2020 BUDGETARY PROCEDURE

Doc No:
4: (4)
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20.09.2019

COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

Rapporteurs:
MONIKA HOHLMEIER - SECTION III (COMMISSION)
EIDER GARDIAZÁBAL RUBIAL - OTHER SECTIONS

PARLIAMENT'S POSITION

Amendments submitted to the meeting of the Committee on Budgets of
30 September - 2 October 2019
Heading:

Pilot project — Model social impact approaches to Social housing and Empowerment of Roma: testing the use of innovative financial instruments for better social outcomes

Remarks:

Add following text:

For concentrated groups of European citizens, housing deprivation has been a constant for decades. Roma are one of the minority groups in Europe facing highest rates of poverty and social exclusion. Despite long-standing efforts, including the EU framework for national Roma integration strategies for 2020 introduced already in 2011, tackling the socio-economic exclusion of and discrimination against Roma remain a further aspiration.

Up to now the implementation of National Roma Integration Strategies (NRIs) largely relied on grant funding from European structural and investment (ESIF) funds. The use of ESIF funds has unfortunately been limited by the lack of political commitment and capacity of national and regional authorities in charge of managing these funds. Scarce use has been made of financial instruments to date, such as loans and guarantees, to promote the socio-economic inclusion of marginalised Roma communities.

This action is part of the European Union’s efforts to:

- Support social innovation and new, holistic approaches to social service provision, the empowerment of disadvantaged groups and delivering transformative solutions to key social challenges, in particular Roma inclusion.
- Stimulate cross-sectoral collaborations and social impact partnerships (public-private and civic engagement) as a new avenue for public value creation.
- Pioneer the use of new financial instruments and blended support (financial instruments, grant and capacity building) for projects with high social externalities.
- In the longer term, support the development of the social investment market and social impact interventions, through the testing/ refinement of a model which could be scaled up across Europe under, e.g the future single EU investment programme (InvestEU).

The InvestEU programme could be a game changer, with financial allocation to support social infrastructure (namely housing, health and education facilities), social innovation and social impact schemes. The next integrated investment programme of the EU could offer a significant opportunity to make progress in achieving the inclusion of Roma.

Scope of the action:

This action will develop a housing model solution and improved life opportunities for a selected group of
marginalised Roma communities. The target beneficiaries typically reside in unregulated/illegal settlements in the outskirts and face adversity in access to income/gainful employment opportunities, and to other inclusion opportunities.

In essence, this is a multi-phase model, which involves the preparation (in terms of financial literacy, motivation, job assistance and life skills, and construction assistance) of Roma families on the path to home ownership and empowerment.

Activities therefore include:

- The provision of financial education, job assistance and life skills training to selected participants with disadvantaged background who are enrolled in the programme

- Support for savings schemes for each family, for the duration of approximately one year, to enable loan payments to be made on the construction materials for the new homes

- Engagement with public authorities for the allocation of land to the intervention; and providing training to public authorities so that they can implement and manage inclusion / desegregation programmes and further provide social services to the local community

This multi-phase model will experiment with innovative approaches combining financial instruments (loans, guarantees, etc.), grants and capacity building assistance.

The pilot could be implemented in partnership with an implementing organization. Under a single grant contract with the Commission, the selected implementing partner would channel the support via

- Guarantee for de-risking portfolios of social housing loans to targeted beneficiaries- approx. 25% budget; and

- Capacity building grants (CB) to NGOs providing coaching/mentoring services to municipalities enabling the purchase of apartments/houses, constructions (provision of land and necessary infrastructure) and local Roma communities for financial literacy and construction training, employment and civic education – approx. 75%.

The activities will be closely aligned with and complement current pilot projects for Roma inclusion (ROMACT), Cohesion policy funding tools which could be mobilized as a result, as well as relevant desegregation guidance and holistic approaches to local development principles.

The pilot project will test and develop integrated social finance models under a multi-country, Pan-European approach, possibly as a pilot for a combined financial/advisory product under the InvestEU Programme post 2020. This should complement Cohesion funding support and reinforce the objectives of social inclusion, desegregation, access to education, employment support as well a regional development. It could also provide models for replication under social outcome contracting mechanisms.

After being tested in multiple sites with Substantial Roma communities, it will expand to different locations within the countries with Substantial Roma communities (e.g. East Slovakia, East Czechia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary), and replicating in urban context.

The activities will be closely aligned with and complement current pilot projects for Roma inclusion (ROMACT), and additional Cohesion policy funding tools which could be mobilized. The PP will also contribute to policy development in the area of homelessness and housing exclusion and support preparation of the post 2020 EU framework for NRIS.

Target of the action:

- Marginalised Roma families, as one of the most excluded groups in Europe, whose fate embodies one of the most acute social challenges in CEE and indeed, the EU.

- Public authorities, financial intermediaries and social impact actors (foundations, service providers).

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:

Housing deprivation is a major issue for the Roma community. The PP will explore how innovative, impact-oriented approaches could allow to make use of financial instruments (e.g. loans) to address the specific needs of marginalised Roma communities in the area of access to housing. Through supporting inclusive collaboration between public authorities, financial institutions, foundations and civil society organisations, it would deliver innovative solutions, which could be further replicated and scaled to deliver improved sustainable outcomes and societal well-being in the EU

Draft amendment 4001

Tabled by Lefteris Christoforou, Committee on Budgets, Andrey Novakov

SECTION III — COMMISSION

**Add: 02 02 77 04**

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Remarks:

Add following text:

_The preparatory action (PA) builds on the success of the EYE Global (A.L.E.C.O.) pilot project. The PA contributes to the objectives of the EU in the field of entrepreneurship and economic growth through supporting the creation of start-ups across the EU._

_The PA is a one-way mobility scheme for new EU entrepreneurs with a duration of up to 3 months in the USA, Canada, Singapore and South Korea. The choice of destination countries is made on the basis of the progress of the current pilot, the trade relevance – including existence of Free Trade Agreements and/or the existence of advanced start-up support eco-systems. _

_Up to 350 candidates from EU Member States represent the target group, allowing the participants to gain experience from successful and experienced host entrepreneurs and allowing them to interact with the host’s start-up ecosystem._

_The target group of participants includes profiles with the following eligibility criteria: 1. Future entrepreneurs displaying ready-to-implement business plans and a binding commitment to start up a firm; 2. Entrepreneurs who have started a business in the last three years, alone or in partnership._

_The Union budget supports the participating new entrepreneur by covering travel costs and costs of living at the chosen destinations for the duration of their stay as well as the necessary measures to identify host entrepreneurs and to promote the programme in the countries of destination._
The modalities for implementation of the PA build on the existing ones for the EYE, including delegation to the Executive Agency where applicable, and foresees the necessary adaptation of resources.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:
The PA, on the basis of the analysis of the current pilot, continues and expands the elements of the successful EYE Global (A.L.E.C.O.) pilot project with a view to further supporting EU entrepreneurship. The PA serves to expand the geographical scope of the ongoing pilot project, enabling significant gains from the new destinations and extended number of participants. The aim is to adopt the PA in the relevant EU programme dedicated to SME and entrepreneurship support.

Draft amendment 275
Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 02 02 77 38 — Preparatory action — Reducing youth unemployment — setting up co-operatives to enhance working opportunities in the EU

Amend figures as follows:

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Justification:
To ensure smooth continuation of the preparatory action in its second year, it should be included in the 2020 budget with both commitment and payment appropriations.

Draft amendment 37
Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 02 02 77 39 — Pilot project — Quality of service in tourism

Amend figures as follows:

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Justification:
This continuation is important to reach the main aim of quality of service in Tourism.

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**Draft amendment 12**

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

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**SECTION III — COMMISSION**

**Add: 02 02 77 41**

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**Heading:**

**Pilot project — Smart Destinations**

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

A *smart destination* is the result of several factors, including information and communication technologies that promote an innovative territory, cooperation and co-creation, mainly by the visitant. Understanding this aspect, accessibility is one of the categories present in an intelligent tourist destination, both physically and virtual. The smarts destinations increases the quality of the experience at the destination for both the visitant and residents.

A smart city can be seen as an urban space that takes advantage of information and communication technologies and data science to answer today's challenges, namely to become more efficient in services and infrastructures management and to deliver increased quality of life to the people who live, work or visit the city, not forgetting the support to fight climate change.

*In this framework, cities authorities are under pressure and going through a digital transformation process that have been translated in the proliferation of "Smart Cities" initiatives around the world. This is part of the strategic response to the challenges and opportunities of growing urbanization and climate change altogether with the emergence of cities as a space for social and economic development framed by an urgent need for global sustainability.*

This study will cover a concept of urban intelligence and its building blocks that result from the city digital transformation process, which will lead to a paradigm shift leading to the city as a platform where urban planning and management for sustainability is supported by urban analytics and real time data.

Bearing this in mind I will proposed a study with an implementation plan within a specific city/region to comply:

- Quantitative and qualitative data on tourism and smart destinations;
- Better knowledge of the impact of tourism;
- Development and creation of a European methodology of tourism analysis based on big data applied at EU level for smart destination
- Better research and development for solutions designed at EU level;
- Possibility for local testing and future applicability (implementation plan in a specific city)

**Legal basis:**

Add following text:

Justification:

This project aims to improve the positioning of EU as a world tourism destination, seeking new mechanisms to boost innovation in the destinations through the deployment and development of ICT in order to create different and highly competitive services. This involves first a complete study for gathering quantitative and qualitative tourism data. As result, a European methodology of tourism analysis based on urban analytics and real time date, to be applied at EU level, should be designed. This process includes an implementation plan with a specific city/region.

Draft amendment 284

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 02 02 77 41

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Heading:

Pilot project — Facilitated culinary exchanges for refugee and host communities in villages and small cities on the European periphery

Remarks:

Add following text:

This pilot project aims to address the issue of the effective integration of refugees, which is critical to regional development. It will do so by providing an integration framework through peer-to-peer learning culinary exchanges for refugee and host communities on the European Periphery.

Intercultural exchanges can promote newcomer integration and alleviate host community concerns. However, many existing efforts primarily attract younger, educated, and multi-lingual participants and center on large urban settings. Facilitated exchanges of recipes, cooking classes and home-cooked meals have the potential to allow a broad spectrum of people to interact directly, including female, older, less educated and monolingual people, and to offer to refugees and host communities direct, tangible and delicious benefits. Small-scale shared kitchens, refugee cooking festivals, and recipe exchanges have been promoted by NGOs in several large cities.

However, facilitation, primarily in the form of a translator, is essential to allow such exchanges to take place in smaller and more remote locations, which sometimes suddenly host large refugee communities. This pilot program would be most immediately necessary in relatively isolated locales in member states that have experienced large arrivals of newcomers. But this pilot is potentially self-sustainable and scaleable, and reproducible to help bridge other gaps.

For this reason, careful assessment of effects, advantages and challenges should be part of the initial roll-out.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:
"Following the 2015/16 peak of refugee arrivals in Europe, attention has now shifted towards effectively integrating migrants into their new societies. While migration policy remains a national responsibility, central and local authorities recognise that integration needs to happen where people are, in their workplaces, in their neighbourhoods, and in the schools where they send their children. Behind every migration statistic, there are individuals or families starting a new life in a new place."

Source: OECD - Working Together for Local Integration of Migrants and Refugees

Draft amendment 823

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 02 02 77 41

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Pilot project — Quality of service in tourism

Remarks:

Add following text:

This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the pilot project.

Tourism is a key sector for economic development and job creation in Europe. Tourism bodies are in a never-ending dispute over a unified classification system for hotels, restaurants and other facilities. As the needs and expectations of consumers evolved, consequently stimulating supply in the hotel sector, it became essential to regulate this area of activity by adopting measures to protect the rights and interests of consumers.

However, consumers’ perceptions often do not match what they receive owing to insufficient and ineffective communication.

This project will draw up: —

A framework for comprehensively mapping the existing public and private initiatives (star systems, certification schemes, etc.) for tourism that will harmonise the classification system in terms of accuracy and how up-to-date the information is, and will bring transparency and consistency to service quality evaluation and performance; —

A framework for the content of information provided by travel agencies, tour operators, online booking sites and review sites; the information provided to consumers should be examined, compared and compatible with Union level criteria for the initiatives in question; —
A framework for trans-national cooperation between public authorities and industries to improve the content of ‘terms and conditions’ and ensure a fair ‘agreement’ between the service provider and the tourist; the agreement should specify, among other things, the payment conditions and the rights of the tourist, especially in cases where the contracted services are not adequately performed; —

The feasibility of establishing principles at Union level for tourism service quality, including Union competence, added value and technical viability.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

This continuation is important to reach the main aim of quality of service in Tourism.

