

# BUDG



Committee on Budgets

## NEWSLETTER

### Meetings of the Committee on Budgets

**Monday 1 April 2019, 17.00 - 17.15**  
(Joint meeting BUDG-ECON)  
Room: Paul Henri Spaak 3C50

**17.30 – 18.30**  
Room: Altieri Spinelli - 1G3, Brussels

and

**Tuesday 2 April 2019, 9.00 - 11.15**  
**11.15 - 12.30 (Joint meeting BUDG-CONT)**  
Room: Altieri Spinelli - 1G3, Brussels



## Joint meeting with the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON)

### Report on ongoing interinstitutional negotiations

The trilogues on InvestEU took place on 4, 13 and 18 March 2019 with a final meeting on 20 March 2019, where a partial agreement with the Council was reached.

## VOTING TIME

### Establishing the InvestEU Programme



[2018/0229\(COD\)](#)

Rapporteurs: [José Manuel Fernandes](#) (PPE) and [Roberto Gualtieri](#) (S&D)  
**Adoption partial agreement**

The committee will vote on the partial agreement reached with the Council on 20 March.

## END OF VOTE

## Joint presentation with CONT and LIBE - Frontex



### Exchange of views with Mr. Fabrice Leggeri, Executive Director of Frontex (European Border and Coast Guard Agency)

On Monday 1 April, BUDG Members, jointly with their colleagues from CONT and LIBE, will welcome Mr Fabrice Leggeri, Executive Director of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), for a discussion on the achievements, opportunities, but also the main risks facing the agency.

Frontex has been in the focus of policy as well as budgetary debates. The agency plays a key role in the EU's external border management and its activities are often presented as an example of 'European Added Value' in the context of the priorities for the next Multiannual Financial Framework. The further

build-up of Frontex against a turbulent geopolitical backdrop poses multiple challenges in terms of legal mandate, the scope of action as well as financial and human resources.

**Tuesday 2 April 2019**

## State-of-play on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 and Own Resources



[2018/2070\(ACI\)](#)

Rapporteurs: [Jan Oibrycht \(EPP\)](#), [Isabelle Thomas \(S&D\)](#), [Gérard Deprez \(ALDE\)](#), [Janusz Lewandowski \(EPP\)](#)

### Exchange of Views

The European Parliament's negotiating team on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and Own resources (OR) will take stock of the work realised by Parliament and present the state-of-play on interinstitutional exchanges. Parliament aimed to reach an agreement on the MFF/OR package prior to the European elections to ensure timely agreements on, and launch of the expenditure programmes. Despite Parliament's readiness to enter into negotiations since the adoption of its interim report on 14 November 2018, the Council is unlikely to adopt a negotiating mandate before autumn 2019 (European Council's conclusions of 13-14 December 2018).

## Presentation of the study on mainstreaming innovation funding in the EU budget



This study finds that a clear picture of the overall volumes devoted to innovation and approach to innovation in the current MFF is lacking: there are reports and mid-terms evaluations of different EU programmes potentially supporting innovation but not all of them provide information and, when the information is provided, it is not based on the same understanding of innovation.

This study furthermore:

- proposes a conceptual framework to identify amounts of EU budget in support of innovation and recommends to develop a methodology in this respect as well as an impact-oriented approach to all EU innovation funding;
- Estimates that 14% of the overall MFF budget for 2014-2020 is directly or indirectly intended to support innovation.
- explores existing synergies between different EU sources of innovation funding, and how these contribute to achieving the Horizon 2020 seven societal challenges: more can be done to create concrete linkages between programmes by including specific legal basis;
- assesses the functioning of various EU-sponsored partnerships for innovation : the next generation of EU innovative partnerships should be rationalised and a clear link should be established to missions (proposed under Horizon Europe to embody strategic topdown directional research in the next MFF);

- analyses the role played by EU financial instruments and budgetary guarantees: the next generation of EU market-driven instruments in support to research and innovation should better target innovative firms. The use of thematic products in support of missions should be explored;
- analyses the approach to innovation financing in the Commission's MFF 2021-2027 proposals.

