the attractiveness of local EU producers, without imposing unnecessary burdens on farmers and forest owners.

* Governance system/2030 climate and energy framework **(Rapporteur: Richard ADAMS, co-rapporteur: Ulla SIRKEINEN)** [**More**](http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.ten-opinions.34551)

Successful implementation of the Energy Union and achievement of the energy and climate goals demand a governance system that is reliable, transparent and inclusive. The opinion emphasises the necessity of having European Energy Dialogue that acts in parallel with the governance framework to draw citizens and consumers into the process of energy transition.

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*The European Economic and Social Committee represents the various economic and social components of organised civil society. It is an institutional consultative body established by the 1957 Treaty of Rome. Its consultative role enables its members, and hence the organisations they represent, to participate in the EU decision-making process. The Committee has 353 members from across Europe, who are appointed by the Council of the European Union.*

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