== S&D//7320 ==

Draft amendment 830
Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Pilot project — Enhanced Tourism co-operation between EU and India

Remarks:

Add following text:

Draft amendment 830
Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Pilot project — Enhanced Tourism co-operation between EU and India

Remarks:

Add following text:

Over the last decades, tourism has become one of the fastest and largest growing economic sectors in the world. International tourist arrivals have risen from 278 million in 1980 to 1 035 million in 2012 and are expected to grow by 3.3% a year on average by 2030. Europe remains the world’s number one tourist destination, accounting for half of all international tourist arrivals worldwide – with three-quarters of these in European Union (EU) countries. However, its position is being challenged by new tourist destinations in emerging economies.

As a continuation of the successful World Bridge Tourism project related to China, India - one of the other very important emerging countries - has an increasing importance in inbound and outbound tourism flow as well. However, due to the lack of available information, a preparatory study or research should be prepared. We simply lack data.

That is why the main aim of this pilot project is:

* getting some senior industry figures active on the Indian outbound (or European inbound from India) tourism market;
* concerning the new legislation of the European Commission on VISA Code, widen the ‘visas + promoting Europe in long-haul markets’ discussion;
* study visits of tour operators and service providers;
* conferences in Europe and in India;
* training the trainers, development of training material on cultural issues (behaviour, how to adjust customs, time tables, etc.), special needs regarding accommodation, cuisine, programme elements, etc;
* setting up a dedicated website as an EU-wide source of information with different versions for different audiences;
* a series of high level meetings on the legal framework for Indian-European tourism relations - focus on making it easier for tourists to come but making sure they go back.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

As a continuation of the successful World Bridge Tourism project related to China, India - one of the other very important emerging countries - has an increasing importance in inbound and outbound tourism flow as well. However, due to the lack of available information, a preparatory study or research should be prepared to have a detailed picture on the tourism flow. And it is needed to name this EU-India project in the Commission activities.

Draft amendment 30

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 02 02 77 43

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* setting up a dedicated website as an EU-wide source of information with different versions for different audiences;
* a series of high level meetings on the legal framework for Indian-European tourism relations - focus on making it easier for tourists to come but making sure they go back.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

As a continuation of the successful World Bridge Tourism project related to China, India - one of the other very important emerging countries - has an increasing importance in inbound and outbound tourism flow as well. However, due to the lack of available information, a preparatory study or research should be prepared to have a detailed picture on the tourism flow. And it is needed to name this EU-India project in the Commission activities.

Draft amendment 842

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Pilot project — Facilitated culinary exchanges for refugee and host communities in villages and small cities on the European periphery
Remarks:
Add following text:

Add following text:
This pilot project aims to address the issue of the effective integration of refugees, which is critical to regional development. It will do so by providing an integration framework through peer-to-peer learning culinary exchanges for refugee and host communities on the European Periphery.

Intercultural exchanges can promote newcomer integration and alleviate host community concerns. However, many existing efforts primarily attract younger, educated, and multi-lingual participants and center on large urban settings. Facilitated exchanges of recipes, cooking classes and home-cooked meals have the potential to allow a broad spectrum of people to interact directly, including female, older, less educated and monolingual people, and to offer to refugees and host communities direct, tangible and delicious benefits. Small-scale shared kitchens, refugee cooking festivals, and recipe exchanges have been promoted by NGOs in several large cities.

However, facilitation, primarily in the form of a translator, is essential to allow such exchanges to take place in smaller and more remote locations, which sometimes suddenly host large refugee communities. This pilot program would be most immediately necessary in relatively isolated locales in member states that have experienced large arrivals of newcomers. But this pilot is potentially self-sustainable and scaleable, and reproducible to help bridge other gaps.

For this reason, careful assessment of effects, advantages and challenges should be part of the initial rollout.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:
"Following the 2015/16 peak of refugee arrivals in Europe, attention has now shifted towards effectively integrating migrants into their new societies. While migration policy remains a national responsibility, central and local authorities recognise that integration needs to happen where people are, in their workplaces, in their neighbourhoods, and in the schools where they send their children. Behind every migration statistic, there are individuals or families starting a new life in a new place." Source: OECD - Working Together for Local Integration of Migrants and Refugees

== ITRE/5163 ==

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION
Add: 02 03 77 10

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Technology specialists claim that we have entered in the era of the Fourth industrial revolution or the Second Machine Age. This era is characterized by the leading role of digital technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Blockchain, Data Analytics, Internet of Things, Super Computers and disruptive manufacturing technologies like 3D printing. The equation becomes more complicated with the addition of the rapid developments in the biotechnology, like genes editing.

The new era brings significant and unparalleled opportunities, but also significant challenges. The exploration of those opportunities and challenges is fragmented, within the thematic silos of the scientists and analysts, and thus leads to overlaps and gaps. It is paramount to bring together specialists of the diverse fields and create a coherent view that will bring specific qualitative and quantitative results aiming to give responses to major ethical, governance and regulatory challenges.

The future is already here. It is only necessary to distribute the benefits of the future evenly to everybody. The strategy to achieving this end can be based on the creation of an Observatory of Digital Trends and Disruptive Technologies that will eventually incorporate parts of the existing observatories and that will work in two levels. In the first level, the central, the Observatory will bring together, the European Institutions, other government agencies, policy makers, scientists, firms, politicians the civil society and the academia to work together in a multi-dimensional level. Thereafter, the Observatory will distribute this knowledge and policy recommendations to regional hubs and ecosystems, designed and developed in less technologically developed regions of the EU so as to engage local communities and entrepreneurial, educational and regional clusters.

The pilot can create the infrastructure of the central Observatory and three to four regional hubs created in an experimental framework. The success of the scheme will determine the expansion of the project to more regions.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

The challenges that the new digital trends and disruptive technologies bring, change rapidly the political, business, educational and social environment. A coherent and balanced approach is necessary. An Observatory that brings together the leading stakeholders and makes them work in a multidisciplinary environment and then transmit this knowledge to remote hubs and ecosystems designed in less technologically developed areas can work as an agile and strategy that increases equity.

Draft amendment 27

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

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SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 02 03 77 10

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Heading:

Preparatory action - Independent on-road RDE testing to ensure broad information and transparency for better market surveillance

Remarks:

Add following text:

As a follow-up to the existing PP 02 03 77 07, and having regard to paragraph 40 of the European Parliament recommendation of 4 April 2017 to the Council and the Commission following the inquiry into emission measurements in the automotive sector (P8_TA(2017) 100), this preparatory action will continue to fund measures relating real driving emissions (RDE) by third-party testing in relation to the transposition of the Regulation (EC) No 715/2007.

In the past, qualified third parties provided authorities at Union and national level with reliable information on the emission behaviour of vehicles. That information was rarely made available by the responsible authorities. Funding should be made available to allow them to provide reliable data from on-road emissions testing of passenger cars which is independent of the data provided by manufacturers and the regulatory authorities in order to promote transparency and improve market surveillance.

The third parties will use validated test procedures by referring to the provisions laid down in Regulation (EC) No 715/2007, Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1151 including the four RDE packages and the guidelines outlined in the Commission notice of 26 January 2017. They will publish the results of their measurements in order to support the development of best practice procedures and the provision of broader information to the responsible authorities and the public.

The focus of the work will be on lifetime compliance that can be assessed by testing vehicles that are beyond the parameters regulated currently by either in-service conformity, or market surveillance, i.e. vehicles with more than 5 years of age or 100.000 km of use. Such testing will provide extremely useful information on the quality of current emission control systems and will help in providing necessary information for the development of the new legislative proposal on emissions. The testing should include Real Driving Emissions tests and tests in the laboratory with aged vehicles, and include measurement of all possible pollutants, including those not currently regulated.

Independent third parties will thus contribute to better oversight on how exhaust standards are preforming in practice and to what extent the Union’s objectives in terms of air quality and climate policy are being achieved. They will contribute to a broader understanding of exhaust reduction strategies with regard to acceleration, high speed, ambient temperature and other criteria. Their specific test procedure will be documented transparently and should take into account current rules on RDE and the latest research.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Justification:

Conversion and enlargement of an important pilot project to a preparatory action to continue providing funding for third parties to carry out in-service conformity checks by independent and transparent testing in relation to the transposition of the Regulation (EC) No 715/2007.

Draft amendment 119

Tabled by Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 02 03 77 10

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Heading:

Pilot project — Assessing the challenges and opportunities for market surveillance activities in relation to new technologies and digital supply chain

Remarks:

Add following text:

The objective of this pilot project is to assess the challenges and opportunities posed to consumers and market surveillance authorities by the emerging technologies (such as internet connected devices, blockchain etc.) and digital supply chains in relation to the safety of products, including those sold online. This pilot project could finance a study related to the use of new technologies such as blockchain to ensure effective market surveillance and better traceability of products.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

The proliferation of IoT, the increased number of connected devices and the increase of online sales can pose certain challenges to the protection and safety of consumers, and consequently to market surveillance authorities’ activities. Nevertheless, new technologies, such as blockchain, could also be used by market surveillance authorities in relation to the traceability of products. Furthermore, the recently adopted Market surveillance regulation identifies these areas of common activities as of particular importance among market surveillance activities.

Draft amendment 812

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament
SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 02 03 77 10

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Heading:

**Pilot project — Assessing the challenges and opportunities for market surveillance activities in relation to new technologies and digital supply chain**

Remarks:

Add following text:

Add following text:

*The objective of this pilot project is to assess the challenges and opportunities posed to consumers and market surveillance authorities by the emerging technologies (such as internet connected devices, blockchain etc.) and digital supply chains in relation to the safety of products, including those sold online. This pilot project could finance a study related to the use of new technologies such as blockchain to ensure effective market surveillance and better traceability of products.*

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

The proliferation of IoT, the increased number of connected devices and the increase of online sales can pose certain challenges to the protection and safety of consumers, and consequently to market surveillance authorities’ activities. Nevertheless, new technologies, such as blockchain, could also be used by market surveillance authorities in relation to the traceability of products. Furthermore, the recently adopted Market surveillance regulation identifies these areas of common activities as of particular importance among market surveillance activities.

Draft amendment 956

Tabled by Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 02 04 77 03 — Preparatory action on defence research

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

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Remarks:

Before paragraph:
This appropriation is intended to cover commitments ........... from previous years under the preparatory action.

Add following text:
Delete budget line.

Justification:
This preparatory action should not have taken place. These appropriations should instead be used for mitigate energy poverty, supporting SMEs and strengthening our response to climate change.

Draft amendment 540
Tabled by Identity and Democracy Group

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 02 04 77 03 — Preparatory action on defence research

Amend figures, remarks and reference acts as follows:

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Remarks:
Delete following text:
This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the preparatory action.

Reference acts:
Delete following text:
Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 7 June 2017 ‘Launching the European Defence Fund’ (COM(2017) 295 final).

Justification:
We don’t need any EU centralised initiative in this field.

Draft amendment 969
Tabled by Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left

SECTION III — COMMISSION
Item 02 04 77 07 — Preparatory action — Preparing the new EU GOVSATCOM programme

Amend figures, heading and remarks as follows:

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**Heading:**

**Preparatory action — Preparing the new EU GOVSATCOM programme**

**Remarks:**

Delete following text:

This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the preparatory action.

The preparatory action will support a series of preparatory activities which are essential for a successful start to the operational programme from 2021 onwards, such as:

- studies of industrial systems for the GOVSATCOM Hub, the new ground infrastructure for seamlessly connecting users and providers;
- developing and prototyping of GOVSATCOM Hub and service elements;
- establishing and demonstrating various civilian application scenarios in crisis management, civil protection, surveillance and key infrastructure management;
- other preparatory activities, including an analysis of GOVSATCOM supply and demand beyond the mid-2020s.

**Justification:**

The GOVSATCOM Programme shall be part of the Galileo Satellite Programme and has a clear security and military purpose. It shall be developed as a highly protected military satellite communication capability. The GSC Demo is fully in line with the revised 2018 Capability Development Plan and its related EU Defence Capability Priorities. According to Article 41(2) TEU funding for military or defence is not admissible. The preparatory action shall be terminated. Strongly rejects any financing from EU- budget for military or security research, development and procurement.

Draft amendment 21

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

Seanad Éireann

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 02 04 77 08

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**Heading:**

**Pilot project — Aviation resilience to GNSS jamming and spoofing**

**Remarks:**
The objective of this project is to analyse the threat of GNSS jamming and cyber-attacks to aviation operation as well as to identify mitigation measures.

Aviation resilience to GNSS jamming and cyber-threats is a two-year project to be led by EASA in coordination with European partners to ensure safety civilian flights by setting integrated security measures and jamming proof mechanisms. The project should identify good practices for regulators and operators, and provide policy guidance for the benefit of the security of the GNSS system and possible future initiatives in the area of aviation security.

