

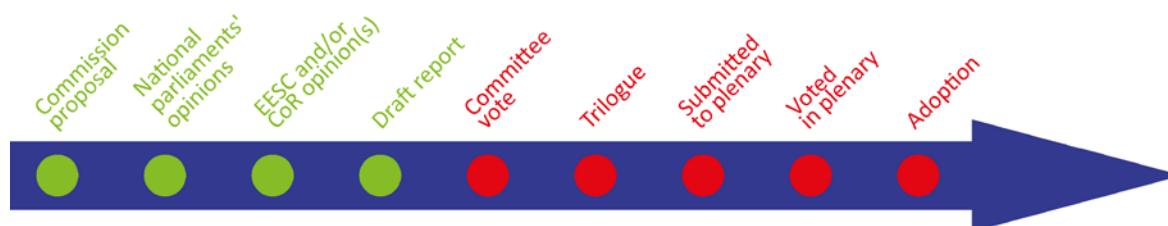
A new neighbourhood, development and international cooperation instrument

Proposal for a new regulation

OVERVIEW

In the context of the Commission's proposal for a multiannual financial framework (MFF) for the 2021-2027 period, the Commission published a proposal for a regulation establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) on 14 June 2018. It is part of Heading 6 'Neighbourhood and the World' of the proposed MFF, which sets out the main priorities and overall budgetary framework for the EU's external action. The Commission proposes to allocate €89.2 billion (in current prices) to the NDICI for the 2021-2027 period. This represents an increase of 11 % compared to the resources allocated to the instruments and funds under the current MFF that the NDICI would replace. These include the European Development Fund (EDF), which is currently outside the MFF. Parliament has expressed concern about the proposed governance structure of the new instrument.

Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument		
<i>Committees responsible:</i>	Foreign Affairs (AFET) Development (DEVE) <i>(joint committee procedure, Rule 55)</i>	COM(2018) 460 14.6.2018 2018/0243(COD)
<i>Rapporteurs:</i>	Frank Engel (EPP, Luxembourg) Cristian Dan Preda (EPP, Romania) Pier Antonio Panzeri (S&D, Italy) Charles Goerens (ALDE, Luxembourg)	Ordinary legislative procedure (COD) (Parliament and Council on equal footing – formerly 'co-decision')
<i>Next steps expected:</i>	Vote on report in joint committee	



Introduction

In the context of the Commission's proposal for a multiannual financial framework (MFF) for the 2021-2027 period, the Commission adopted a [proposal for a regulation](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the neighbourhood, development and international cooperation instrument (NDICI), and its [annexes](#), on 14 June 2018. The proposed regulation comes under Heading 6 – 'Neighbourhood and the World' of the proposed MFF, which sets out the main priorities and overall budgetary framework for the EU's external action from 2021 to 2027. The proposed regulation envisages bringing together nine separate instruments and funds in the current MFF, as well as part of the European Development Fund (EDF), which is currently outside the MFF.

According to the Commission, the proposed streamlining of the funding architecture for the EU's external action is designed to help the EU to respond better to an increasing number of global challenges, which have also grown in complexity, are multidimensional and are often rapidly evolving. The Commission has found in the course of the implementation of the current MFF that a funding architecture with multiple instruments, multiple sets of priorities, multiple management structures and multiple reporting procedures is not effective when it comes to tackling new challenges. [Feedback](#) from EU delegations showed that they found it difficult to manage and take advantage of complementarities and to create synergies between the instruments. Overall, it was considered that the EU was missing opportunities for coordinated strategies for a given country/region. With the proposed regulation, the Commission is hoping to introduce a more efficient and flexible instrument, with a coherent set of principles, and simplified management structures.