## VOTING TIME

### Opinion on amendment of the EIB's statute related to an increase of the EIB capital subscribed by Poland and Romania, under the consultation procedure **(to be confirmed)**

[2019/0804\(CNS\)](#)

#### Consideration of draft opinion

The Council requested the EP's opinion, under the consultation procedure, on the modifications of the statute of the EIB (Protocol No 5 annexed to the Treaty). These modifications, which relate to an increase in the EIB's subscribed capital by Poland and Romania (Article 4, Paragraph 1) and changes in the governance structure of the EIB, namely a decrease in the number of alternates from 31 to 29 (Article 9, Paragraph 2).

This draft opinion could be considered – pending the outcome of the written consultation - under simplified procedure (Rule 50(1)).

Date	Body	Event
2 April 2019	AFCO	Consideration of draft report in AFCO (Simplified procedure under Rule 50)
April	Plenary	Vote in Plenary

### 2019 Budget: Section III - Commission



Rapporteur: [Daniele Viotti \(S&D\)](#)

**Adoption of transfers**

**No transfer request**

## 2019 Budget: Other Sections



Rapporteur: [Paul Rübzig \(EPP\)](#)

### Adoption of transfers

#### **C3/2019 Financial Management System**

The purpose of this transfer proposal is to re-arrange appropriations foreseen for the FMS project (Financial Management System), by moving EUR 100 000 from item 3200 "Acquisition of expertise" to 1612 "Learning and development", in order to cover training costs. The new Financial Management System is expected to become operational in January 2020, replacing existing applications with the latest technology based on a SAP S4/HANA solution. The project will ensure that financial processes of Parliament are dealt with in an integrated and efficient manner and will also provide the basis for further value-added and resource-saving IT developments in the years to come.

#### **C4/2019 Parliamentary Conference World Trade Organisation**

The purpose of this transfer proposal is to allow organizing five regional international trade capacity building seminars mainly for the Members of Parliament of developing countries.

The seminars, co-organised by the European Parliament, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the World Trade Organisation Secretariat, are provisionally planned to take place in Gaborone (Botswana), Dakar (Senegal), Abuja (Nigeria), Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) and Beijing (China).

Appropriations had been included for this purpose on budget line 3042 "Meetings, congresses, conferences and delegations".

However, this budget line can be used only to cover part of the logistical costs for such events. To enable to pursue the organization of the seminars as designed, and to respect the principle of budgetary specificity, a part of the appropriations, EUR 400.000, from item 3042 should be transferred to items 3230 "Support for democracy and capacity-building for the parliaments of third countries" and 3200 "Acquisition of expertise".

#### **C5/2019 Salaries of Members elected in the UK and related costs**

The purpose of this transfer proposal is to provide the means for salaries and allowances of Members elected in the United Kingdom and their assistants, as well as costs related to group visits from the UK for the period from the end of March to the end of May, following the conclusions of the European Council to extend the date of withdrawal of the UK under Article 50 TEU until 22 May 2019 at the latest.

Appropriations will be transferred mainly from corresponding savings on transitional allowances and the contingency reserve - which was set at an appropriate level notably due to uncertainties accompanying the 'Brexit' process.

#### **C6/2019 Allowance under Article 50 of the Staff Regulations**

The purpose of this transfer proposal is to allow for the payment of an allowance under Article 50 of the Staff Regulations (Retirement in the interests of the service), following the Bureau decision of 11 March 2019.

The proposed transfer amount corresponds to the senior official's entitlements for the year 2019. It is covered by the surplus of item 1200 which relates to a general margin for salary indexation, promotions and other factors, taken into account at the establishment of the budget.

## Building policy



Rapporteur: [Monika Hohlmeier \(PPE\)](#)

No information received

**END OF VOTE**

## Building policy



Rapporteur: [Monika Hohlmeier \(PPE\)](#)

**Exchange of views on European Commission: MO34; Brussels**

The Commission has the objective of reducing overall office space by 2024. Since a number of tenancy agreements covering approximately 200 000 m<sup>2</sup> expire between 2017 and 2024, the related building programme provided in particular for the negotiation of an extension to some contracts in order to avoid operational problems.