The project shall also address GNSS/PNT equipment (most notably receivers) with installation and operation strategies that can be implemented for current equipment and strategies that can result in more resilient new and/or improved products.

Moreover, the project shall assess whether the proposed strategies are applicable to other non-aviation domains.

Legal basis:


Justification:

Aviation security experts have been warning for years about the hazards that simple and complex GNSS jamming and cyber-threats pose to civil aviation safety. The Russian military has invested heavily in electronic warfare gear in recent years to shut down FM, SATCOM, ADS-B signal, cellular, GPS and other signals. Some MS, in particular in the Nordic region, have reported a growing number of safety incidents due to GNSS jamming.

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Draft amendment 101

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 02 05 77

Heading:

Pilot Projects and Preparatory Actions

Justification:

It has been demonstrated that survival rates of victims of sudden cardiac arrest can rise significantly if cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and an early defibrillation are performed. While many AEDs are now available and many people are trained on how to perform CPR, information about where these devices are located is lacking. Hence, this pilot project would aim at demonstrating the added value of Galileo in lowering cardiac arrest-related deaths by mapping the publicly available AEDs.

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Draft amendment 101

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy
Add: 02 05 77 01

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**Heading:**

*Pilot project — The use of Galileo and EGNOS to lower cardiac arrest-related deaths*

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

**Sudden cardiac arrests account for 20% of deaths in the European Union. This figure could be significantly lower if early chest compression and early defibrillation are performed on all the victims. Indeed, research shows that a first defibrillation less than 3 minutes after the cardiac arrest results in a survival rate of 74%. Yet, only less than 5% of cardiac arrest victims are treated with early chest compression and defibrillation.**

Nowadays, more and more information campaigns are carried out to promote the learning of how to perform cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the acquisition of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) by either individuals, private organisations or public authorities. However, the location of these devices is in many cases unknown to other people, including the emergency services. This results in a situation where victims of heart attacks cannot be resuscitated on time. Hence, it is essential to develop and promote applications that aim at mapping the publicly available AEDs.

At the same time, the added-value of European global navigation satellite systems EGNOS and Galileo on location-based services has already been demonstrated. These applications should also be used to save lives by locating AEDs.

A registry of all the available AEDs should be made available to the emergency call-takers, who could advise the person calling the emergency services about where the nearest defibrillator is located. Where possible, the registry should also be made available directly to the citizens.

It should however be taken into consideration that:

- Some defibrillators are not available 24/7, since they might be located in places that are closed at some specific times (offices, shops, schools, etc.).

- In some cases, such as in big buildings, the address of the defibrillator might not give sufficient information to get there quickly. Location information should therefore also include important information such as the floor level.

- Data on the good functioning of the defibrillator is another very important piece of information. For instance, modern defibrillators are now able to communicate the level of battery of the device.

Information provided in this registry should be made available using 2 methods:

1. Adding Galileo chipsets in the AEDs, so that the exact position of the device can be accurately tracked and
2. Adding manually the information of the AEDs that are not equipped with chipsets.

Hence, this project intends to demonstrate the added value of Galileo in saving lives. Due to its performances in terms of accuracy and availability of signal, the European global navigation satellite programme would contribute to reducing the intervention time for victims of heart attacks. Regarding this matter, it should be recalled that each minute lost before chest compression or defibrillation lowers the
survival rate of the victim by 10%.

The central objective of this pilot project should thus consist of:

- analysing the optimal way to develop, organise and manage a registry of publicly available AEDs, while taking advantage of the location information provided by Galileo
- finding an alternative solution to a registry, based on Galileo

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

It has been demonstrated that survival rates of victims of sudden cardiac arrest can rise significantly if cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and an early defibrillation are performed. While many AEDs are now available and many people are trained on how to perform CPR, information about where these devices are located is lacking. Hence, this pilot project would aim at demonstrating the added value of Galileo in lowering cardiac arrest-related deaths by mapping the publicly available AEDs.

Draft amendment 994

Tabled by Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 04 03 77 28

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Heading:

Pilot project – Commercial Aviation Health and Safety Observatory

Remarks:

Add following text:

In recent decades, commercial aviation has acquired greater significance in a global society. This is reflected, for example, in the fact that, over the last three decades, cabin crew working time has increased from 50/55 hours to 95/100 hours per month, the number of long-haul flights now being six instead of three.

Furthermore, cabin crews are now much more exposed to ionising radiation and deplorable air quality on board, considerably affecting their health and safety.

The principal objectives of the Commercial Aviation Health and Safety Observatory are a real improvement in working conditions for crews, the safety of frequent flyers and cabin crews, greater passenger confidence and quality employment in the sector.

Through the coordination of studies and data collection and analysis, the Observatory aims to raise awareness of the health and safety implications of commercial flights for frequent flyers, cabin crews and
pilots. The Observatory is also responsible for preparing Action Plans to mitigate their effects.

The Commercial Aviation Health and Safety Observatory will bring together representatives of EU-OSHA, the European institutions, airlines, trade unions and workers.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

The growing number of cabin crew and frequent passengers suffering from cancer, infertility and teratogenicity (defects in offspring), sleep disturbance or social isolation reflects a decline in staff conditions and passenger safety in the aviation sector resulting from changes to working patterns and technical parameters. The various aspects of this problem (health, family life etc.) need to be properly evaluated and addressed. To this end, the establishment of an observatory is proposed.

Draft amendment 282

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

EMPL/5697 = Compromise amendment

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 04 03 77 28

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Pilot project - Role of the minimum wage in establishing the Universal Labour Guarantee

Remarks:

Add following text:

The report 'Working for a Brighter Future - Global Commission on the Future of Work' (ILO, 2019) [1] calls for the creation of a Universal Labour Guarantee to uphold the fundamental rights of all workers, regardless of the nature of their employment relationship, including as 'living wage', an upper limit on working hours and guaranteed safety and health at work.

The existence of a national minimum wage, established through collective bargaining and agreements, is central to the establishment of the Universal Labour Guarantee, helping to improve workers' conditions, promote societal development and overturn policies that, in recent years, have been leading to precariousness, lower wages and increased inequality.

In order to promote national minimum wage schemes more effectively as a tool for economic and social development, Eurofound should examine the different realities in the Member States, as well as the impact of this instrument on employment rates, workers' qualifications, precariousness levels, the development of Member States and other factors considered relevant.
The proposed project will be implemented in such a way not to overlap with the existing or ongoing studies that will serve for the preparation of the Impact Assessment for the forthcoming initiative on minimum wages. Based on the available information, the proposed pilot project could bring added value and could be complementary to existing work in the framework of the initiative, by, for example, mapping developments in the minimum wage setting institutions.

[1] Our recommendations are intended to strengthen and revitalise labour institutions. From employment regulations and contracts to collective bargaining and labour inspection systems, these institutions are the cornerstone of just societies, paving the way towards formalisation, reducing labour poverty and guaranteeing a future of work with dignity, economic security and equality. Under a Universal Labour Guarantee, the fundamental rights of all workers, regardless of their contractual agreement or employment status, must be respected, ensuring them 'an adequate living wage' (ILO Constitution, 1919), limits on their working hours and safe and healthy workplaces. Collective agreements or laws and regulations may raise the basic level of protection. This proposal also allows for the recognition of occupational safety and health as fundamental principles and rights at the workplace.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:
The economic and social crisis in the EU and the austerity policies imposed have led to high levels of unemployment and deteriorating working conditions, with consequences for the development of the Member States. A key instrument in fulfilling the ILO agenda and establishing a Universal Labour Guarantee is an national minimum wage, which a study of different realities in the EU could help to promote and consolidate.

Compromise amendment between EMPL/5686

Draft amendment 817

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 04 03 77 28

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Heading:
Pilot project — The role of both trade union health and safety representatives in workplaces and labour inspectorates in the context of a renewed EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work

Remarks:
Add following text:
Independent trade union health and safety representatives make European workplaces safer by reducing injuries, improving health and changing the safety and prevention culture within a workplace. For example, the major injury rates in workplaces with trade union workplace safety representatives and safety committees are less than half of those without. Unions make a real difference. Labour inspectorates have also a paramount role, as they constitute the major body for enforcement of health and safety. However, their scope and remit vary across Member States and sectors - in this respect, a mapping exercise can be very useful for the fine-tuning of future legislative initiatives. For example, there are other specialised inspection bodies which have responsibilities in particular sectors of activity or whose action also impacts on health and safety implementation (mines inspectorates, nuclear inspectorates, maritime inspectorates, work equipment market surveillance, etc.), and such a mapping exercise would allow to identify them precisely as well as to identify the types of interactions between them.

Against this background, there are two key components for ensuring the safety and health of workers across Europe: trained and effective trade union safety representatives and well-resource labour inspectorates. Both are essential in ensuring the enforcement of all OSH legislation. With the current EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work (2014-2020) due to expire next year, the findings of a PP in this area could be invaluable to developing a successor strategy.

The PP would consist of:

A) Regarding the training of trade union representatives

1/ A mapping exercise to take stock of the situation across Member States in relation to trade union health and safety representatives and committees should cover the following areas:

- Their role in representing employees in discussions with the employer on health, safety or welfare and in discussions with Health and Safety Executives or other enforcing authorities.
- If they have enough time to do his/her duties as safety representative;
- Their role in investigating hazards;
- Their role in investigating complaints; carrying out inspections of the workplace and inspecting relevant documents;
- Their role in issuing provisional improvement notices;
- Their role in any formal safety committees;
- If they are paid for time spent carrying out their functions and undergo training;

And

2/ The feasibility of an EU action in order to secure the role of safety representatives in the above-mentioned actions.

B) Regarding labour inspectorates

A mapping of labour inspectorates should be developed and should cover the following areas:

- How many different bodies exist and to what extent they are coherent with one another
- Whether there is any social partners' involvement in the governance or operations of labour inspectorates
- What resources (human and financial) are made available to each labour inspectorate. Whether these resources are deemed as enough by the social partners and the origin of these resources and to whom the body is accountable.
- How changing labour markets and the Future of Work are challenging the established practices of labour inspectorates.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


**Justification:**

Two key components for ensuring the safety and health of workers across Europe: trained and effective trade union safety representatives and well-resourced labour inspectorates are essential to ensure all OSH legislation. Since the current EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work (2014-2020) expires next year, the findings of a PP in this area could be invaluable to developing a successor strategy.

Draft amendment 4009

Tabled by Erik Bergkvist, Committee on Budgets, Johan Danielsson

### SECTION III — COMMISSION

**Add: 04 03 77 28**

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**Heading:**

*Pilot project — The role of both trade union health and safety representatives in workplaces and labour inspectorates in the context of a renewed EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work*

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

*Independent trade union health and safety representatives make European workplaces safer by reducing injuries, improving health and changing the safety and prevention culture within a workplace. For example, the major injury rates in workplaces with trade union workplace safety representatives and safety committees are less than half of those without. Unions make a real difference. Labour inspectorates have also a paramount role, as they constitute the major body for enforcement of health and safety. However, their scope and remit vary across Member States and sectors - in this respect, a mapping exercise can be very useful for the fine-tuning of future legislative initiatives. For example, there are other specialised inspection bodies which have responsibilities in particular sectors of activity or whose action also impacts on health and safety implementation (mines inspectorates, nuclear inspectorates, maritime inspectorates, work equipment market surveillance, etc.), and such a mapping exercise would allow to identify them precisely as well as to identify the types of interactions between them. Against this background, there are two key components for ensuring the safety and health of workers across Europe: trained and effective trade union safety representatives and well-resourced labour inspectorates. Both are essential in ensuring the enforcement of all OSH legislation. With the current EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work (2014-2020) due to expire next year, the findings of a PP in this area could be invaluable to developing a successor strategy.*

The PP would consist of:

A) Regarding the training of trade union representatives

1/ A mapping exercise to take stock of the situation across Member States in relation to trade union...
health and safety representatives and committees should cover the following areas:

Their role in representing employees in discussions with the employer on health, safety or welfare and in discussions with Health and Safety Executives or other enforcing authorities.

If they have enough time to do his/her duties as safety representative;

Their role in investigating hazards;

Their role in investigating complaints; carrying out inspections of the workplace and inspecting relevant documents;

Their role in issuing provisional improvement notices;

Their role in any formal safety committees;

If they are paid for time spent carrying out their functions and undergo training;

And

2/ The feasibility of an EU action in order to secure the role of safety representatives in the above-mentioned actions.