The Commission proposes to allocate €89.2 billion in current prices to the NDICI for the 2021-2027 period. This is equivalent to €78.9 billion in constant prices, and represents an increase of 11 % compared to the resources allocated to the instruments and funds under the current MFF that the NDICI would replace.¹

Context

The proposed regulation is based on Articles 209, 212 and 322 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU). Part Five, Title III TFEU provides the legal framework for cooperation with partner countries and regions. Article [209](#) provides that the European Parliament and the Council shall adopt the measures necessary for the implementation of development cooperation policy. Article [212](#) provides that the EU shall carry out economic, financial and technical cooperation measures, including assistance, in particular financial assistance, with third countries other than developing countries. These measures shall be consistent with the development policy of the Union and within the principles and the framework of the EU's external action.

Existing situation

In the current multiannual financial framework (for 2014-2020), the 'Global Europe' heading is implemented through several financing instruments. Most of these will expire on 31 December 2020. They include:

[Regulation \(EU\) 230/2014](#) establishing the Instrument contributing to stability and peace (IcSP);

[Regulation \(EU\) 232/2014](#) establishing the European neighbourhood instrument (ENI);

[Regulation \(EU\) 233/2014](#) establishing the development cooperation instrument (DCI);

[Regulation \(EU\) 234/2014](#) establishing the partnership instrument for cooperation with third countries (PI);

[Regulation \(EU\) 235/2014](#) establishing the European instrument for democracy and human rights (EIDHR);

[Regulation \(EU\) 236/2014](#) laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instrument for financing external action;

[Regulation \(EU\) 2017/1601](#) establishing the [European Fund for Sustainable Development](#) (EFSD), the EFSD Guarantee and the EFSD Guarantee Fund;

[Decision \(EU\) 2018/412](#) of 14 March 2018 amending Decision No 466/2014/EU granting an EU guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under financing operations supporting investment projects outside the Union ([External Lending Mandate](#), ELM);

[Regulation \(EU\) 2018/409](#) amending [Council Regulation 480/2009](#) establishing a [Guarantee Fund for External Action](#);

The extra-budgetary [European Development Fund](#) (EDF), including its African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) investment facility.

The proposed regulation proposes to merge the above-listed instruments into one new regulation. In doing so, the Commission aims to simplify the structure of the funding architecture for the EU's external action, by tearing down artificial barriers between instruments.

Comparative elements

Table 1 shows comparisons between the proposal and the current programmes, taking into account the UK's departure and the 'budgetisation' of the EDF.

Table 1 – Current and proposed allocations for the NDICI (in commitments, € million)

	2018 constant prices			Current prices		
	2014-2020 (EU-27 estimated)	2021-2027 (EU-27 proposal)	% change	2014-2020 (EU-27 estimated)	2021-2027 (EU-27 proposal)	% change
Geographical programmes	58 663	60 186	3 %	57 568	68 000	18 %
Neighbourhood	18 030	19 472	8 %	17 693	22 000	24 %
Sub-Saharan Africa	26 593	28 323	7 %	26 097	32 000	23 %
Asia and the Pacific	10 006	8 851	-12 %	9 819	10 000	2 %
Americas and the Caribbean	4 034	3 540	-12 %	3 959	4 000	1 %
Thematic Programmes	9 312	6 196	-33 %	9 139	7 000	-23 %
Human Rights and Democracy	1 327	1 328	0 %	1 302	1 500	15 %
Civil Society Organisations	1 441	1 328	-8 %	1 414	1 500	6 %
Stability and Peace	719	885	23 %	706	1 000	42 %
Global Challenges	5 825	2 655	-54 %	5 716	3 000	-48 %
Rapid Response	3 472	3 540	2 %	3 407	4 000	17 %
Emerging challenges and priorities cushion	6 999	9 028		6 869	10 200	
TOTAL	71 447	78 950	11 %	70 114	89 200	27 %

Data source: Secretariat of the Committee on Budgets, European Parliament. Totals do not tally due to rounding.

