

Newsletter

ISSUE 2 - 2019

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TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

10.30 - 12.30 AND 15.00 - 16.30 (ASP 1G3)

HIGHLIGHTS

Following a voting session related to the implementation of the 2019 budget, the general rapporteur for the EU's 2020 budget, Monika Hohlmeier (EPP, DE), will present a Working Document on the Council position on the 2020 budget. Council's position was endorsed by EU ambassadors on 10 July and is expected to be formally adopted by the Council in early September.



*** VOTING TIME ***

DAB 1/2019 - Entering the surplus of the financial year 2018

BUDG will vote on Draft Amending Budget No 1/2019, the purpose of which is to enter in the 2019 budget the surplus resulting from the implementation of the budget year 2018, amounting to EUR 1.8 billion.

Rapporteur:

John Howarth (S&D)

Deadline for tabling amendments: 25 July 12.00

Amendments tabled: 1

Adoption BUDG: 3 September

Vote Plenary: 18 September (tbc)

DAB 2/2019 - Reinforcement of key programmes for EU competitiveness: Horizon 2020 and Erasmus+

BUDG will vote on Draft Amending Budget No 2/2019, which aims at providing an additional EUR 100 million of commitment appropriations to Horizon 2020 and Erasmus+ as decided by the European Parliament and the Council in their agreement on the budget 2019.

Rapporteur:

John Howarth (S&D)

Deadline for tabling amendments: 25 July 12.00

Amendments tabled: 1

Adoption BUDG: 3 September

Vote Plenary: 18 September (tbc)

Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund to provide assistance to Romania, Italy and Austria

BUDG will vote on a proposal to mobilise the EU Solidarity Fund for Romania, Italy and Austria for a total amount of EUR 293.6 million following extreme weather events that took place in the course of 2018, of which EUR 277.2 million for Italy. The rapporteur recommends going ahead with the mobilisation as proposed by the Commission. This proposal is accompanied by draft amending budget (DAB) 03/2019.

Rapporteur:

Siegfried Mureşan (PPE)

Deadline for tabling

amendments: 25 July 12.00

Amendments tabled: none

Adoption BUDG: 3 September

Vote Plenary: 18 September (tbc)

DAB 3/2019 - Accompanying the proposal to mobilise the EU Solidarity Fund to provide assistance to Romania, Italy and Austria

BUDG will vote on Draft Amending Budget No 3/2019, which accompanies the proposed decision to mobilise the EU Solidarity Fund for Romania, Italy and Austria and Romania for a total amount of EUR 293.6 million following the floodings that affected those countries in 2018.

Rapporteur:

John Howarth (S&D)

Deadline for tabling

amendments: 25 July 12.00

Amendments tabled: none

Adoption BUDG: 3 September

Vote Plenary: September

Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund - Technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission

BUDG will vote on a proposal for a decision on the EGF which concerns the mobilisation of the Fund for technical assistance for the Commission. The objective of the technical assistance is to finance monitoring and data gathering, information, to create a knowledge base interface and to advice Member States on using, following up and evaluating the EGF. According to Article 11(1) of the EGF Regulation, a maximum of 0.5% of the annual maximum amount of the EGF can be made available each year for technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission. The requested amount of EUR 610 000 represents approximately 0,35% of the annual maximum amount of the EGF.

Rapporteur:

Bogdan Rzońca (ECR)

Deadline for tabling

amendments: 25 July 12.00

Amendments tabled: 6

Adoption BUDG: 3 September

Vote Plenary: 18 September (tbc)

Transfers - Other Sections

Ombudsman: 4/2019

This transfer intends to reinforce several budget items:

-Item 1612 "Further trainings" by EUR 15 000, in order to provide additional means to further develop training in fields such as efficiency at work and legal skills.

-Item 2000 "Rent" by EUR 22 000, in order to cover the security charges to be borne by the European Ombudsman for MTS building in Brussels until the end of the year.

-Article 231 "Translations" by EUR 85 000, in order to cover the translation costs in several or all EU official languages of documents with high public interest.

-Article 232 "Support for activities" by EUR 17 000, in order to cover all the different services that are or can be provided by PMO, in the framework of a new Service Level Agreement which should be signed this year between PMO and the European Ombudsman.

Rapporteur:

José Manuel Fernandes (PPE)

-Item 3400 "Miscellaneous expenses" by EUR 300, in order to cover the contribution for associated members of Association of the Mediterranean Ombudsmen, that has increased from EUR 600 to EUR 900 per year.

That increase in appropriations has been made possible as a result of savings in the Item 1200 "Remuneration and allowances".

European Parliament C8/2019

The purpose of this transfer proposal is to provide sufficient means for salaries and allowances of Members in view of the relatively low re-election rate in this year's European elections.

Based on past exercises, Parliament's 2019 budget had been calculated under the assumption of a 50% re-election rate of Members in the European elections. As the observed re-election rate is with 38% substantially lower, increases of budget Item 1000 "Salaries" by EUR 780 000, the Item 1006 "General expenditure allowance" by EUR 762 000 and Item 1020 "Transitional allowances" by EUR 3 540 000 are requested in order to honour the statutory rights of the non-re-elected Members (62%).