The Commission therefore intends to immediately launch negotiations to extend certain leases in order to secure crucial office space beyond 2019/2020. The aim is to benefit, where appropriate, from a renegotiated rent before the end of the current lease, and to identify as quickly as possible the buildings for which an extension will not be possible. The owner of MO34 has informed the Commission that he wishes to redevelop the building and that only a maximum extension of two years would be possible. The Commission will therefore launch negotiations with the owner of the MO34 building (covering 12 582 m<sup>2</sup> under a long-term lease). That lease is due to expire on 30 June 2020.

## Joint meeting with the Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT)

### European Court of Auditors' 'Rapid Case Review – Allocation of funds in Cohesion'

**Presentation by the ECA member Iliana Ivanova**



In a joint meeting of the Committee on Budgets (BUDG) and the Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT), Iliana Ivanova, reporting Member of the European Court of Auditors, will present the European Court of Auditors' 'Rapid Case Review – Allocation of funds in Cohesion', published on 28 March 2019. The objective of the audit is to describe the process and criteria for allocation of Cohesion policy funds to Member States as proposed in the draft Common Provisions Regulation for 2021-2027.

### European Court of Auditors' Rapid case review - Outstanding commitments in the EU budget – A closer look

**Presentation by the ECA member Annemie Turtelboom**



In a joint meeting of the Committee on Budgets (BUDG) and the Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT), Annemie Turtelboom, reporting Member of the European Court of Auditors, will present the European Court of Auditors' 'Rapid Case Review on Outstanding commitments in the EU budget', to be published on the same day. It will provide a detailed insight into the amount of outstanding commitments at the end of 2017 (also known under their French acronym, 'RAL' for reste-à-liquider) and its evolution over time, and to examine the Commission's decommitment policy.

# NEWS FROM POLICY DEPARTMENT D

## Recent publications

### BUDG

Study "[EU funds for migration, asylum and integration policies](#)"

Study "[Potential revenue from the extension of charging fees by EU Agencies](#)"

Study "[Financial Implementation of European Structural and Investment Funds](#)"

At a Glance "[The next MFF and Own Resources](#)"

### CONT

Study "[EU-funded large-scale infrastructure: deficient project preparation and procurement processes?](#)"

Study "[Ex Ante Conditionality in ESI funds state of play and their potential impact on the Financial Implementation of the Funds](#)"

Study "[Review of status of the Commission's register of expert groups and their composition](#)"

Study "[Democratic accountability and budgetary control of non-governmental organisations financed from the EU budget - Update](#)"

## Forthcoming publications

### BUDG

Study "Mainstreaming innovation funding in the EU budget" - 02 April 2019

### CONT

Study "Appointment procedures in the EU Institutions" - 15 April 2019

Study "Cooperation of national tax and customs authorities to prevent customs and VAT fraud for the protection of EU financial interests" - 08 April 2019

## Forthcoming events

### CONT

Workshop "Integrated territorial investments as an effective tool of Cohesion Policy" - 11 April 2019

## Contacts

BUDG Committee - [budg-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:budg-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu)

[BUDG Committee Webpage](#)

Policy Department for Budgetary Affairs - [poldep-budg@ep.europa.eu](mailto:poldep-budg@ep.europa.eu) [Policy Department Webpage](#)

## Next meetings

---

11 April (extra meeting in Brussels) - Brexit (tbc)

5 June (extra meeting in Brussels) - Presentation in Draft Budget 2020 by Commissioner Oettinger

---

## Disclaimer

The items contained herein are drafted by the secretariat of the European Parliament and are provided for general information purposes only. The opinions expressed in this document are the sole responsibility of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position of the European Parliament. This document may contain links to websites that are created and maintained by other organizations. The secretariat does not necessarily endorse the view(s) expressed on these websites.