Parliament's starting position

On 14 March 2018, Parliament adopted a [resolution](#) on the next MFF: Preparing the Parliament's position on the MFF post-2020. This was followed, on 17 April 2018, by the adoption of a [resolution](#) on the implementation of the development cooperation instrument, the humanitarian aid instrument and the European development fund. On 18 April, Parliament adopted a [resolution](#) on the implementation of the EU external financing instruments: mid-term review 2017 and the future post-2020 architecture. Following the publication, on 2 May 2018, of the Commission's proposal on the 2021-2027 MFF and the EU's own resources system, Parliament adopted a [resolution](#) on the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework and own resources on 30 May 2018.

As regards external policies, Parliament called for a 'significant increase' in appropriations to allow the EU to implement a 'genuinely European, rules-and values-based foreign policy', within the framework of the global strategy and of its enlargement, neighbourhood and development policies. Parliament stated that it expected the 2021-2027 MFF to reflect the unprecedented needs of the southern and eastern neighbourhood countries, struggling with conflicts and the challenges presented by migration and refugees. Parliament also stated that more money should be allocated to address the growing need for humanitarian aid arising from natural and manmade disasters. Moreover, Parliament called for the EU to increase funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and asked for additional resources to finance an investment plan for Africa, to tackle the root causes of migration.

Parliament recalled the commitment made by the EU and the Member States to increase their official development assistance (ODA) to 0.7 % of gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030, including 20 % of the EU's ODA for social inclusion and human development, and 0.2 % of the EU's gross national income (GNI) in ODA for least developed countries. Parliament noted, in particular, that while development assistance could play an important role in tackling the root causes of migration and contributing to stability, ODA should not be used to cover refugee costs in donor countries.

Parliament has long called for the integration of the European Development Fund (EDF), an off-budget fund financed by yearly contributions from EU Member States, into the EU budget. Parliament reiterated this call in its resolution of 14 March 2018. The resolution of 18 April 2018 also called for the better integration of the trust funds and facilities into the budget.

In terms of structure, Parliament advocated a separate heading entitled 'stronger responsibility in the world', which would include programmes and instruments supporting (i) international cooperation and development, (ii) neighbourhood, (iii) enlargement, (iv) humanitarian aid, (v) democracy, rule of law, fundamental rights and gender equality, and (vi) trade. Parliament expressed readiness to consider a 'simplified and streamlined' architecture for the external financing instruments, but called for separate dedicated instruments (i) for pre-accession assistance, (ii) for the neighbourhood, (iii) for development, and (iv) for humanitarian aid. Parliament stressed that the objective of any restructuring of the instruments should be increased transparency, accountability, efficiency and coherence, as well as flexibility, and that these objectives could not be achieved without a governance structure that allows for political control, is strategy driven, inclusive and accountable.

Council and European Council starting position

An informal [European Council](#) meeting on [23 February 2018](#) discussed the political priorities of the multiannual financial framework (MFF) after 2020. According to the [Leaders' Agenda](#) of October 2017, the next European Council dedicated to the post-2020 MFF is planned for 13-14 December 2018, with a further meeting announced for 20-21 June 2019.

The General Affairs Council (GAC) of [14 May 2018](#) kicked off negotiations of the Commission's proposal for the 2021-2027 MFF. The GAC of [18 September 2018](#) also discussed the 2021-2027 MFF, including how the EU policy priorities and European added value are reflected in the MFF proposal

and the proposed allocation of funds to different policy areas. A [note](#) by the Presidency outlining the state of play concerning the MFF proposals published in view of the GAC of 18 September 2018 stated, with regard to Heading IV – Neighbourhood and the World, that some Member States insist that the neighbourhood instrument should remain a separate instrument, and that the Commission proposal must 'deliver adequately on Leaders' priorities in the area of migration'. Moreover, while some Member States welcome the proposed budgetisation of the EDF, others would prefer to 'maintain the status quo to reduce pressure on scarce resources (notably on cohesion policy and the common agricultural policy), keep the EDF open to third-country participation, allow for increased flexibility, maintain visibility, and retain existing implementation rules'.