B) Regarding labour inspectorates

A mapping of labour inspectorates should be developed and should cover the following areas:

How many different bodies exist and to what extent they are coherent with one another;

Whether there is any social partners' involvement in the governance or operations of labour inspectorates;

What resources (human and financial) are made available to each labour inspectorate. Whether these resources are deemed as enough by the social partners and the origin of these resources and to whom the body is accountable;

How changing labour markets and the Future of Work are challenging the established practices of labour inspectorates.

The project will provide added value in maximizing the efficiency of existing resources on prevention of occupational health and safety throughout the EU. It puts forward an innovative methodology which is complementary to the ongoing assessment conducted by the EC on EU OSH legislation and the performance of labour inspectorates. The proposed approach aims at creating an integrated analysis of the work undertaken by both trade union health and safety representatives and the labour inspectorates. It also seeks to improve the coordination with other inspectorate bodies, such as mines or nuclear inspectorates with a focus on the social partners' involvement in governance or operations of all these bodies.

The project will also completement past social partners' joint project at sectoral level, like initiatives in the health sector and the hairdressing sector supported by the European Commission which aimed at preventing, managing and reducing work-related diseases and occupational accident. The proposed initiative will enlarge this scope with a cross-sectoral analysis also taking into consideration the intertwined relationship of EU OSH regulations and the role of both health and safety representatives and the labour inspectorates.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Justification:

Two key components for ensuring the safety and health of workers across Europe: trained and effective trade union safety representatives and well-resourced labour inspectorates are essential to ensure all OSH legislation. Since the current EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work (2014-2020) expires next year, the findings of a PP in this area could be invaluable to developing a successor strategy.

Draft amendment 831

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Heading:

Pilot project — Effects of a policy-driven convergence of minimum income schemes in Member States on output, wages, employment, public finances and inter-EU mobility

Remarks:

Add following text:

Add following text:

The EU has increasingly realised that ‘growth alone is no panacea for social ills’ and has looked into minimum income schemes in Member States to improve social inclusion (see "The Role of Minimum Income for Social Inclusion in the EU (2007)" and "The role of minimum income for social inclusion in the EU 2007–2010" (2011)).

The proposed pilot project aims to tackle the lack of understanding of the macroeconomic consequences of a convergence of minimum income schemes in Member States towards a minimum EU-wide level, defined in purchasing power parities.

Such a convergence process initiated by the European Union has the potential to increase social inclusion in the Member States with weak minimum income schemes by reducing the share of population living at risk of poverty and social exclusion, improve the quality of employment as it would lead to an increase in wages at the lower end of the income distribution, as well as reduce migration to other Member States as far as this migration is motivated mainly by different levels of minimum income rather than by employment opportunities. Among the positive macroeconomic effects, there could be an increase in domestic (consumption) demand in Member States with hitherto weak systems of minimum income. Also, a convergence of wages between Member States is plausible. At the same time, evidently, an increase in the level of minimum income entails fiscal costs which need to be balanced against increased tax revenues from rising wages and consumption. However, the exact magnitude of these different effects is unknown so far and needs to be investigated.

The proposed pilot project would therefore consist of a pilot study to:

a) Calculate the necessary increase in national minimum income levels to reach a convergence in purchasing parities, based on existing national schemes.

b) Simulate in a macroeconomic model effects on output, consumption, unemployment, the average wage
level, low wage employment, fiscal revenue and expenditure for all Member States.
c) Estimate the impact of convergence in minimum income schemes on inter-EU mobility.
The study would take into account specific institutional knowledge of the minimum income schemes in
each country as well as the country-specific institutional details in the tax system.

Legal basis:
Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 54(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the
European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the
general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298,

Justification:
The EU has increasingly realised that ‘growth alone is no panacea for social ills’ and has looked into
minimum income schemes in Member States to improve social inclusion (see e.g. ‘The role of minimum
income for social inclusion in the EU 2007–2010’ (2011)). Lately, a convergence of minimum income
schemes measured in purchasing power by increasing minimum incomes in MS with current low levels of
protection has been advocated, not only to increase social cohesion, but also to prevent too strong pull- and
push factors. However, its macro-economic consequences still need to be assessed.

Draft amendment 836
Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Heading:
Pilot project — Assessing the posting of workers in the aviation sector

Remarks:
Add following text:

Add following text:
This pilot project is intended to investigate both the ways in which subcontracting through ‘Wet Leasing’
and ‘Damp Lease’ is developing in European commercial air transport, and the way in which this impacts
and introduces weaknesses to the rights, social and working conditions, and safety culture of aircrew. The
objectives include an analysis of the business model and the challenges for workers. Furthermore, the
project should identify proposals for action at EU level to ensure that workers’ rights are protected, and
that wet/damp leasing models do not negatively affect the internal aviation market, and do not result in
social dumping.

A wet-lease arrangement is a commercial contract whereby one airline (the lessor) provides an Aircraft
with complete Crew, Maintenance, and Insurance (ACMI) to another airline (the lessee). Air carriers
originally used this setup to cater for specific, unexpected and/or short term needs e.g. covering aircraft
unserviceability, sudden capacity spikes, or short notice coverage of new routes.

Measures covered should include:

- An overview of the evolution of wet/damp leasing from short term to more extensive use in the industry research covering how within wet/damp leasing operators:
  - EU legislation on posting is avoided or applied in practice
  - EU legislation on temporary agency work is avoided or applied in practice
  - Crews’ social rights are respected or not
  - Responsibility and accountability chains, safety culture and health and safety compliance differ or discriminate from non wet/damp-leasing operations that they operate alongside

research and seminar together with civil aviation social partners covering how wet leasing has affected aircrew in client companies where it has been brought in, in at least the following areas:

- Undermining or pressuring collective bargaining or agreements
- Strike breaking
- Circumventing right to work and third country worker protections

A final conference with all stakeholders, including civil aviation social partners, to present proposals on:

- How EU social legislation on e.g. Posting, Agency work, Social security should be applied in the context of wet/damp leasing and to prevent social dumping
- How wet/damp-leasing should relate to the potential for an effect on collective bargaining, strike breaking and the exercise of other fundamental rights
- Concrete measures, legislative and/or otherwise to ensure that aircrew are always correctly dealt with under a relevant social legislation regime
- How a ‘presumption’ or ‘default’ based approach on classification of highly mobile workers in aviation could work to ensure legal certainty and that rights enforcement on an individual case by case basis is not required

This project intends to support and complement the social agenda for aviation focusing on specific aspects of application and enforcement of labour law, social security regulations and posting workers legislation.

The Commission findings of the 2019 ‘Study on employment and working conditions of aircrews in the EU internal aviation market’, indicates that wet leasing is one of the areas that need further attention. This area concentrates non-transparent practices, complexity of wet leasing operations and requires further research and analysis. Concrete action is needed to prevent that this business model becomes another a way to circumvent social legislation and create social dumping.

This project does not overlap with Commission work. On the contrary, it intends to contribute to the aviation strategy from the labour and social perspective, preparing the ground for action in another very technical field where high quality data and research is needed for taking action. Currently, there are no other ongoing projects of this kind.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Justification:
The growing use of wet/damp leasing risks it becoming a quasi-permanent feature of some airlines, where a significant aim is now simply cost reduction at the expense of compliance with social, employment and accountability aspects of their operations. Aircrew are particularly vulnerable due to their highly mobile status.

Draft amendment 279
Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

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Heading:
Pilot project — The role of both trade union health and safety representatives in workplaces and labour inspectorates in the context of a renewed EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work

Remarks:
Add following text:

Independent trade union health and safety representatives make European workplaces safer by reducing injuries, improving health and changing the safety and prevention culture within a workplace. For example, the major injury rates in workplaces with trade union workplace safety representatives and safety committees are less than half of those without. Unions make a real difference. Labour inspectorates have also a paramount role, as they constitute the major body for enforcement of health and safety. However, their scope and remit vary across Member States and sectors - in this respect, a mapping exercise can be very useful for the fine-tuning of future legislative initiatives. For example, there are other specialised inspection bodies which have responsibilities in particular sectors of activity or whose action also impacts on health and safety implementation (mines inspectorates, nuclear inspectorates, maritime inspectorates, work equipment market surveillance, etc.), and such a mapping exercise would allow to identify them precisely as well as to identify the types of interactions between them.

Against this background, there are two key components for ensuring the safety and health of workers across Europe: trained and effective trade union safety representatives and well-resourced labour inspectorates. Both are essential in ensuring the enforcement of all OSH legislation. With the current EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work (2014-2020) due to expire next year, the findings of a PP in this area could be invaluable to developing a successor strategy.

The PP would consist of:
A) Regarding the training of trade union representatives

I/ A mapping exercise to take stock of the situation across Member States in relation to trade union health and safety representatives and committees should cover the following areas:

Their role in representing employees in discussions with the employer on health, safety or welfare and in discussions with Health and Safety Executives or other enforcing authorities.

If they have enough time to do his/her duties as safety representative;
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Their role in issuing provisional improvement notices;
Their role in any formal safety committees;
If they are paid for time spent carrying out their functions and undergo training;
And

2/ The feasibility of an EU action in order to secure the role of safety representatives in the above-mentioned actions.

B) Regarding labour inspectorates

A mapping of labour inspectorates should be developed and should cover the following areas:

How many different bodies exist and to what extent they are coherent with one another

Whether there is any social partners' involvement in the governance or operations of labour inspectorates

What resources (human and financial) are made available to each labour inspectorate. Whether these resources are deemed as enough by the social partners and the origin of these resources and to whom the body is accountable.

How changing labour markets and the Future of Work are challenging the established practices of labour inspectorates.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Two key components for ensuring the safety and health of workers across Europe: trained and effective trade union safety representatives and well-resourced labour inspectorates are essential to ensure all OSH legislation. Since the current EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work (2014-2020) expires next year, the findings of a PP in this area could be invaluable to developing a successor strategy.

Draft amendment 276

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

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Heading:
Pilot project — Schools as engines for the social inclusion of Roma children

Remarks:

Add following text:

Background information:

More than a quarter of all children in the EU are at risk of poverty or social exclusion. In 2015 the European Parliament called for a child guarantee that would help ensure that every child in Europe at risk of poverty or social exclusion has access to:

- free healthcare,
- free education,
- free early childhood education and care,
- decent housing and
- adequate nutrition.

Then, in 2017 the EP requested the European Commission to implement the "Preparatory action - Child Guarantee Scheme / Establishing a European child guarantee and financial support".

According to the budgetary remarks of the EP attached to this PA, the action should make sure that "every child in Europe at risk of poverty (including refugee children) has access to free health care, free education, free childcare, decent housing and adequate nutrition. By covering these five areas of action through European and national action plans one would ensure that the living conditions and opportunities of millions of children in Europe improve considerably and with a long-term perspective".

In this context, the Commission has considered it necessary to first clarify the potential scope of the concept of a child guarantee by exploring the feasibility and analysing the conditions for the implementation of such a guarantee scheme. This will be done by focusing it on four specific groups of socially vulnerable children as follows: (i) children living in precarious family situations, (ii) children residing in institutions, (iii) children of recent migrants and refugees, and (iv) children with disabilities and other children with special needs.

For this purpose, the Commission has launched a Call for Tenders for a feasibility study that will provide by the end of 2019 insights on how a Child Guarantee Scheme may be implemented, for the four specific groups selected.

However, this situation is hardly acceptable. On the one hand, more than 4 years have passed since the request made by the European Parliament. On the other hand, one critical category of vulnerable children is completely ignored and this is the Roma children.

Roma people form Europe’s largest ethnic minority and have for centuries constituted an integral part of European society with up to 12 million members. However, despite efforts at national, European and international level to improve the protection of their fundamental rights and advance their social integration, many Roma still face severe poverty, profound social exclusion, barriers to exercising their fundamental rights and discrimination.

These problems affect their access to quality education, which, in turn, undermines their employment and income prospects, housing conditions and health status, curbing their overall ability to fully exploit their potential.

Exclusion from education takes different forms: from refusal to enrol Roma children under pressure from non-Roma parents to placement in ‘special schools’ or ethnically segregated classes. Ethnic segregation is influenced by factors ranging from residential characteristics to anti-Roma prejudice.

In a number of EU Member States, Roma children constitute a majority of those placed in special education schools and programmes, outside the mainstream educational system, although they have no
apparent learning challenges or disabilities. On average, the survey results show that one out of 10 Roma children were reported to have attended a special school or class that was mainly for Roma, even if only for a short period. Segregation in mainstream education is prevalent in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and Greece, where 33% to 58% of Roma children in school attended a class where all or many of the children were Roma.

In other cases, the children may be denied access to education because they lack documentation. Or they are simply unable to attend classes because they live far from the nearest school. Throughout Europe, Roma children have lower school registration and attendance rates and higher dropout rates than the general population. As a result, Roma communities often suffer from low levels of education. International experts say this has created a form of inter-generational poverty.