That increase in appropriations has been made possible as a result of savings in the Item 4020 "Funding of European political parties" and in 101 "Contingency reserve".

Building Policy

EEAS : NEO building Brussels

The EEAS has submitted a request concerning an update on the NEO Building project, which aims to replace the rented office premises located in Brussels, avenue de Kortenberg, and hosting the CSDP Departments (Common Security and Defence Policy Departments). The project (Arlon 88 and Science 27-29, collectively called NEO) was previously submitted and approved by the Parliament and the Council in 2018. However, during the execution of the renovation and fitting-out works, presently ongoing and expected to be achieved by end 2020 / beginning 2021, the EEAS acknowledged that the necessary technical performance level in the fields of physical security and secured communications could not be met within the previously estimated budget.

Therefore, a project update presenting an additional estimated cost is submitted to the attention of the Budgetary Authority.

Rapporteur:

Fabienne Keller (Renew)

*** END OF VOTE ***

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2020 - All sections

On 10 July, COREPER adopted the Council's reading on the EU budget for 2020, to be formally endorsed by ministers in September. With respect to the Commission's draft budget (DB), Council cuts EUR 1.51 billion in commitments (-0,90 % compared to the DB) and EUR 508.8 million in payments (-0,33%). Subheading 1a is again by far the most affected by cuts in in commitments, with EUR 747.4 million (which include EUR -413 million for Horizon 2020 and EUR -197 million for the Connecting Europe Facility). Nevertheless, no other heading is spared from Council's cuts.

In line with established practice, the general rapporteur for the Budget 2020 – Section III (Commission), Ms Monika Hohlmeier, will present to the committee a working document analysing the Council's position, which contributes to the preparation of Parliament's reading of the budget and of the subsequent negotiations.

Rapporteurs:

Monika Hohlmeier (PPE)
Eider Gardiazábal Rubial (S&D)

Deadline for tabling

amendments: 5 September
(members and committees), 12
September (groups)

Adoption BUDG: 30 September - 3
October

Vote Plenary: 23 October

DAB 4/2019 - Reduction of commitment and payment appropriations in line with updated needs of expenditure and update of revenue (own resources)

Following the presentation of Draft Amending Budget No 4/2019 by the Commission on 22 July, the rapporteur will present his draft report.

The purpose of DAB 4/2019 is to update both the expenditure and the revenue sides of the budget to take account of the latest developments. Its overall effect of the DAB 4 would be a reduction of EUR 100 million in commitment and a reduction of EUR 55.6 million in payment appropriations.

Rapporteur:

John Howarth (S&D)

Deadline for tabling

amendments: 6 September 10.00

Adoption BUDG: 30 September

Vote Plenary: 10 October (tbc)

Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision (EU) 2019/276 as regards adjustments to the amounts mobilised from the Flexibility Instrument for 2019 to be used for migration, refugee inflows and security threats

The rapporteur will present his draft report on the proposed modification of the mobilisation decision of the Flexibility Instrument for 2019, which integrates the changes proposed within Draft Amending Budget No 4/2019.

Rapporteur:

John Howarth (S&D)

Deadline for tabling

amendments: 6 September 10.00

Adoption BUDG: 30 September

Vote Plenary: (tbc)

Building Policy

EULisa: extension operational site, Strasbourg

Parliament has received an early warning of the building projects concerning the EU-Lisa Agency, which requires additional surface area for its increasing staff complement and for its IT infrastructure.

Rapporteur:

Fabienne Keller (Renew)

EEAS: additional office premises, Brussels

Parliament has received an early warning of the building projects concerning the EEAS, which is looking for extra office space of about 300-4000m² to cover its increasing need for office space.



NEXT MEETINGS

23-24 September 2019 (Brussels)

NEWS FROM POLICY DEPARTMENT D

Recent publications

CONT

- Study - "Performance Indicators for Convergence in Regional Development - How reliable are they to ensure Targeted and Result-Oriented spending?"
- Study - "Appointment of the Commission's Secretary General in 2018"
- Study - "Appointment procedures in the EU institutions"
- Study - "Aligning the budget with the Performance-Based Budgeting: lessons from Member States"
- Study - "Effectiveness of cohesion policy: learning from the project characteristics that produce the best results"
- Study - "The European Public Prosecutor's Office: Strategies for coping with complexity"
- In-depth Analysis - "Gaps and Errors in the TED database"

BUDG

- Study - "Mainstreaming Innovation Funding in the EU Budget"
- Study - "Protection of EU financial interest on customs and VAT: cooperation of national tax and customs authorities to prevent fraud"
- Study - "Gender Responsive EU Budgeting. Update of the study 'The EU Budget for Gender Equality' and review of its conclusions and recommendations"
- At a Glance - "The next MFF and Own Resources"
- In-depth Analysis - "The History of the EU Budget"

Forthcoming publications

BUDG

- None

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