The Council has also set up a specific ad-hoc working party on the 'Neighbourhood, development and international cooperation instrument' (NDICI), currently chaired by the Austrian EU Presidency.

Preparation of the proposal

The procedures and timeline leading up to the publication of the proposed legislation are set out in the EPRS Briefing on [Post-2020 MFF and own resources - Ahead of the Commission's proposal](#) (May 2018).

On 1 March 2017, the Commission published a [white paper](#) on the future of Europe and the way forward, which set out possible paths for the future of Europe, offering five scenarios for how the Union could evolve. This was followed, in June 2017, by a [reflection paper on the future of EU finances](#). The paper looks at the challenge of the EU having to 'fund more with less', structured around the [five scenarios](#) set out in the white paper. In addition, the reflection paper sets out the basic features of the EU budget and charts the principal trends and developments in key policy areas like cohesion or agriculture.

On 2 May 2018, the Commission adopted proposals for a new multiannual financial framework (MFF) for the European Union for the years after 2020, accompanied by a [communication](#). The Commission also adopted a proposal for a new system of own resources to provide the EU with the means to finance its annual budget. The proposals were published as a package; their publication was followed by the publication of a series of further legislative proposals in May and June for individual spending programmes, including, on 14 June 2018, the NDICI proposal.

Also on 14 June 2018, the Commission published the [impact assessment](#) accompanying a total of four legislative proposals, namely the proposal for a regulation establishing the neighbourhood, development and international cooperation instrument; the proposal on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Union, including relations between the EU on the one hand, and Greenland and the Kingdom of Denmark on the other; the proposal for a regulation establishing the instrument for pre-accession assistance; and the proposal establishing a European instrument for nuclear safety. EPRS has prepared an [initial appraisal](#) of that impact assessment.

The changes the proposal would bring

The proposed regulation would bring a major restructuring of the Union's external action instruments, by merging a total of ten regulations, one decision and one extra-budgetary fund based on an inter-governmental agreement into a single new regulation. In doing so, the Commission would simplify the structure of the funding architecture for the EU's external action, by removing artificial barriers between instruments. The Commission hopes that streamlining a number of instruments within one broad instrument would provide an opportunity to rationalise management and oversight systems, and so reduce the administrative burden for EU institutions and Member States. Instead of focusing on multiple programming processes, debates would be more focused on political objectives and engagement with external partners. In addition, actions that receive cumulative funding from different EU programmes would be audited only once, covering all involved programmes and their respective applicable rules. Part of the simplification

would be the integration of the European Development Fund (EDF) – which has so far been one of the main instruments to provide assistance to African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and to overseas countries and territories – into the EU budget. The budgetary and scrutiny powers of the European Parliament would thus be extended to the EDF.

According to the Commission, the proposed new architecture reflects the need to focus on strategic priorities both geographically – the European neighbourhood, Africa and the Western Balkans, as well as countries that are fragile and most in need – and also thematically – security, migration, climate change and human rights.

The proposed regulation would have three main components: a geographical, a thematic and a rapid response component.

The geographical component (financial envelope: €68 billion, in current prices) would consist of geographical programmes for (i) the European Neighbourhood (€22 billion) (Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, and Ukraine); (ii) Sub-Saharan Africa (€32 billion); (iii) Asia and the Pacific (€10 billion); and (iv) the Americas and the Caribbean (€4 billion). Budget allocations per geographical region would be ring-fenced.

Geographical programmes would focus on the following areas of cooperation:

- good governance, democracy, rule of law and human rights
- poverty eradication, fight against inequalities and human development
- migration and mobility
- environment and climate change
- inclusive and sustainable growth and decent employment
- security, stability and peace
- partnership

Neighbourhood countries would, in addition, benefit, among other things, from enhanced political cooperation, support for the implementation of association agreements, promotion of people-to-people contacts, support for regional cooperation and progressive integration into the Union's internal market, and enhanced sectoral and cross-sectoral cooperation.