Numerous children do not make it to pre-school, not to mention primary classes. Research shows that families from poor regions who are not familiar with or do not have access to the programme of nurseries and kindergartens are less interested in the school performance of their children. Others cannot opt for such care because it does not exist in their areas, because their children lack the necessary documentation (Romani or migrants) or because of other issues (distance, languages, discrimination, etc.).

In Central and South-Eastern Europe, only about 20% per cent of the children complete primary school compared to 90% per cent of non-Roma youngsters. A study of the European Union found that only 15% per cent of Roma children finish upper-secondary school or job-related training.

Solutions have been tested and yet the issue persists. Vulnerable, left-out Roma children become vulnerable, poverty-stricken adults who are then trapped in a vicious circle.

A new approach is necessary, one that attempts to integrate ideas from various fields, and which aims to place schools at the centre of the solution. A life-cycle analysis is also needed, one which aims to follow the child from an early age, providing both preventive and remedial solutions, involving all stakeholders and aimed at one final deliverable: ensuring that the child, sooner or later, is able to benefit from education, either basic, vocational or professional, therefore significantly increasing their chance of inclusion and gainful employment.

The proposed pilot project:

This pilot project aims at helping schools to become engines of social inclusion for Roma children. It would create a solution pack by integrating cross-field policies, identify and implement the solution pack in three target European regions and open the way for a preparatory action for a permanent EU budget line, leading to the creation of an European entity (agency or tool) aimed at promoting the social inclusion of vulnerable children.

The target groups of the project would be children, specifically from NUTS 2 regions with high density of Roma children and high at-risk of poverty rates, as defined by Eurostat (e.g. Severozapaden, North East Romania, Northern Great Plain in Hungary or Eastern Macedonia and Thrace).

The main goal of the project is to integrate policies, old and innovative solutions dealing with regional, national and European policies for social integration of Roma children and produce a unified approach, create realistic deliverables and lead to the emergence of a supervising authority.

The steps of the project will be:

1. The creation of a solution pack addressed for Roma children, aimed at integrating policies and creating tools that, together with targeted micro-financing, will transform specific schools into one-stop shops for preventing social exclusion of vulnerable children. It can, for example, integrate solutions aimed at creating/enhancing enrolment in pre-school care (nurseries, kindergartens), reducing school dropout rates in early and middle school years but also facilitating the transition to vocational/professional schools and identifying and proposing a “no child left behind” policy, enabling children who were forced to drop out to recover one or several school years with help or to still enrol in further trainings or vocational classes.
2. Pilot implementation of the solution pack in 5 schools from 5 of the poorest regions in the EU. The implementing authority, working on the basis of the solution pack, would involve local NGOs and authorities and help the specific schools to become focal points for social inclusion for local communities:

- Enable them to become communication and information centres;
- Use the school premises for social interaction with other interested local NGOs/authorities, garnering interest from Roma families within the risk area and facilitating positive association by putting the schools at the centre of a network of social services (education, housing, healthcare, employment);
- Creating solutions for early-year care/school interactions for Roma children in regions where no such options exist;
- Assisting Roma families with financial and other difficulties to obtain proper documentation, needed to enrol their children in classes and working with local authorities to create provisional solutions to enable children to go to school;
- Creating facilities for Roma children who drop out to return to school, to recuperate lost time or to still be able to enrol in vocational and professional training or institutions, under facilitated conditions;
- Working to lower the rates of school drop-outs by maintaining the school at the centre of the communities.

The ultimate goal of the project is a preparatory action enhancing the range and scope, leading to the creation of an EU authority tasked to remedy the social exclusion of Roma children, given that this vulnerable group of children has incredibly not been included in the PA launched by the European Commission.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Important amounts of resources are spent, in individual and uncoordinated projects, at local or European level, to fight against social exclusion of Roma children. Yet for years now, the school inscription rates for such minorities as the Roma people are abysmal, while drop-out rates continue to be high. The fact that Roma children have been excluded from the focus of the PA launched by the European Commission at the call of the European Parliament for a Child Guarantee is unacceptable and needs immediate redress, hence this PP.

Draft amendment 277

Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 04 03 77 35

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Pilot project — European Elderly People Network

Remarks:

Add following text:

This pilot project will facilitate the creation of a European network of national representatives of older people, in order to facilitate exchange amongst them, and enabling them to be better represented on EU-level. Setting up of up a secretariat and organising an annual conference, if possible in the hemicycle of the European Parliament, shall be supported.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Much EU-support is given to enhance the organisation and representation of young people, in order to empower them to influence their future and connect with their elected representatives. Older people in Europe also deserve EU-support to this end. Analogous to initiatives like the Model European Parliament (MEP) and the European Youth Parliament, simulations of the working of the European Parliament and for raising awareness of European citizenship for students, offerings of this kind are also necessary for older people in order to fully participate in political and social life.

Draft amendment 25

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism

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SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 06 02 77 23 — Pilot project — TachogrApp: feasibility study and cost analysis of developing a certified application to be used as a tachograph

Amend figures as follows:

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Justification:

In the light of the revision of the road transport legislation, the smart tacograph is the most appropriate device for a proper implementation of the legislation. However, the cost of a smart tacograph and the fact that its production has not started are barriers to a needed fast deployment in all vehicles. Taking into account the widespread use of the smartphones, a certified application could considerably fasten the use of a smart-tachograph like device as well as lower the cost of its deployment.

Draft amendment 15

Tabled by Committee on Transport and Tourism
SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 06 02 77 25

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**Heading:**

**Pilot project – 'Free Public Transport – Effects and Reproducibility' study**

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

*More than 50 cities in the EU have introduced free public transport systems, which has led to increased passenger numbers and considerably reduced motor traffic, making some investments in new roads unnecessary. This pilot project proposes a study on the consequences of introducing such systems in terms of passenger numbers, journey length and accident and casualty numbers, for example, and on their effect on climate change. The study must also be used to develop an action plan, with the strategies to be followed by different cities, so that it can be reproduced.*

**Legal basis:**

Add following text:


**Justification:**

The current dependence on oil and the need to improve our cities' mobility and resilience to climate change make more sustainable, public-transport-based travel essential. The growing number of cities around the world that promote free public transport shows the positive impact that such action has on urban mobility, climate change and global sustainability.

A study must be carried out on the effects of these free systems and on whether they can be reproduced in other contexts.

==================================================================================================

**Draft amendment 4007**

Tabled by Niclas Herbst, Committee on Budgets

--- BUDG/4007 ---

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 08 02 77 06

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Heading:

Pilot project — Analyse opportunities for decarbonization of regional commercial aviation through electric aircraft

Remarks:

Add following text:

In response to the Paris Agreement, a key goal set forward by the European Union is to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050 and to pursue a net carbon free Europe from 2050 through further actions aiming to absorb the remaining CO2 emissions. As such, the primary challenge facing the aviation and aeronautics sector in this and the next decades is deep decarbonization. Emerging zero emissions technologies based on electric propulsion look very promising, although their application seems currently limited to the general aviation spectrum of the market. The challenge of scaling these architectures into "mainstream" regional commercial aviation is considered to be huge, while the resulting positive climate impacts for flights below approximately 1000km can be very significant. The purpose of this preparatory action is to perform a study/analysis to assess the scalability of existing electrical aircraft concepts into the regional commercial aircraft segment. The study shall serve as a necessary preparation action to support the early preparation of the R&I strategy and technical roadmap to be executed by the future Clean Sky Aviation Partnership proposed under Horizon Europe and for which a legislative proposal is under preparation. Such a preparatory action will thus contribute to key EU policies and EU Programmes in the field.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

The pilot project shall consist of a study/analysis to support the necessary early preparation and definition of the priorities of the future Aviation R&I strategy and technical roadmap of the proposed "Clean Sky Aviation Partnership" under Horizon Europe. It is essential to support with this action the preparation of the future technical roadmap for Aviation to be able to face the huge challenges faced by the sector in reducing its environmental footprint and to contribute to the goals set by the Paris Agreement.

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Draft amendment 1057

Tabled by Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left

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SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 08 02 77 11
Heading:

Pilot project – European network of laboratory-based and clinical surveillance of congenital infections

Remarks:

Add following text:

Congenital and perinatal infections with parasitic, viral and bacterial aetiologies, commonly referred to as TORCH infections, may cause serious abnormalities or even foetal death. Clinical and laboratory-based monitoring of pregnant women and newborns with suspected TORCH infections may prevent or reduce those sequelae.

The purpose of this pilot project is to establish a network of laboratory-based and clinical surveillance for the aetiological agents from the TORCH group (toxoplasmosis gondii, HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), Treponema pallidum, Varicella Zoster, Parovirus B19, rubella, cytomegalovirus and herpes simplex), with the aim of combining laboratory data with clinical data in this area of expertise, creating a vital and efficient collection of information to contribute to knowledge of the reality of TORCH infections in Europe.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Clinical and laboratory parameters are complementary in the identification of an infection, the assessment of the risk of transmission, the establishment of a prognosis and the clinical decision on measures to monitor the child in the first few years of life. It is, therefore, useful and essential to know what the situation is in Europe so that these treatable and avoidable infections can be tackled.

Draft amendment 3

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 08 02 77 11

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Heading:

Pilot project — Research and development of an IT security rating system for 'smart' goods: Towards a safe Internet of Things for consumers

Remarks:

Add following text:

When buying goods with embedded digital technology, like smart products (e.g. connected cars, mobile phones, 'Smart TVs' or any other 'smart' products that make up the Internet of Things), which IT
security features are to be subject to the contract? The answer should be clear for the consumer.

With the Internet of things, 'smart' devices start affecting the world in a direct and physical manner (e.g. car technology). IT devices that are insecure and vulnerable to integrity and availability threats increasingly risk our lives and property.

Consumers will get more and more familiar with the digital world, and in particular with 'smart' goods. Such growing digital literacy will favour the demand for easy access to more detailed information about smart goods and about how to facilitate their use.

The Pilot Project will aim to make the new 'Digital Contract' rules easily readable for consumers thanks to the development of an IT security rating system for smart goods. This IT rating system could for instance consist in 'traffic lights' or icons that would show whether a device will be automatically updated, whether encryption will be applied to stored data, or other security features. This information will trigger the consumer's rights and the manufacturer's liability.

According to the Digital Content Directive, suppliers of digital goods and services will have to provide updates to smart goods, which is not just important to make them function longer, but also to increase cybersecurity. The Directive provides for objective requirements for the conformity of the goods and services, including performance features such as those related to security, which the consumer may reasonably expect. Thanks to the rating system in 'smart' goods, consumers will for instance know whether such updates happen automatically.

In order to foster EU innovation in the highly competitive field of the Internet of Things (IoT), the European industry needs to attract EU consumers with consumer friendly features in the development of their products. The legal protection of consumers, and the legal certainty about such protection, are key in developing future markets and make the EU compete worldwide, while keeping high level EU standards of consumer protection. Defining a common set of standard rules to rate smart goods and their contractual mechanisms could be an asset for European SMEs wishing to make their products consumer friendly. This can also support the EU-level development of 'legal design' tools on contract rules to be further developed by industry players in the field of IoT products, in partnership with lawyers and data protection experts.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Justification: The European legislator has endeavoured to bring clear legal solutions for consumers, especially when buying 'smart goods', with a Directive on Contracts for the Supply of Digital Content and Digital Services, and with a Directive on the Sale of Goods, both adopted in 2019. However, practical solutions are needed to make sure that consumers can identify and compare the IT security features of 'smart goods' and exercise their contractual rights in this respect.

Draft amendment 824

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament
SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 08 05 77 02

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**Heading:**

*Pilot project — Research into reducing CO2 emissions in steel production*

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

*This pilot project will provide financial support for EU research into the most promising and environmentally friendly steelmaking technology which could almost completely eliminate CO2 emissions by replacing carbon with hydrogen, and by capturing, storing and processing any remaining CO2 produced through more advanced and cost-efficient standard industrial techniques, and by deploying cutting-edge bio-industrial technologies, such as bio-sequestration and integrated CO2 bio-refineries.*

*This holistic approach seeks to achieve zero CO2 emissions in steel production by maximising the complementarity of advanced versions of these technologies.*

*The first step – identifying technical barriers for upscaling carbon direct avoidance techniques (via hydrogen and electric steelmaking) and smart carbon usage (via process integration and carbon capture utilisation) – has been initiated under the Research Fund for Coal and Steel (RFCS) as a feasibility study which may lead in 2020 to a wider European innovation initiative.*

*The pilot project will explore synergies between the RFCS, Horizon 2020, the EU Innovation Fund (Climate), the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH-JU) and the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI-JU), as well as other relevant EU funding instruments in order to promote the establishment of an industrial steelmaking pilot plant with zero CO2 emissions and its potential linkage to an integrated CO2 bio-refinery.*

*At the end of this year the first pilot project will start during 18 months. We need to make sure that there are funds to complete the cycle of the pilot project. Moreover, due to the success and necessity of this type of projects in the sector to ensure the decrease of CO2 emissions, it is important to give continuity to the pilot project, and renew the funds for a second phase of a pilot project.*

**Legal basis:**

Add following text:


**Justification:**

The steel industry contributes to the CO2 emissions. Several research projects have been carried out in the steel sector providing solutions for process optimisation and new production processes to reduce incrementally energy consumption and CO2 emissions. The EU long-term energy and environment targets (80-95% CO2 reductions by 2050) can only be met through breakthrough technologies which require large
investments in research. Long-term sustainability requires replacing coal and coke.

