

Research for REGI Committee: Implementation of Cohesion Policy in the 2014-2020 Programming Period

January 2019 UPDATE

The implementation timetable for cohesion policy is defined largely by its legislative framework, which explicitly provides for European Parliament involvement in a number of cases. In order to be able to plan parliamentary work and exercise systematic scrutiny of policy implementation and of the Commission's work, it is essential to have an overview of the expected timing of different steps in policy implementation in the coming years. The briefing was first published in 2014, and has been updated since then.

The briefing includes a detailed (but non-exhaustive) timetable of policy actions connected with the implementation of the European Structural and Investment Funds in 2019, together with an overview of major actions for the remainder of the programming period, from 2020.

Annual Overview

2019	Policy actions	Sources
January	Commission to report on the implementation of EU macro-regional strategies - January 2019 .	EC planning
	Meeting of Task force for the renewal of the Territorial Agenda 2020 - 30 January 2019	RO PRES planning
	Meeting of the Urban agenda technical preparatory group (UATPG) - 31 January 2019	RO PRES planning
February	Commission to adopt delegated acts related to financial instruments - 3 November 2018 (expected early February 2019 as amending act)	Omnibus Art. 272(13) and (14) Amending Art. 39a (new) and 40 of CPR + EC planning
	Conference on the European Social Fund (ESF) post 2020 - 25-26 February 2019	RO PRES planning

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PE 563.425 - January 2019



2019	Policy actions	Sources
March	Informal Meeting of Directors – general responsible for Cohesion Policy - 14 March 2019	RO PRES planning
	The 8th European Summit of Regions and Cities - 14-15 March 2019	RO PRES planning
	Meetings of the Network Territorial Cohesion Contact Points (NTCCP) - 19-20 March 2019	RO PRES planning
	Meeting of the Urban Development Group (UDG) - 20-21 March 2019	RO PRES planning
	Meeting of the INTERREG EUROPE Monitoring Committee - 26-27 March 2019	RO PRES planning
April	Meeting of the Task force for the renewal of the Territorial Agenda 2020 - 9 April 2019	RO PRES planning
	Meeting of the Urban Agenda Technical Preparatory Group (UATPG) - 10 April 2019	RO PRES planning
	Informal reunion of the ministers responsible for Cohesion Policy - 11- 12 April 2019	RO PRES planning
May	Meeting of the Directors – general for Territorial Cohesion - 7 May 2019	RO PRES planning
	Meeting of the Directors – general on Urban Matters - 8 May 2019	RO PRES planning
	Annual Meeting of INTERREG programs - 22-23 May 2019	RO PRES planning
	Joint Meeting of the national coordinators and coordinators of the EUSDR priority areas - 23-24 May 2019	RO PRES planning
	Commission to complete Mid-term evaluation of the JASPERS initiative in 2014-2020 - May 2019	EC planning
June	Ministerial Conference “Danube Strategy – Instrument for Economic Development” - 12-15 June 2019	RO PRES planning
	Informal reunion of the ministers responsible for Urban Development” - 13- 4 June 2019	RO PRES planning
	Meeting of the the ESPON Monitoring Committee - 17-18 June 2019	RO PRES planning
	ESPON Seminar - 19-20 June 2019	RO PRES planning
	ESPON Contact Points Meeting - 20-21 June 2019	RO PRES planning
	Conference on the evaluation of European structural and investment funds - 20- 21 June 2019	RO PRES planning

2019	Policy actions	Sources
	Meeting of the URBACT Monitoring Committee- 26 June 2019	RO PRES planning
	The 8th edition of the EUSDR Annual forum- 26-28 June 2019	RO PRES planning
August	Deadline for Member States to submit progress report to Commission 31 August 2019	CPR Art. 52(1)
December	Deadline for Commission to submit strategic report to EP, Council, EESC, CoR – 31 December 2019	CPR Art. 53(2)
	Deadline for Commission to complete ex post evaluations of dedicated programmes ('SME initiative') – 31 December 2019	CPR Art. 57(3)
	Deadline for Commission to review the application of Article 39a(new) and where appropriate submit to the European Parliament and Council a legislative proposal – 31 December 2019	Omnibus Art. 272 (13) amending CPR 39a (new)
Unspecified	Performance review of programmes in each Member State, undertaken by Commission in cooperation with Member States	CPR Art. 21
	Commission to adopt decisions linked to achievement of milestones	CPR Art. 22(2)
	Commission to adopt delegated acts with regard to the definition of the standard scales of unit costs or the flat-rate financing	Omnibus Art. 272(28)(e) Amending Art. 67 (5a) (new)
	Commission to complete Ex post evaluation of the European Union Solidarity Fund 2002 -2016 - 2nd quarter of 2019 .	EC planning
	Commission to complete Ex post evaluation of major projects supported by ERDF and Cohesion Fund between 2000 and 2013 - transport - 2nd quarter of 2019	EC planning
	Commission to complete Evaluation of major projects supported by European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund between 2000-2013 - ENVIRONMENT – 4th quarter of 2019	EC planning
	Commission to complete Evaluation of the support to youth employment by the Youth Employment Initiative and the European Social Fund – 4th quarter of 2019	EC planning
	ECA to publish audits on: "Roads connecting European regions" "EU cultural investments" "Cost of implementing the 2014-2020 ESI Funds" "Fraud in Cohesion area" "Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)" "Lessons learnt in Cohesion" (briefing paper)	ECA planning
Annual	Commission to report to EP and Council on consultation of organisations representing partners at Union level – at least once a year	CPR Art. 5(6)
	Commission to provide summary of progress on financial instruments and send it to Parliament and Council – 30 November / 31 December (each year from 2016, within 6 months of deadline for submission of annual implementation reports)	CPR Art. 46(4)

