

**AT A GLANCE:** EU MAY LIMIT UK'S BREXIT TRANSITION TO 20 MONTHS – VOTE ON E-PRIVACY – STUDY PUBLISHED ON SPECTRUM

## Edition Content

### BREXIT

EU may limit UK's Brexit transition to 20 months **P.1**

### CYBERSECURITY

Parliament rapporteur appointed on Cybersecurity package **P.2**

Commissioner King calls for a reinforced ENISA **P.2**

### DATA PROTECTION

Vote on e-privacy in Parliament **P.3**

### SPECTRUM

Council reaches position on Electronic Communications Code **P.4**

Commission publishes study on spectrum policies **P.4**

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - ROBOTICS

UK industry group calls for joint commission on artificial intelligence **P.5**

Report on consultation on robotics and AI **P.5**

### BREXIT

## EU may limit UK's Brexit transition to 20 months



It has been reported that the European Union is drawing up plans to offer the UK a post-Brexit transition period of just 20 months. Prime Minister May formally requested a transition window of "about two years", as part of her Florence speech last month however, the move could see Britain outside the single market and customs union by December 2020, short of the spring 2021 period that was earlier expected.

While EU negotiators are yet to open talks on the future relationship, they are likely to demand Britain remain in the common fisheries policy during the period, as the quotas apply to the calendar year – making a December 2020 exit a more practical solution. The bloc's chief negotiator, Michel Barnier, has also suggested the end of the transition period coincide with the end of the EU's financial period – which concludes in 2020. UK ministers said they hope to tie up the terms of a Brexit transition agreement by the end of this year.

**SOURCE: DODS**

## Edition Content

**BREXIT**

EU may limit UK's Brexit transition to 20 months **P.1**

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Parliament rapporteur appointed on Cybersecurity package **P.2**

Commissioner King calls for a reinforced ENISA **P.2**

**DATA PROTECTION**

Vote on e-privacy in Parliament **P.3**

**SPECTRUM**

Council reaches position on Electronic Communications Code **P.4**

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**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - ROBOTICS**

UK industry group calls for joint commission on artificial intelligence **P.5**

Report on consultation on robotics and AI **P.5**

## CYBERSECURITY

## Parliament rapporteur appointed on Cybersecurity package

Following to the release last month of the Commission's cybersecurity package, including a **proposal for a Regulation on ENISA and cybersecurity certification**, the Parliament appointed German MEP **Angelika Niebler** from the centre-right EPP group to take the rapporteur position on the new bill in Parliament. Mrs Niebler is a member of the Christian Social Union (CSU) in Bavaria, the CDU's sister party. She sits on the Industry Committee and was rapporteur for the content portability directive and delivered opinions on the copyright reform and geo-blocking regulation.



**Source: Interel + European Commission**

## Commissioner King calls for a reinforced ENISA



In a meeting earlier this month of the Civil Liberties Committee in the European Parliament, Sir Julian King (Commissioner for the Security Union) said that ENISA needs to be reinforced when it comes to reporting on, preparing for, and responding to cyberattacks. He also called for a future proofing agenda whereby research is conducted, via a European

research hub, to ensure that products are 'future proof'.

He argued that Europol must be able to tackle transnational cyber gangs and that cyber defence is something which both member states and NATO are focussing on. Accordingly, he called on the EU to support them with funds from the European Defence Fund. While he admired the US' investment in cybersecurity, he did not believe that the EU should copy the US' approach. He argued that Europe needs its own unique strategy and that the Commission is very much interested in developing proposals on encryption which respect privacy but do not hinder investigations.

On deterrence and defence, he said the cyber defence efforts are being conducted by member states but argued that the notion of deterrence goes beyond the state. He observed that many attacks are conducted on private individuals and organisations and not the state. Accordingly, he argued that the EU needs a comprehensive set of deterrence measures which can be developed in cooperation with NATO.

Finally, he noted that given the number of stakeholders, parliamentary committees, and Commissioners, involved in cybersecurity, one key challenge is how to logistically take cybersecurity forward.

**Source: Dods**

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### BREXIT

EU may limit UK's Brexit transition to 20 months **P.1**

### CYBERSECURITY

Parliament rapporteur appointed on Cybersecurity package **P.2**

Commissioner King calls for a reinforced ENISA **P.2**

### DATA PROTECTION

Vote on e-privacy in Parliament **P.3**

### SPECTRUM

Council reaches position on Electronic Communications Code **P.4**

Commission publishes study on spectrum policies **P.4**

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - ROBOTICS

UK industry group calls for joint commission on artificial intelligence **P.5**

Report on consultation on robotics and AI **P.5**

## DATA PROTECTION

# Vote on e-privacy in Parliament



At a plenary vote this month, a majority of MEPs confirmed the committee decision to enter into negotiations on the revision of EU privacy rules for electronic communications.