Draft amendment 4000

Tabled by Lefteris Christoforou, Committee on Budgets, Andrey Novakov

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 09 02 77 13

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Heading:

Pilot project — EU grants for small-sized online media: supporting high-quality news products and tackling fake news

Remarks:

Add following text:

The pilot project (PP) represents dedicated EU grants for small-sized online media wishing to develop fact-checking capabilities, to fact checkers and academics for development and dissemination of innovative solutions including fostering the collaboration between fact checking organisations, media and universities. The support shall not interfere with the independence of the organisations receiving the funding.

The PP supports Commission efforts in tackling online disinformation and promoting media innovation in the wider context of the Digital Single Market. The project facilitates and complements the objectives and the actions foreseen in the Communication on "Tackling online disinformation: a European Approach" and in the Action Plan on disinformation. In particular the PP facilitates the creation of national multidisciplinary teams, which includes media practitioners, fact-checkers and academic researchers. Such an effort complements the Connecting Europe Facility program, which deploys an infrastructure (European Platform on Disinformation) to foster cooperation at European level of national multidisciplinary teams.

The PP also complements Commission’s support for the development of Code of Practice. This includes enabling fact-checkers and academics, while maintaining their independence, to develop traceability, accountability, reliable indicators for source transparency, continuously monitor the scale techniques, tools, nature, and impact of disinformation. Moreover, the PP supports the development and testing of emerging technologies including artificial intelligence identifying disinformation, technologies enabling customisable online experience, which could provide users with tools to identify and to report disinformation.

The actions supported by the PP build on the pilot project on Media Literacy for All by complementing it and focusing not on the citizens but on the media actors. The proposed project supports the Commission’s initiatives on promoting media freedom and pluralism, quality news media and journalism.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

There is a demand for action on disinformation in fragile media regions and countries without fact-checking mechanisms. The PP provides grants to small-sized online media wishing to develop these capabilities, fact checkers and academics for development and dissemination of innovative solutions, while closely preserving their independence. The action is meant to facilitate the Communication on ‘Tackling online disinformation: a European Approach’ and the Action Plan on disinformation.

Draft amendment 103

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 09 02 77 13

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Pilot project — Disrupt the Disruptors: Disruption with a positive societal impact

Remarks:

Add following text:

In the era of digital innovation a lot of incumbent industries and traditional business models have been disrupted by new innovative ideas. Over the last years people need to retrain and acquire new skills so as to be able to be competitive in this everchanging professional environment. At the same time corporations are taking advantage of private data with close to zero accountability. These changes happened with minimal regard to the citizen and the leaving millions unprotected and ill prepared.

To counter this situation we need to be able to disrupt the disruptor. This Pilot Project will be an initiative that will set up a Future lab that explores ideas that will lead to disruptions with a positive impact to society. In order to do so the set up of a forum focusing on law during the digital era, the governance of data and the impact of the digital revolution on the future of work.

This activity will focus on sectors that have been mostly affected by the advancement of new technologies that undermines the rights of the citizens and the creators alike.

The pilot project could use blockchain powered solutions and explore the incentivisation of the creation of European Blockchain Platforms that will instantly reward the participants for their data, giving them at the same time control over it.

Additionally, it could also foresee a platform that, using blockchain technology would manage copyright clearing, rewarding creators for their work and content created and viewed online and setting the basis for an audiovisual licences distributions system.

Another potential implementation could be the re-inclusion of segments of the workforce that have been ousted from the labor market. This re-inclusion will be achieved through a blockchain application that will reward citizens, that perform voluntary service for the society, by assisting them in covering their basic everyday needs.

The project will foresee the creation of a Future lab that explores innovative solutions for complicated
problems. As part of its course of action it will make a call of Idea papers on the implications of Disruptive Trends looking at possible key uncertainties surrounding the future of work and resulting in concrete guidelines for policy makers and questions to reflect upon. Additionally it will set up workshops that will provide the tools to young people to create a more sustainable model of disruption, and incentivize the creation of blockchain platforms to balance the injustices amplified by the digital revolution.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:
The European Union is considered to be a haven of values and citizens rights. In light of the recent revelations of the Cambridge Analytica and Facebook scandal, the value gap in copyright management and the need for an innovative response to unemployment, it is imperative to set up an initiative that will map a new approach towards the challenges that the digital age presents.

Draft amendment 104

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 09 02 77 13

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Heading:
Pilot project — Integrity of social media

Remarks:

Add following text:

Social media have revolutionized the economy and society. After only 15 years of use, we are enjoying the benefits of long distance communication at close to zero costs and there are a number of new business opportunities that have appeared in multiple sectors ranging from advertising and marketing to social licenses.

Over the last couple of years we had to deal with the challenges that were created as well. Privacy concerns, imbalance of digital and analog parts of life, lack of understanding of how social media work, illegal or hateful content being disseminated and lastly citizen perception manipulation.

This last one has been the subject of a number of academic studies which have show that tinkering with the newsfeed of a social medium, one can affect and influence the mood, choices and reactions of individuals. That was brought to the light even more after the 2016 revelation of Cambridge Analytica using data that collected using Facebook accounts in order to attempt to manipulate the electorate in the US elections and Brexit referendum.
This pilot project aims to build on the work carried out by the Platform observatory and Fake News initiatives of the European Commission and the European Science and Media Hub of the European Parliament. Its purpose would be to monitor, identify, study and eventually face efforts to manipulate the perception of the users.

This work shall focus on negative messages and how to tackle them and could also come up with a pan-European certification scheme of anti-hoax initiatives. The latter is an effort that could facilitate and decentralize the efforts of the European Commission, as there are number of fact-checkers/anti-hoax websites that operate across the EU, however their legitimacy could sometimes be questionable. A checklist that could result in a certification could be beneficial for EU and MS authorities, while it will be cost efficient.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Social media are a game changer. They have created opportunity and enabled communication. However the challenges that are inherent to their business models and governance schemes need to be studied and approached at a more coordinated EU level. This pilot project is focusing on addressing that need, while building on the work already done and complementing other initiatives.

Draft amendment 821

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Heading:

Pilot project — A Europe-wide rapid response mechanism for violations of press and media freedom

Remarks:

Add following text:

Amend text as follows:

With the deterioration of press and media freedom in EU Member States and candidate countries showing a worrying trend, this pan-European rapid response mechanism on violations of media freedom should provide concrete protection to journalists including fact-finding, advocacy, monitoring, informing the European public and awareness-raising. This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the pilot project.

Delete following text:

With the deterioration of press and media freedom in Member States and candidate countries, in what is a
worrying trend, a Europe-wide rapid response mechanism for violations of media freedom will provide tangible protection for journalists and will extend to fact-finding, advocacy, monitoring, informing the European public and awareness raising.

Amend text as follows:

The right to freedom of expression
Under the Charter of Fundamental Rights, everyone has the right to freedom of expression. Recent developments show that this value needs strong defence to be strongly defended so as to protect democracy, strengthen public discourse and guarantee an enabling environment for investigative and independent journalists. Hence, it is crucial to set up a pan-European response mechanism on a Europe-wide response mechanism for violations of press and media freedom.

This mechanism will enable the establishment of a Europe-wide rapid response mechanism to make violations visible, and to provide practical help to journalists under threat, in collaboration with European, regional and local stakeholders in the field of media freedom. The practical help must encompass tools to protect journalists under threat, providing direct advice and legal support as well as offering shelter and assistance so that they can continue to pursue their profession. Delegates will be sent to countries affected by violations of media freedom. This promotes awareness-raising and allows early warnings to be issued. Instruments will be adjusted according to individual needs on a case-by-case basis.

Delete following text:
The pilot project will also operate as an early warning system for the European Parliament.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Justification:
The rise of fake news has sent a strong signal to traditional media around the world testifying to an unprecedented crisis faced by journalism in our democracies. Media self-regulation and bodies are crucial in promoting respect for ethical standards in the media, guaranteeing media accountability and restoring trust in the sector. The renewal of the project for another year will enable the promising work so far to continue.

Draft amendment 156

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 09 02 77 13

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Pilot project — Media Ownership Monitor

Remarks:

Add following text:

Digital technology has lowered the entry cost to mass media and opened up a tightly regulated market to a whole range of new players. As, however, the business model of traditional media disintegrates with it, a trend towards concentration of ownership can be observed. While the Internet remains a technological tool for accessing an unlimited variety of offer - market failures, regulatory shortcomings and the nature of algorithmic news distribution lead to significant limitations of media pluralism, which is an important precondition for the freedom of information and expression.

Thus, transparency of media ownership is considered a key prerequisite for safeguarding these freedoms. It elevates the general public’s level of media literacy and enables meaningful concentration control and regulatory action.

The pilot project will

? Create publicly available, searchable databases for up to 6 European countries in the respective relevant languages to provide profiles of the most relevant media outlets that shape public opinion, as well as of the corporate entities and individuals behind. The methodology of selecting the sample, of data research, analysis and presentation shall be based on an existing one that is well documented, already tested and implemented in other parts of the world and thus can be considered as a widely accepted and legitimate instrument in this field;

? Feature a narrative part to accompany the database and contextualize the county-specific environment in which media operates, including a detailed legal assessment that is based on a widely applied template to allow for comparative global analysis;

? Include the measurement, computation and publication of up to ten indicators of risks to media pluralism in the legal, economic and technical domains, based on a reliable and tested methodology that builds on the already existing work of the MPM (Media Pluralism Monitor) in this field;

? Publish and promote the findings and its usage by means of the online resource itself, but also through supporting actions, such as launch events and press conferences.

This PP should run over two years.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Guaranteeing fundamental rights requires specific transparency tools at the EU level. So far, the EU has invested in the development and implementation of a monitoring tool for media pluralism. Now, the initiative needs to be extended and complimented by an additional tool going down to the individual beneficial owners of mass media. AVMS-D asks for ownership structures, including beneficial owners when it comes to audiovisual media. By tracking cross-border ownership of media, the project will contribute significantly to propel media and digital literacy of the EU citizens.
Draft amendment 157

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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**Preparatory action — Media councils in the digital age**

Remarks:

Add following text:

Considering the crucial importance and benefits of the pilot project supporting media councils in the digital age to enhance trust in media and address issues of disinformation, it is now proposed to transform this project into a preparatory action. This transformation will enable the sustainability of these independent self-regulation mechanism, a condition to their success. In order to protect media freedom and pluralism and to promote professionalism in journalistic content, the project will aim at better understanding the consequences and challenges of digital developments through press councils' forum and in parallel to support the transition of media self-regulatory bodies to the online world, and engage them in discussions with Internet intermediaries and Internet media stakeholders. Suggested activities:

- Conduct a survey to provide in-depth examination of the state and models of media self-regulation in the digital environment, to bring clarity on how to achieve, in a converged media environment, the traditional goals of media regulation (i.e. a pluralistic and diverse media landscape in which the media benefit from independence from political, commercial and other influences and are accountable to the public).

- Elaborate the first online database on the current functioning of media self-regulatory bodies and promote the work of press councils in Europe

- Develop a pan-EU Working Group on the digital challenges to apply the recommendations of the survey

- Provide direct support to newly established press councils in Europe

- Include press/media councils in a global dialogue on media ethics in the digital age (participation at global internet conferences, etc.)

- Organise regular meetings with Internet Intermediaries with the objective to achieve an online recognition of the media content already under supervision of a press council.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

The rise of fake news in 2016 sent a strong signal to traditional media around the world testifying to an
unprecedented crisis for journalism in our democracies. A small majority of European citizens agree that national media provide trustworthy information. Media self-regulation and bodies are crucial in promoting respect for media ethical standards and guaranteeing media accountability, but have adapted inconsistently to the online world. To restore trust in the sector, media self-regulation mechanisms and respect for media ethics should be strengthened both offline and online.