The thematic component (proposed financial envelope: €7 billion) would comprise several thematic programmes with worldwide coverage, namely on (i) human rights and democracy (€1.5 billion), (ii) civil society organisations (€1.5 billion), (iii) stability and peace (€1 billion), and (iv) global challenges (€3 billion). These thematic programmes would cover areas such as health, education and training, women and children, decent work and social protection, culture, migration, environment and climate change, sustainable energy, sustainable and inclusive growth, private sector, and local authorities.

The rapid response component (proposed financial envelope: €4 billion) would be designed to allow for quick responses, to enable the EU to (i) contribute to stability and conflict prevention in situations of urgency, in emerging crisis, in crisis and in post-crisis situations; (ii) contribute to strengthening resilience of states, societies, communities and individuals, and to linking humanitarian aid and development action; and (iii) more generally address foreign policy needs and priorities. A special feature of the rapid response component, which would also have worldwide coverage, would be that it would require no programming. Implementation would be through the adoption of exceptional assistance measures, action plans and individual measures, allowing for greater flexibility. At the same time, it would be intended that rapid response actions would be complementary to geographical and thematic programmes.

A 'cushion' of €10.2 billion would be proposed for emerging challenges and priorities. It would be used to (i) ensure an appropriate response of the EU in the event of unforeseen circumstances, (ii) address new needs or emerging challenges, such as those at the Union's or its neighbours'

borders, linked to crisis and post-crisis situations or migratory pressure, and (iii) lead new EU-led or international initiatives.

Funds from the geographical component would continue to finance a revised version of the European Fund for Sustainable Development, called EFSD+, and the External Action Guarantee. The EFSD+ and the External Action Guarantee could be used to support financing and investment operations in partner countries.

Moreover, the proposed regulation would, in the future, finance capacity-building of military actors in support of development and security for development (CBSD), which is currently financed through the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP).

Advisory committees

This proposal is not subject to mandatory consultation of either advisory committee. The Committee of the Regions adopted its [opinion](#) on the proposal during the plenary session of 6 December 2018.

National parliaments

The deadline for the submission of [reasoned opinions](#) on the grounds of subsidiarity was 24 September 2018. No such opinion was submitted.

Stakeholders' views²

Several stakeholders have expressed views on the NDICI and many have submitted suggestions for specific amendments to the proposed regulation. The United Nations Brussels Office noted that the MFF and related instruments should more strongly reflect the 17 sustainable development goals, and specifically mention and address the needs of the most vulnerable populations. [Oxfam](#) has expressed concerns that the NDICI is not structured to promote international cooperation or development, but to promote the EU's short-term domestic interests, particularly regarding migration and security. The [Friends of the Global Fund Europe](#) have pointed out that, in its current form, the draft NDICI risks hindering the EU's ability to continue to support proven global initiatives like the Global Fund, the world's largest international financier of infectious disease control and eradication. The [Climate Action Network Europe \(CAN\)](#) [notes](#) that, according to the proposal, climate action is to be mainstreamed in the NDICI; however, the proposal does not make reference to climate proofing, climate impact assessments or an obligation to ensure that actions have to be screened for compatibility with international climate objectives. [Platforma](#), the network of European local and regional governments, and their associations, active in the field of development cooperation, has [expressed](#) concern that local governments as partners are marginalised in the proposed regulation. The European NGO Confederation for relief and development (Concord) has [criticised](#) the NDICI, noting that the Commission's proposal is not driven by sustainable development goals, does not safeguard some of the positive features of previous instruments, and does not satisfy CONCORD's 'basic [red lines](#)'. The [Human Rights and Democracy Network \(HRDN\)](#) issued [recommendations](#) on the overall mainstreaming of human rights and democracy in the NDICI, as well as specific recommendations for the human rights and democracy, and civil society organisations programmes in the proposed regulation. The [Trade Union Development Cooperation Network \(TUDCN\)](#) has called for a rethinking of the priorities in the NDICI, which it says focus on safeguarding the EU's own interests, and for improving the governance, including an effective monitoring, reporting and evaluation system. The Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM) has published a [position paper](#) that stresses the importance of maintaining strong cooperation with the countries of the southern neighbourhood, and especially local and regional authorities in those countries.