This means that Parliament is ready to start the talks with member states on the new e-Privacy regulation as soon as member states have agreed on

their own negotiation position. These negotiations are called 'trilogues'.

Parliament's mandate sets high standards of privacy, confidentiality and security in electronic communications across the EU.

A ban on "cookie walls", which block access to a website if the person does not agree to his or her data being used by the site, is among Parliament's priorities. Snooping on personal devices via cookies or software updates, or tracking people without their clear approval through public hotspots or WI-FI in shopping centres, should also be prohibited, said MEPs.

MEPs also stress that data should only be used for the purpose of which consent has been given by the individual. So-called "meta-data", which can give information about numbers called, websites visited, geographical location or the time and date a call was made and other sensitive data, should be treated as confidential and never passed on to third parties. Finally, "privacy by default" settings should become standard for all software used for electronic communications.

**Source: Interrel + European Commission**

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**BREXIT**

EU may limit UK's Brexit transition to 20 months **P.1**

**CYBERSECURITY**

Parliament rapporteur appointed on Cybersecurity package **P.2**

Commissioner King calls for a reinforced ENISA **P.2**

**DATA PROTECTION**

Vote on e-privacy in Parliament **P.3**

**SPECTRUM**

Council reaches position on Electronic Communications Code **P.4**

Commission publishes study on spectrum policies **P.4**

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - ROBOTICS**

UK industry group calls for joint commission on artificial intelligence **P.5**

Report on consultation on robotics and AI **P.5**

## SPECTRUM

## Council reaches position on Electronic Communications Code

The European Commission proposed a recast Directive on the **Electronic Communications Code** in September 2016, inviting the two co-legislators, European Parliament and Council, to come to an agreement on the proposed text.

The Council came to an agreement earlier this month. Here's the negotiation position in full: [PDF](#).



## Commission publishes study on spectrum policies

The European Commission **published a study on spectrum policies**, ahead of national ministers' discussions.

The study looks at "a wide range of spectrum authorization approaches" in order to meet the EU's ambitions on rolling out 5G connections that could help boost industry and new technologies like connected cars. Authors make the case that "a greater variety of spectrum assignment approaches" could help the introduction of 5G in Europe.

Source: [Politico Pro](#)

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**BREXIT**

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**DATA PROTECTION**

Vote on e-privacy in Parliament **P.3**

**SPECTRUM**

Council reaches position on Electronic Communications Code **P.4**

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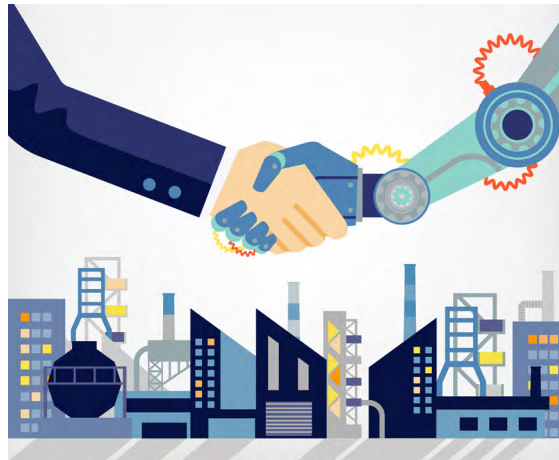
**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - ROBOTICS**

UK industry group calls for joint commission on artificial intelligence **P.5**

Report on consultation on robotics and AI **P.5**

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - ROBOTICS

## UK industry group calls for joint commission on artificial intelligence



The Confederation of British Industry issued a **request** for the UK government to launch a commission that would involve businesses, employee representatives, academics and a minister to examine the impact of AI on people and jobs and to set out a plan to raise productivity.

Low productivity has been a major drag on the U.K. economy, and the Office for Budget

Responsibility recently **announced** it would likely need to revise down productivity growth in its November forecast.

In its report, CBI highlighted that only one-third of businesses say their company has the skills to adopt AI technologies, and that the main concern for businesses in adopting technologies that allow the collection and exchange of data between physical devices – called the internet of things – is security and privacy.

It also highlighted that the use of blockchain technology could be deployed across sectors, which means regulators should coordinate to set standards and work with the industry and the Financial Conduct Authority to “share best practice and learnings.”

The CBI also called on the government to prioritize passing the U.K. Data Protection Bill to ensure companies have time to adapt.

### Report on consultation on robotics and AI

The European Parliament's Legal Affairs (JURI) Committee of the European Parliament released a **summary report** of its consultation on robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) that closed on 1st June.

There have been close to 300 responses: among them **here** are contributions from companies and organisations and **here** are the anonymous ones. Amongst those respondents favouring a regulatory approach on artificial intelligence and robotics, an overwhelming majority (96 %) preferred action at EU or international level rather than action at Member State level (4 %).

The arguments supporting regulatory action at this wider level were, among others, the need to protect EU values (especially data protection, privacy and ethics).

**Source:** [Interel](#)