Draft amendment 834

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Pilot project — Artificial Intelligence and Big Data in the Digital Transformation of Public Administrations in Europe: the EU Platform for regions

Remarks:

Add following text:

The pilot project aims to establish a European platform of regions on artificial intelligence and big data, to enhance public administration efficiency and user-centered services. The rapid integration of digital technologies poses a number of challenges for national, regional and local governments. An important aspect of this transformation concerns citizens’ and businesses’ expectations about their interaction with governments. This requires the digital transformation of governments to rise to this challenge.

Public administrations need to change the way they work and organize themselves. They have to ensure the skills needed to use new digital tools, they need to work collaboratively and engage with citizens and businesses.

The EU vision is to make Public Administration open, interoperable, efficient, inclusive, borderless and user-friendly by providing a new digital environment for public services. With the eGovernment Action Plan and Connectivity for a Competitive Digital Single Market – Towards a European Gigabit society, the European Commission considers that digital transformation of Public Administration (PA) is key for a successful Digital Single Market.

The EU common effort includes a consistent legal basis, policies and financing programmes for digital interoperability and innovative solutions for public administrations.

However, there is a need for an EU tool to support a platform of regions able to address digital transformation of PA across Europe.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Big Data (BD) are driving a new social and economic paradigm in Europe and beyond. Regions need to be part of the process as the closest level of government to the citizens.

AI and BD use by public administration has increased, demonstrating great potentials in a broad range of sectors - going from mobility, to environmental monitoring and geophysical simulations, from smart power grids to personalized healthcare. A platform of European regions will contribute to exchange and develop common responses and solutions. European regions can provide a significant contribution to make PA systems more efficient, capable of generating public value and delivering better public services.
A process towards a European platform of regions on Digital Transformation has already started, proving that regional engagement represents an added value for the digital single market objectives to modernize the PA and to reduce the digital divide. With this purpose, two European High-level Seminars have been organized in Brussels, on digital transformation of the PA, with the participation of European regions, businesses and the European Commission - DG DIGIT, DG CNECT, DG ECOFIN and the Secretary General. The meetings have been promoted by the Regional Government of Emilia-Romagna, with the involvement of Hessen, Catalunia, Flanders, Wallonia, Ile-de-France, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Trondheim and from the business side, IT and AI providers. Emilia-Romagna is hosting the European Center for medium-range weather forecast, has been selected to be European HPC Supercomputing Center and is establishing an international foundation on big data and artificial intelligence for human development.

Objectives and activities

The Digital Transformation Platform of European regions aims at:

- sharing knowledge on European, national and regional legislation and regulatory frameworks, to enhance the use of AI and BD;
- sharing models to enhance strategic drivers towards digitalization, in particular infrastructures, data and services, digital skills and communities;
- improving sharing of data sets and knowledge on AI and BD applications for public services;
- enhancing skills and capabilities on AI and BD of civil servants;
- developing and sharing new ways of working, including smart working.

Specifically, the pilot project will focus on the following activities:

- establishment of the platform of regions for AI and BD connecting regional governments, ICT agencies, suppliers and enterprises;
- development of a pilot testing on the cultural transformation induced by digital workplace and smart working;
- 2 European hackathons on the use of shared data, standards and interoperability for Public Administrations;
- 2 Seminars for the co-creation of users centered public services based on AI and BD;
- peer learning for managers on AI and BD.

The platform will involve a dozen of European regions from different Member States.

This proposal will be complementary to the ISA2 programme. Specifically, the Join Up platform can contribute to this pilot project.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

To effectively implement the EU Digital government agenda, the active involvement of European regions is of utmost importance. This regional platform for the digital transformation of PA will experiment new methods of working, co-creating and providing services in a secure, user-friendly and efficient way.

The Platform will include innovative regions across Europe, investing in AI and BD and providing services based on open government and interoperability and involving IT agencies, suppliers, private sector.
SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Pilot project — Media Ownership Monitor

Remarks:

Add following text:

Digital technology has lowered the entry cost to mass media and opened up a tightly regulated market to a whole range of new players. As, however, the business model of traditional media disintegrates with it, a trend towards concentration of ownership can be observed. While the Internet remains a technological tool for accessing an unlimited variety of offer - market failures, regulatory shortcomings and the nature of algorithmic news distribution lead to significant limitations of media pluralism, which is an important precondition for the freedom of information and expression.

Thus, transparency of media ownership is considered a key prerequisite for safeguarding these freedoms. It elevates the general public’s level of media literacy and enables meaningful concentration control and regulatory action.

The pilot project will

? Create publicly available, searchable databases for up to 6 European countries in the respective relevant languages to provide profiles of the most relevant media outlets that shape public opinion, as well as of the corporate entities and individuals behind. The methodology of selecting the sample, of data research, analysis and presentation shall be based on an existing one that is well documented, already tested and implemented in other parts of the world and thus can be considered as a widely accepted and legitimate instrument in this field;

? Feature a narrative part to accompany the database and contextualize the county-specific environment in which media operates, including a detailed legal assessment that is based on a widely applied template to allow for comparative global analysis;

? Include the measurement, computation and publication of up to ten indicators of risks to media pluralism in the legal, economic and technical domains, based on a reliable and tested methodology that builds on the already existing work of the MPM (Media Pluralism Monitor) in this field;

? Publish and promote the findings and its usage by means of the online resource itself, but also through supporting actions, such as launch events and press conferences.

This PP should run over two years.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Justification:

Guaranteeing fundamental rights requires specific transparency tools at the EU level. So far, the EU has invested in the development and implementation of a monitoring tool for media pluralism. Now, the initiative needs to be extended and complimented by an additional tool going down to the individual beneficial owners of mass media. AVMS-D asks for ownership structures, including beneficial owners when it comes to audiovisual media. By tracking cross-border ownership of media, the project will contribute significantly to propel media and digital literacy of the EU citizens.

Draft amendment 839

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Preparatory action — Monitoring media pluralism in the digital era

Remarks:

Add following text:

This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the preparatory action.

New technologies are dramatically and constantly changing the dynamics of opinion-making and the media landscape. While they allow easy distribution of information of public interest to wider audiences, fostering pluralism, the way in which information is created, searched for and distributed online may accentuate polarisation, exposing individuals to news, sources and ideas that match their stated preferences. This can significantly reduce the scope for encountering and debating opposing viewpoints and, as such, may pose a risk to media pluralism and democracy itself. As the impact of online information is growing, citizens are increasingly forming their opinions through information distributed online. This poses severe risks to effective pluralism when that information is false or is ‘misinformation’ or ‘disinformation’. While some policy responses to proliferation of misinformation call on online intermediaries and social media platforms to adopt self-regulatory measures to limit the circulation of false and fake information, it is evident that entrusting those private companies with filtering information online may lead to a limiting of freedom of expression too.

This preparatory action will support the development of a study on a set of indicators to measure the risks to media pluralism in the online environment. The Union has already invested resources in devising a media pluralism monitor that can assess risks to media pluralism and freedom. This comprehensive tool has proved effective and useful for assessing risks to media pluralism at country level. It is of the utmost importance that the methodology of that tool should be reusable for a new monitor that fully takes into account the online dimension of pluralism. The preparatory action will map the threats to information...
pluralism online, create a tool to assess the risks to pluralism online and test it in the 28 Member States.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

[Existing PA] The Treaties establish obligations for the EU to guarantee the respect of Fundamental Rights, including freedom of expression and media pluralism. Proper assessment of the reality on the ground is needed. The Media Pluralism Monitor instrument provides a methodology to measure the risk for media pluralism, updated to consider the dynamics of online information. This existing PA enables the Commission to provide evidence to define actions to improve media pluralism within the EU.

Draft amendment 847

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Preparatory action — Cross-border investigative journalism fund

Remarks:

Add following text:

This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the preparatory action.

This preparatory action will build on the ‘European research grants for journalistic investigations, #IJ4EU’ project. Maintaining quality journalism and especially investigative journalism, which is a particularly resource-intensive genre, has become more difficult in the changing media landscape. The preparatory action will strengthen the European public sphere and help create a European public discourse. In this context, the Commission will issue an open call for proposals for an independent body to implement consecutive rounds of grants supporting journalistic investigations involving journalists from at least two Member States so as to ensure maximum independence and journalistic freedom. Results will be published in at least the Member States involved.

The murders of Daphne Caruana and Ján Kuciak show that the work of investigative journalists is becoming increasingly difficult and that in the current political context, and amid the changing media landscape, not only political and legal support, but also continued financial support from the Union is essential.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


**Justification:**
The PA is aiming at continuing the work started by Investigative Journalism for Europe #IJ4EU to set up a series of European research grants for journalistic investigations with a cross-border dimension in view of a permanent budget line in the next MFF in line with the parliament resolution on the protection of investigative journalists in Europe.

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**Draft amendment 4012**

Tabled by Elisabetta Gualmini, Committee on Budgets

**SECTION III — COMMISSION**

Add: 09 03 77

**Heading:**

*Pilot projects and preparatory actions*

**Justification:**

To effectively implement the EU Digital government agenda, the active involvement of European regions is of utmost importance. This regional platform for the digital transformation of PA will experiment new methods of working, co-creating and providing services in a secure, user-friendly and efficient way.

The Platform will include innovative regions across Europe, investing in AI and BD and providing services based on open government and interoperability and involving IT agencies, suppliers, private sector.

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**Draft amendment 4012**

Tabled by Elisabetta Gualmini, Committee on Budgets

**SECTION III — COMMISSION**

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*Pilot project — Artificial Intelligence and Big Data in the Digital Transformation of Public Administrations in Europe: the EU Platform for regions*

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

*The pilot project aims to establish a European platform of regions on artificial intelligence and big data,*
to enhance public administration efficiency and user-centered services. The rapid integration of digital technologies poses a number of challenges for national, regional and local governments. An important aspect of this transformation concerns citizens’ and businesses’ expectations about their interaction with governments. This requires the digital transformation of governments to rise to this challenge.

Public administrations need to change the way they work and organize themselves. They have to ensure the skills needed to use new digital tools, they need to work collaboratively and engage with citizens and businesses.

The EU vision is to make Public Administration open, interoperable, efficient, inclusive, borderless and user-friendly by providing a new digital environment for public services. With the eGovernment Action Plan and Connectivity for a Competitive Digital Single Market – Towards a European Gigabit society, the European Commission considers that digital transformation of Public Administration (PA) is key for a successful Digital Single Market.

The EU common effort includes a consistent legal basis, policies and financing programmes for digital interoperability and innovative solutions for public administrations.

However, there is a need for an EU tool to support a platform of regions able to address digital transformation of PA across Europe.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Big Data (BD) are driving a new social and economic paradigm in Europe and beyond. Regions need to be part of the process as the closest level of government to the citizens.

AI and BD use by public administration has increased, demonstrating great potentials in a broad range of sectors - going from mobility, to environmental monitoring and geophysical simulations, from smart power grids to personalized healthcare. A platform of European regions will contribute to exchange and develop common responses and solutions. European regions can provide a significant contribution to make PA systems more efficient, capable of generating public value and delivering better public services.

A process towards a European platform of regions on Digital Transformation has already started, proving that regional engagement represents an added value for the digital single market objectives to modernize the PA and to reduce the digital divide. With this purpose, two European High-level Seminars have been organized in Brussels, on digital transformation of the PA, with the participation of European regions, businesses and the European Commission - DG DIGIT, DG CNECT, DG ECOFIN and the Secretary General. The meetings have been promoted by the Regional Government of Emilia-Romagna, with the involvement of Hessen, Catalonia, Flanders, Wallonia, Ile-de-France, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Trondheim and from the business side, IT and AI providers. Emilia-Romagna is hosting the European Center for medium-range weather forecast, has been selected to be European HPC Supercomputing Center and is establishing an international foundation on big data and artificial intelligence for human development.

Objectives and activities

The Digital Transformation Platform of European regions aims at:

- sharing knowledge on European, national and regional legislation and regulatory frameworks, to enhance the use of AI and BD;
- sharing models to enhance strategic drivers towards digitalization, in particular infrastructures, data and services, digital skills and communities;
- improving sharing of data sets and knowledge on AI and BD applications for public services;
- enhancing skills and capabilities on AI and BD of civil servants;
- developing and sharing new ways of working, including smart working.

Specifically, the pilot project will focus on the following activities:

- establishment of the platform of regions for AI and BD connecting regional governments, ICT agencies, suppliers and enterprises;
development of a pilot testing on the cultural transformation induced by digital workplace and smart working;

2 European hackathons on the use of shared data, standards and interoperability for Public Administrations;

2 Seminars for the co-creation of users centered public services based on AI and BD;

peer learning for managers on AI and BD.