Legislative process

DEVE and AFET committees

In accordance with Rule 55 of the EP's Rules of Procedure, the **DEVE** and **AFET committees** are working jointly on the proposal. The draft report by the co-rapporteurs was published on 19 November 2018. An exchange of views on the draft report took place at a hearing of the joint committee on 6 December 2018. The vote on the report is scheduled to take place on 4 February 2019.

The co-rapporteurs have proposed important amendments to the Commission's proposal, with the aim of ensuring that the NDICI 'respects the objectives of the EU's underlying policies and enhances transparency, accountability, efficiency, coherence and flexibility of EU funds for external action'. In return, the co-rapporteurs indicate that they are ready to accept the simplified and streamlined architecture for the External Financing Instruments proposed by the Commission.

The proposed amendments fall into three broad categories: (i) better governance and a stronger role for Parliament, (ii) clearer and more distinct objectives for the various policies, and (iii) budgetary measures.

As regards better governance and a stronger role for the EP, the proposed amendments seek to introduce greater democratic accountability and control mechanisms, by proposing delegated act procedures for secondary policy choices, notably programming. Thus, the co-rapporteurs propose delegated acts for the establishment of multiannual programmes outlining the priority areas, objectives, expected results, indicative financial allocations and cooperation modalities. By contrast, the co-rapporteurs propose to eliminate implementing acts/comitology procedure, to be replaced by Commission delegated decisions executing the regulation. The draft report also calls for an enhanced dialogue between Parliament and the Commission, in particular prior to the adoption of delegated acts, and before the presentation of the draft annual budget by the Commission. The draft report also proposes to introduce delegated acts to establish a framework for risk management, ensure a performance-based approach in the Neighbourhood, safeguard respect for human rights in security sector activities, and to create investment windows. The draft report also proposes stronger monitoring and reporting mechanisms, including for the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+). Finally, the co-rapporteurs propose to include important provisions, such as the structure of programmes, objectives for the Neighbourhood, and governance of the EFSD+, which appear in the annexes to the Commission's proposal, in the main body of the regulation.

As regards clearer and distinct objectives for the various policies, the draft report proposes the following:

- to further strengthen the policy framework for the European Neighbourhood, a key priority area of EU external action;
- to improve the performance-based approach, which is one of the key tenets of the European Neighbourhood Policy;
- to ring-fence the financial allocations for sub-Saharan Africa;
- to introduce a clear reference to poverty eradication and the Sustainable Development Goals in the objectives of the NDICI;
- to raise the percentage of funding that aims to fulfil the criteria for official development assistance (ODA) to 95 % (from the proposed 92 %);
- to ensure that any external policy likely to affect developing countries takes account of the objectives of development cooperation;
- to increase the budget for the thematic programme 'Global Challenges' by €1.5 billion, to reinforce health and education;

- to include attainment of the Paris Agreement commitments in the objectives of the regulation;
- to ensure that 30 % of NDICI funds are used in support of climate objectives;
- to ensure that assistance to a given country may be suspended in cases of persistent failure to observe the principles of democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- to increase the financial allocation for human rights and democracy activities by €0.5 billion;
- to include support to local authorities in the thematic programme 'Civil Society Organisations', and increase the envelope for this programme by €1.2 billion;
- to expand the annexes dealing with stability and peace to include activities currently financed by the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace, as well as new activities.
- to introduce a cap of €270 million for activities linked to capacity-building of military actors in support of development and security for development;
- to move most actions proposed under the 'foreign policy needs and priorities' programme from the rapid response to the thematic pillar; and
- to reintroduce safeguards and guarantees for investment contributing to sustainable development under the EFSD+ and the External Action Guarantee.

