

Conciliation agreement on the 2020 EU budget

On the final day of the 21-day conciliation period – 18 November 2019 – European Parliament and Council negotiators reached a provisional agreement on the 2020 European Union budget. The 2020 budget is the final annual exercise under the multiannual financial framework (MFF) for 2014-2020. The joint text provides for total commitments of €168.69 billion (1.5 % increase as compared to 2019) and total payments of €153.57 billion (+3.4 % over 2019). The Council intends to adopt the agreed text on 25 November, and Parliament will then vote on approving the text during the November II plenary session in Strasbourg.

Outcome of the conciliation procedure

The conciliation agreement on the 2020 EU budget reverses most of the Council's cuts to the Commission's draft budget, and tops up certain of the Parliament's [priority areas](#). The total level of commitment appropriations agreed is €168 688.1 million, which is an overall increase of €400 million in comparison with the draft budget, including amending letter [\(AL\) 1/2020](#).

At the same time, the overall level of payment appropriations agreed is €153 566.2 million. This corresponds to an overall decrease of €49.1 million in comparison with the draft budget, as amended by AL 1/2020. This relatively small decrease of €49 million leaves the percentage of EU gross national income (GNI) that total payments represent unchanged at 0.904 %.

The budget increases negotiated and included in the joint text follow the direction of the Parliament's priorities, as reflected in the March 2019 [resolution](#) on general guidelines for the preparation of the 2020 budget, and later detailed in Parliament's [reading of the 2020 budget](#). In particular, Parliament demanded additional financing to narrow the gap to attaining the [EU climate expenditure target](#), implementing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, and delivering on the European Pillar of Social Rights.

The agreed amounts are based on an assumption that the United Kingdom will continue to participate fully in the financing and implementation of the EU budget for 2020.

Climate, jobs and youth

As far as commitments are concerned, the joint text adds €850 million to the draft budget, as amended by AL 1/2020. Of that €850 million, over €500 million is dedicated to budgetary lines that contribute to the EU climate expenditure target. For example, within Heading 1a of the MFF (Competitiveness for Growth and Jobs), €302 million is added to the Horizon 2020 research programme and €133 million to the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF). A further €50 million goes to strengthening the Erasmus+ programme for education and youth. Within MFF Heading 1b (Economic, social and territorial cohesion), an additional €28.3 million goes to the Youth Employment Initiative. Under Heading 2 (Sustainable growth: natural resources), the programme for environmental and climate action (LIFE) gains €10 million. The Creative Europe cultural programme under Heading 3 (Security and citizenship) is reinforced with €7.5 million. As far as Heading 4 (Global Europe) is concerned, the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) budget increases by €25 million and the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) by €20 million.

In comparison to the 2019 budget, some examples of increases for Parliament's priority programmes include an additional: €1 094.4 million (+8.8 %) for Horizon 2020, €99 million (+3.6 %) for Erasmus+ and €306.3 million (+8.1 %) for the CEF budget.

The European Parliament (EP) and the Council have 14 days from the date of the agreement to approve the joint text. If both approve it, the President of the EP signs the budget and declares it definitively adopted. If the EP rejects the joint text, the Commission must table a new draft budget. If the Council rejects the text, the EP may still decide to approve it.

Budgetary procedure [2019/2028\(BUD\)](#); Committee responsible: BUDG; Rapporteurs: Monika Hohlmeier (EPP, Germany) – Section III: Commission; and Eider Gardiazabal Rubial (S&D, Spain) – other sections.

2020 budgetary procedure: Milestones and figures

July 2019: The European Commission submits the [draft EU budget](#) for 2020.

September 2019: The Council formally adopts its [position](#) on the draft 2020 EU budget.

October 2019: The European Parliament [amends](#) the Council's position on the draft 2020 EU budget.

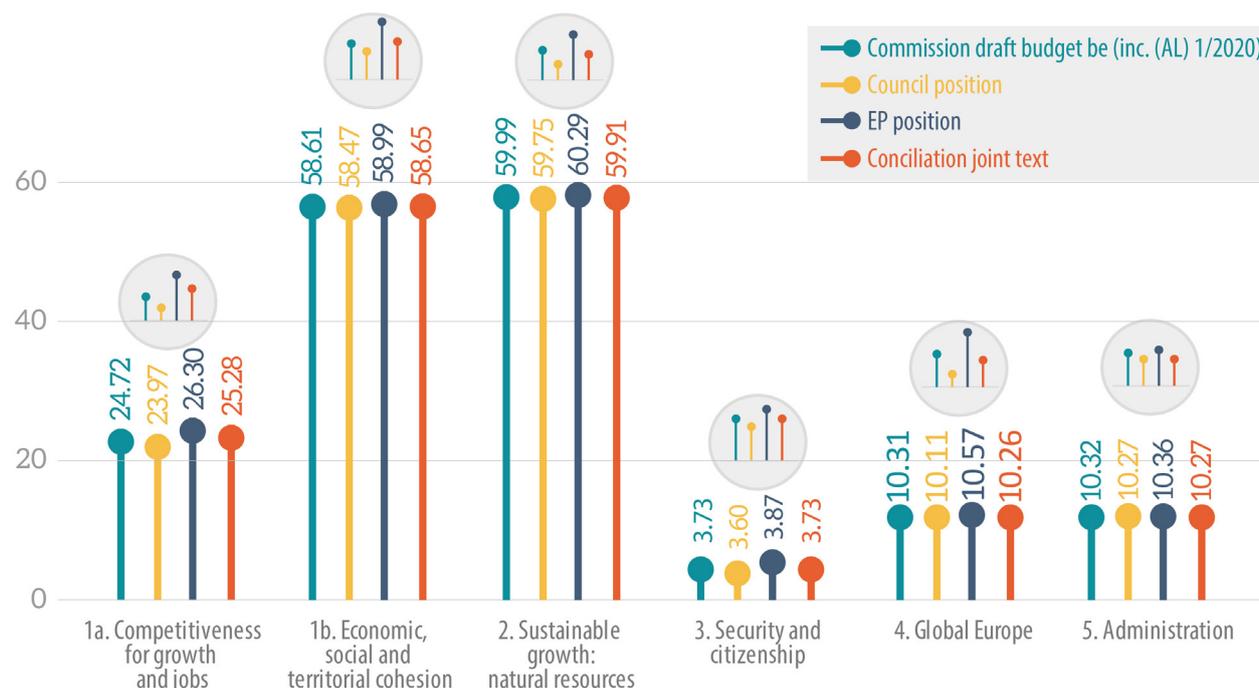
October 2019: The European Commission tables minor adjustments to its proposal for next year's EU budget by means of [Amending Letter \(AL\) 1/2020](#).

November 2019: European Parliament and Council negotiators agree on a [joint text](#) (taking into account (AL) 1/2020) within the conciliation procedure.

2020 EU budget (commitments, billion euros, current prices)



2020 EU budget by MFF heading (commitments, billion euros, current prices)



2020 EU budget payments



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