2019	Policy actions	Sources
	Commission to transmit summary report based on annual implementation reports and available evaluations to Parliament, Council, EESC, CoR - each year from 2016	CPR Art. 53(1)
	Potential upwards revision of YEI resources in the framework of the budgetary procedure	CPR Annex VIII.IV (see also Art. 14 of MFF and Art. 16 of ESF)

Multiannual Overview 2020-2025

2020	
March	CPR Art. 53(4) Commission's Annual Progress Report to spring European Council to include a section on ESI Funds – every 2 years from 2018
December	CPR Art. 149(2), ERDF Art. 14(2), ETC Art. 29(2), CF Art. 7(2), ESF Art. 24(2) End of power conferred on Commission to adopt delegated acts – 31 December 2020
	CPR Art. 76 Cut-off date for budgetary commitments – 31 December 2020
Unspecified	CPR Art. 151, ERDF Art. 6, ETC Art. 31, CF Art. 9, ESF Art. 28 Deadline for review of regulations – 31 December 2020
	CPR Art. 113 8th Cohesion report EC Planning Commission to complete Evaluation of investments in RTD infrastructures and activities - 2007-2013 – 4th quarter of 2020
Annual	CPR Art. 5(6) Commission to report to EP and Council on consultation of organisations representing partners at Union level – at least once a year
	CPR Art. 46(4) Commission to provide summary of progress on financial instruments and send it to Parliament and Council – 30 November / 31 December (each year from 2016, within 6 months of deadline for submission of annual implementation reports)
	CPR Art. 53(1) Commission to transmit summary report based on annual implementation reports and available evaluations to Parliament, Council, EESC, CoR each year from 2016
	Annex VIII.IV (see also Art. 14 of MFF and Art. 16 of ESF) Potential upwards revision of YEI resources in the framework of the budgetary procedure

2021-2025	
CPR Art. 95(5)	Ex-post verification of additionality - 2022
CPR Art. 114(2)	Managing authorities to submit report summarising the findings of evaluations – 31 December 2022
CPR Art. 134(2)	Final annual pre-financing amount to be paid (from 2016 onwards)- 1 July 2023
CPR Art. 50(1) and 111(1) and ETC Art. 17	Last submission by Member States of annual implementation reports - 2023*
CPR Art. 51(1)	Last annual review meeting between Member States and Commission - 2023
CPR Art. 65(2)	Cut-off date for eligibility of expenditure - 31 December 2023
CPR Art. 136(2)	Decommitment deadline - 31 December 2023
CPR Art. 2(29)	Final accounting year to end - 30 June 2024
CPR Art. 127(4)	Last update of audit strategy - 2024
CPR Art. 57(2)	Deadline to complete ex post evaluations - 31 December 2024
CPR Art. 138 and FR 59(5)	Final year for Member States to submit documents on accounts, management declaration, annual summary, audit opinion and control report - 15 February 2025
CPR Art. 57(4)	Deadline for Commission to prepare a synthesis report on the basis of ex-post evaluations – 31 December 2025

* See also provision related to the final implementation report for the final accounting year from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 - CPR Article 141 on Submission of closure documents and payment of the final balance.

List of Abbreviations

RO PRES planning	Information available on the website of The Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union
CF	Cohesion Fund (Regulation (EU) No 1300/2013)
COESIF	Coordination Committee for the European Structural and Investment Funds
CoR	Committee of the Regions
CPR	Common Provisions Regulation
EC planning	Information available on the European Commission at Work, Better Regulation, Regional policy - Inforegio, Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion webpages or through (formal or informal) contacts with Commission services
ECA	European Court of Auditors
ECA planning	Information available in the 2019 Work programme of the European Court of Auditors
EESC	European Economic and Social Committee
EFSI	European Fund for Strategic Investments (Regulation (EU) No 2015/1017)
ENI	European Neighbourhood Instrument (Regulation (EU) No 232/2014)
EP	European Parliament
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund (Regulation (EU) No 1301/2013)
ESF	European Social Fund (Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013)
ESF AM for YEI	Regulation (EU) 2015/779 of 20 May 2015 amending the ESF (additional initial pre-financing, YEI)
ESI Funds	European Structural and Investment Funds
ESPON	European Observation Network for Territorial Development and Cohesion
ETC	European Territorial Cooperation (Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013)
FR	Financial Regulation
IPA II	Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (Regulation (EU) No 231/2014)
MFF	Multiannual Financial Framework (Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013)
OMNIBUS	Regulation (Eu, Euratom) 2018/1046 of The European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012
YEI	Youth Employment Initiative

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Further information

This briefing is available in summary, with option to download the full text, at: <http://bit.ly/2smzUfh>

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