As regards budgetary measures, the co-rapporteurs propose a number of changes to better reflect the strategic importance of a number of geographic and thematic issues. In particular, the co-rapporteurs welcome the ring-fencing of the geographic allocations for the Neighbourhood and for sub-Saharan Africa. They also welcome the increase in funds for an African Investment Plan, as proposed in Parliament's November 2018 [interim report](#) on the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027.

BUDG committee

The BUDG committee, an associated committee under Rule 54, held an exchange of views on the NDICI on 21 November 2018; it voted on its [opinion](#) on 10 December 2018.

The BUDG committee proposes to limit the provisioning from the NDICI budget for the External Action Guarantee to €10 billion. Under the Commission proposal, the provisioning of the External Action Guarantee is to be financed from the budget of the relevant geographical programmes (potentially up to €68 billion) and shall be transferred into the common provisioning fund.

Moreover, the BUDG committee supports the Commission's proposal to involve other partners in the implementation of operations under the External Action Guarantee, in addition to the European Investment Bank, which has previously carried out these lending operations under the external lending mandate.

FEMM committee

The opinion of the FEMM committee, drafted in accordance with Article 53 of the Rules of Procedure, was published on 7 November 2018; the Committee vote took place on 27 November 2018. The [opinion](#) proposes to seize the opportunity of the next MFF to implement a 'global vision for cooperation solidly rooted in European values, such as the protection of human rights and environmental standards, the improvement of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment, the eradication of poverty and all forms of discrimination'. It calls for the implementation of the NDICI to be guided by 'the EU policy framework for development cooperation, as laid down in the Lisbon Treaty, the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, and the Paris Climate Agreement'. In terms of specific proposals, the opinion proposes

- to earmark at least 85 % of the official development assistance funded under the NDICI as having gender equality and women's and girls' rights and empowerment as a *principal or significant* objective; moreover, specifically earmark 20 % of these programmes as having gender equality and women's and girls' rights and empowerment as a *principal* objective;

- to ring-fence at least 20 % of the official development assistance funded under the NDICI for social inclusion and human development;
- to create a new thematic programme for 'Gender Equality and Women and Girls' Empowerment', with a budget of €750 million (to be taken from the emerging challenges and priorities cushion).

ENVI committee

The ENVI Committee published its [draft opinion](#), drafted in accordance with Rule 53 of the Rules of Procedure, on 28 September 2018. The Committee adopted its [opinion](#) on 27 November 2018 with six amendments to the Commission proposal.

CULT, INTA and LIBE committees

The CULT, INTA and LIBE committees are also expected to adopt opinions in due course.

EP SUPPORTING ANALYSIS

Drachenberg R., [The European Council and the Multiannual Financial Framework](#), European Council in action, EPRS, European Parliament, February 2018.

Ioannides I., [EU external financing instruments and the post-2020 architecture: European Implementation Assessment](#), EPRS, European Parliament, February 2018.

Kononenko V., [Initial Appraisal of the Commission impact assessment](#), EPRS, October 2018

Parry M. and Sapala M., [2021-2027 multiannual financial framework and new own resources – Analysis of the Commission's proposal](#), EPRS, European Parliament, July 2018.

Parry M. and Sapala M., [Post-2020 MFF and own resources – Ahead of the Commission's proposal](#), EPRS, European Parliament, May 2018.

OTHER SOURCES

[Neighbourhood, development and international cooperation instrument 2021–2027](#), European Parliament, Legislative Observatory (OEIL).

ENDNOTES

¹ Constant prices (2018 prices) differ from current prices in that they apply a 2 % annual deflator to account for the effect of inflation.

² This section aims to provide a flavour of the debate and is not intended to be an exhaustive account of all different views on the proposal. Additional information can be found in related publications listed under 'EP supporting analysis'.

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