



EESC Activities Report no 1/25

Marcin Nowacki, President of the European Enterprise Alliance and Vice-President of the Union of Entrepreneurs and Employers is a member of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), an EU advisory body which represents employers' and employees' organisations in the EU lawmaking process. Herein, we present a summary of his activities in July 2025.

Election to the Presidency of the TEN Section

On 16 July, Marcin Nowacki was elected as the new President of the Section for **Transport, Energy, Infrastructure and the Information Society (TEN)**. The Section provides expert advice on policies relating to these fields, thereby providing an essential service to help the EU achieve its goals of sustainable development and strategic autonomy. It serves as a platform for fostering close cooperation between industry stakeholders and the important European Parliament committees and European Commission Directorate-Generals that shape the EU's policies, thereby ensuring that the industry voices are heard clearly throughout every stage of the legislative process. Finally, Section TEN will be contributing significantly to the discussions on the forthcoming 2028-2034 Multiannual Financial Framework, to improve market access, enhance predictability, and create better conditions for growth and competitiveness across borders for European businesses.

Among the EESC's six specialised sections, the Transport, Energy, Infrastructure and Information Society (TEN) section focuses on key areas essential to Europe's growth and resilience. It provides expert advice on policies relating to transport, energy, digital infrastructure, and broader technological innovation, all central to achieving the EU's goals of sustainable development and strategic autonomy.

Section TEN plays a vital role in shaping legislation that enhances industrial competitiveness and innovation, while contributing significantly to discussions on the EU's 2028-2034 Multiannual Financial Framework. As Europe advances its energy and digital transitions, TEN serves as an important platform for stakeholders to collaborate and help shape the future of the European economy.

From a business standpoint, Section TEN serves as a key platform to engage closely with important **European Parliament** committees, such as **TRAN (Transport)**, **ITRE (Industry, Research and Energy)**, **IMCO (Internal Market and Consumer Protection)**, and **REGI (Regional Development)**, as well as relevant departments within the **European Commission**, including **DG MOVE, DG ENER, DG CNECT, and DG GROW**.

This close cooperation helps ensure that industry views are considered early on, supporting a regulatory environment that promotes innovation, ensures energy security, improves infrastructure, and boosts connectivity. For businesses, this means having a stronger voice in shaping policies that improve market access, enhance predictability, and create better conditions for growth and competitiveness across borders.

Find our full announcement here: <https://zpp.net.pl/en/32971/>

EESC Employers' Group Debate on Ukraine's Private Sector

Also on 16 July, the EESC Employers' Group, of which Marcin Nowacki is a member, held a debate on the challenges currently faced by the Ukrainian private sector as the country moves toward acceding to the EU. Guests from several Ukrainian organisations, including representatives from our members, the **European Business Association**, and the **Union of Ukrainian Entrepreneurs**, were invited to discuss how employers can help achieve the required policy reforms and how to create a business environment that will be able to attract investments to help with Ukraine's recovery. In the face of ongoing challenges such as export disruptions, labour shortages, insecure transport corridors, and overly complex investment

mechanisms, the role of employers' organisations in supporting Ukraine's integration into the EU could not be stronger.

Read more about the debate here:

<https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/news/challenges-faced-ukrainian-private-sector-path-eu-membership>

Adoption of the Defence Readiness 2030 Opinion

During the plenary session of 17 July, the “**Opinion on Joint White Paper on Defence Readiness 2030**” was adopted by an overwhelming majority. The Opinion, for which Marcin Nowacki was the main Rapporteur, advocates for a comprehensive European defence strategy that integrates military readiness with civil preparedness, social resilience, diplomacy, and the promotion of peace and human rights. It stresses the urgent need to address hybrid and conventional threats, strengthen strategic autonomy through investment in critical technologies, and enhance Europe's industrial and technological capabilities, with particular support for SMEs. The EESC calls for robust, transparent, and equitable financing mechanisms, including the potential for common Euro-denominated EU debt, while ensuring defence spending prioritises social cohesion, fair access to funds, and does not compromise social spending. Finally, it highlights the importance of military mobility, enhanced international cooperation (especially with NATO and Ukraine), and crucial societal dimensions such as civil preparedness, quality job protection, and public engagement.

Read the Opinion here:

<https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/joint-white-paper-european-defence-readiness-2030>

More information about the EESC

What is the EESC?

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) serves as an advisory body within the EU, consisting of representatives from employers' and workers' organisations as well as other interest groups. The EESC provides opinions on EU policies and initiatives to the European Commission, the Council of the EU, and the European Parliament, thereby facilitating communication between EU decision-making bodies and citizens.

The EESC's Functions

The EESC formally incorporates the perspectives of interest groups into EU legislative processes. In this way, it ensures that EU legislation and policy accurately reflect the economic and social context of Member States, through constructive dialogue with employers' and workers' organizations across all Member States. In this way, it serves to promote European integration and the EU's participatory democracy.

Composition of the EESC

The EESC consists of 329 members from all of the EU's Member States, who are appointed for renewable five-year terms, with membership allocation being proportionate to the population size of each country. Its members are nominated by national governments and formally appointed by the Council of the EU. They act independently to perform duties in the interest of all EU citizens.

Working Methods of the EESC

The EESC is consulted by the European Parliament, the Council of the EU, and the European Commission on diverse topics, while also having the freedom to issue opinions on its own initiative. Their capacity for consultation has been strengthened in recent years, to the point that EESC rapporteurs are now invited to directly present their positions to relevant legislative committees in the Parliament. Members serve the EU without influence from their national governments and convene nine times annually. Opinions are adopted through a simple majority vote.

Specialised sections and the Consultative Commission on Industrial Change prepare meetings, while the EESC's think tanks, known as 'observatories', monitor the progress of EU strategies. The EESC also maintains regular communication with regional and national economic and social councils throughout the EU, primarily to exchange information and address specific issues.