The platform will involve a dozen of European regions from different Member States.

This proposal will be complementary to the ISA2 programme. Specifically, the Join Up platform can contribute to this pilot project.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

To effectively implement the EU Digital government agenda, the active involvement of European regions is of utmost importance. This regional platform for the digital transformation of PA will experiment new methods of working, co-creating and providing services in a secure, user-friendly and efficient way.

The Platform will include innovative regions across Europe, investing in AI and BD and providing services based on open government and interoperability and involving IT agencies, suppliers, private sector.

Draft amendment 4003

Tabled by Angelika Winzig, Eva Kaili, Committee on Budgets

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Heading:

Pilot project — Art and the digital: Unleashing creativity for European water management

Remarks:

Add following text:

Sustainable water management is essential for Europe among a global trend of ever higher water consumption. Water scarcity and the role of water in a broader context of preservation of natural habitats must be tackled through methods for water re-use, reduction of waste and measures to conserve natural water habitats. The capacity of European regions to tackle the issue of water scarcity beyond resource efficiency is an important issue to address. It will be in particular important to enable multi-stakeholder governance of these scarce resources and to increase awareness of the fact that water is a valuable resource.
Opening the traditional water sector to new technologies, in particular digital technologies will help introduce efficiency and productivity in water management but will also help to raise awareness of the problem and position sustainable water management in a broader context of sustainability and preservation. E.g. data from sensors and robotics can help cope with water waste, virtual reality can introduce scenarios for a future use of water resources, augmented reality can help evaluate different policies and help citizens better understand and react to water problems. An important aspect of management of natural resources is community involvement (e.g. community-based measurements of pollution levels or water shortage) where the digital can play an important role.

We have to speak to the heart of innovators and to stimulate their minds to arrive at creative solutions. The contention is that in this context new opportunities arise for joint efforts between digital technologies and artistic practices. Performance artworks and virtual or augmented reality can jointly address the need to raise awareness. Artists can come up with novel uses of digital technologies like Artificial Intelligence, to help address water sustainability in new and unforeseen ways. Links of digital with traditional craft (like e.g. boat building) can give rise to new forms of alliances for conserving water habitats by e.g. linking cultural and ecological aspects for tourism.

The project will explore links of art and digital for water management in given regional contexts and will mobilise the technological and cultural resources of European regions to help us tackle the imminent challenge of water management.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

This line of thinking has been promoted by DG CONNECT in its S+T+ARTS programme that has linked arts into technological innovation processes. The claim is that links of art and digital could be even more fruitful in helping further the sustainable development goals and specifically the sustainability of water resources.

== Draft amendment 105 ==

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 09 04 77 20 — Pilot project — Art and the digital: Unleashing creativity for European industry, regions and society

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

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Remarks:

After paragraph:

This appropriation is intended to cover commitments ......... settled from previous years under the pilot
project.

Add following text:

Europe's capacity to compete in the global market will depend on its capacity to convert scientific and technological knowledge into innovative products and services; even more, the appeal of Europe will strongly depend on how its regions can conceive an inspiring, motivating, and future-oriented environment for its citizens. The transformation of society by digital technologies is creating opportunities for Europe that a joint effort between the Arts and technology could help fully exploit. In the digital world, Europe can stake a claim on leadership in way of living and in those elements of the digital revolution that most depend on creativity, that is, broadly in ‘content’. A committed partnership between arts and technology can make this claim a reality in areas as diverse as social inclusion, new digital media (augmented reality, new media like social media, etc.), urban development (smart cities, Internet of things etc.) or future of mobility.

An enhanced collaboration between art and technology would not only stimulate innovation and thereby enhance the competitiveness of Europe; it would also help unleash creativity in our society and in European regions. Multiple presidency conclusions on ‘crossovers from culture to businesses’ therefore invited the European institutions to consider enhancing collaboration between arts and technology for a holistic exploration of opportunities that overcomes the traditional boundaries of sectors, disciplines or the culture-engineering divide.

The European Commission - DG CONNECT - has reacted by launching the STARTS program - innovation at the nexus of Science, Technology and the Arts. This is a highly pertinent step focused on promoting innovation in industry with the arts as catalyst of unconventional thinking and exploration. The European Commission is fostering innovation rooted in such collaboration by introducing light house projects that will put forward the crucial role of the arts in tackling challenges in the context of the digital single market.

This preparatory action is to built on the work carried out by the the projects preceding it and explore how to best generalize this program and have STARTS ideas extended from pure industrial settings to for instance areas of regional and urban development where the digital also plays a prominent role. It will develop a coherent horizontal framework for ‘art-technology’ thinking in Europe across sectors and disciplines as well as across pertinent activities of European institutions (including framework programs structural funds, education programs etc.).

The preparatory action will create a network of key players from the art world (art institutions and artists engaging with technology), digital media relying on the arts for media content, industry that considers art as a means for exploration of possible application, and regions and cities willing to create infrastructure to host collaborations of artists and technologists as a seed for urban development. It will support artistic explorations of technology e.g. by supporting technologies for performances and installations and will stimulate the most promising pathways by seed funding of ideas for art technology collaborations. It will in particular foster practical mechanisms that help convert emerging ideas form such collaborative explorations into tangible assets for European society and industry.

Justification:

The European Union relies strongly in its ability to innovate. The continuation of this action allows us to take the next step, think more holistically and bring together more and more the creative industries, a sector where the EU is a global champion and the hard sciences and technology, overcoming stereotypes that divide the sectors and impeded them from fulfilling their potential. This pilot project aims to continue and built on the success of its predecessor.

Draft amendment 162

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education
SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 09 04 77 24 — Pilot project — Digital European platform of quality content providers

Amend figures as follows:

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Justification:
This is the continuation of the first phase in 2019. The additional amount of 390.000 Euros to the already committed 390.000 Euros secures the successful implementation of the pilot project.

Beyond the regulation of existing platforms we need to find alternative business models for the digital world in order to protect our fundamental rights and civil liberties while underpinning cultural diversity and our creative industries. A European digital platform ruled by smart and strong EU legislation is an innovative initiative to reach these goals.

Draft amendment 4004
Tabled by Andrzej Halicki, Jan Olbrycht, Committee on Budgets

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 09 04 77 26

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Heading:
Pilot project — Outline and trial an infrastructure dedicated to the implementation of child rights and protection mechanisms in the online domain based on the GDPR and other existing EU legislation relevant for the child within the online domain

Remarks:
Add following text:
The pilot project is to outline and trial:

i. reliable online checks to identify and protect or block under aged children at sites and apps processing personal data, providing peer-to-peer or one-to-many communication services, or providing goods and services that are potentially injurious for the child;

ii. reliable consent mechanisms for the holders of parental responsibilities;

iii. effective support mechanisms for children encountering difficult situations online;

iv. an institution dedicated to defending child rights in the online domain;

v. online access options to EU content dedicated to children; and
vi. participation mechanisms for children in the decision-making process of the infrastructure.

In the execution of the above tasks, the pilot project is expected to involve relevant European and Member State stakeholders in the authentication and validation supply chain.

In particular, CEF is supporting the cross-border exchange of attributes linked to eID, so the use of these attributes can be a means of implementing child protection mechanisms (e.g. age verification for access to online content based on the birth date contained in the eID).

The project will be implemented in two years (2020-2021) on the basis of this grant.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

The objective of the proposed pilot project is to help provide inter-sectoral, integrated and child-focused responses to address the individual and collective needs of children, as requested in the Child Rights Manifesto, in the online domain. It will try to achieve this objective by conducting a field trial of an online eIDAS-compatible technical infrastructure dedicated to the implementation of child rights, child protection mechanisms and parental consent mechanisms in one of the Member States, based on a feasibility study.

Draft amendment 160

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 09 04 77 26

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Heading:

Pilot project — Fundamental rights audit for AI-based content filtering and moderation systems

Remarks:

Add following text:

The appearance of new technologies and platforms designed to share audiovisual and other type of content entailed new ways of distributing and making available illegal content online (e.g. hate speech, terrorist content, IPR infringement). This influences citizens’ possibility to access knowledge, or receive and impart information online. A vast range of filtering technologies are increasingly used, on a voluntary basis by companies and foreseen by EU legislation, in order to curate content. Such technologies include among content filtering technologies and machine-learning classifiers to flag content. However, the performance and accuracy of these AI-based filtering technologies is varying in different levels. Many of these methods are in general not completely reliable and produce ‘false positives’, jeopardizing fundamental rights including freedom of expression and privacy. At the same time there’s no data available on the parameters under which a piece of content is considered illegal. Despite
of these issues, several EU initiatives already seek to support or refer to the use of such measures in order to eliminate harmful content online (AVMS Directive, Copyright in the Digital Single Market Directive, Proposal for a regulation on preventing the dissemination of terrorist content online, AVMS Directive).

The Pilot Project aims at providing more transparency on the functioning of such tools and at the same time increasing their accuracy by employing fundamental rights audits on them.

The Pilot project will consist in the following steps:

- provide an overview of different content moderation systems
- identify and analysing best practices in terms of content moderation
- developing a framework for human rights audits for content moderation systems
- employ fundamental rights audits

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

With the increased use of internet and new technologies for sharing audiovisual and other type of content, new ways of distributing illegal content online became possible. Companies are increasingly pressured to use automated technologies to tackle the large amount of new content uploaded. While the attempt to create a healthy online ecosystem is legitimate, these efforts shouldn’t result in limiting fundamental rights online. This PP aims at increasing the transparency and accuracy of such technologies.

Draft amendment 100

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 09 04 77 26

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Heading:

Pilot project - European Museum Collaboration Space

Remarks:

Add following text:

Following the proposal for the Horizon Europe Programme a "Cultural Heritage Cloud" shall be established. This Pilot Project shall help to prepare and facilitate the establishment of the Collaborative Space from 2021. Such a preparatory phase is necessary since such a collaboration space would be the first of its kind; structuring the network and task of such a cloud service would benefit the success of the Horizon Europe project.
The pilot project will prepare the set up of a suitable digital platform and working structures which offer solutions to the eminently practical problems inherent in cross-museum collaboration, in particular at European level.

The pilot phase will foster the exchanges between museums, prepare priorities address issues of topical interest. In addition, this process will seek to identify new challenges and potential areas of further development of the system.

This research and innovation Collaboration Space shall grant accessibility of cultural heritage through new technologies as well as encouraging and facilitating transmission of know-how and skills, providing the opportunity to set up individual workgroups and project structures, and constituting a European cultural counterpart to commercially driven cloud services. This Pilot Project can help to prepare and facilitate the establishment of the Collaborative Space from 2021 onwards including by an impact assessment and by creating a network of experts and setting up working groups.

Justification:

Following the proposal for the Horizon Europe Programme a "Cultural Heritage Cloud" shall be established. This Pilot Project will help to prepare and facilitate the establishment of the Collaborative Space from 2021. Such a preparatory phase is necessary since such a collaboration space would be the first of its kind; structuring the network and task of such a cloud service would benefit the success of the Horizon Europe project.

Draft amendment 109

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 09 04 77 26

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Heading:

Pilot project — Establishment of a Forum for Digital Education for discussing the need of developing European guidelines for understanding how digital technologies could influence intellectual capabilities of children, especially in early stages of their education development

Remarks:

Add following text:

The establishment of a digital single market is based on the dissemination of digital technologies and the need of increasingly pervasive connectivity that is putting into question the current system of educating children in schools and other establishments.

There is the need to better study and exchanging experiences that are taken forward at MS level to adopt common approaches to face the increasing digital addiction that will affect individuals, especially in the development age.

Studies and researches on this issue are still very isolated and a European network could be of benefit of the entire community of educators, administrators and teachers that are including more and more digital technologies in the educational materials and school practices.

Digital and internet addiction are a worrying side effect of the digitalisation of our economy and EU
policies can be seriously improved by the creation of such a European Forum.

This forum for Digital Education:
- could be composed of experts in the area of education and eHealth from the Member States.
- should discuss guidelines based on data the forum members would provide (Member State/regional/local level as appropriate) on digital addiction rates and the level of ICT introduced in education/schools (availability and quality of school equipment, internet connection, teaching materials, etc.).
- should rely on Member State/regional/local data in its approach to defining possible guidelines on digital and internet addiction in schools, including data on digital in education.
- should be coordinated by the Commission

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:
Internet and digital addiction are seriously taken into consideration by the WHO Guidelines that are including these effects as possible pathologies to be tackled by national and European policies. An EU approach can be of great benefit for all the initiatives that will arise from the actions of Digital Europe Programme and that are taken at private level or that only isolated educational establishments are already implementing. The Forum to be created should be coordinated by the Commission and open to the whole community of relevant stakeholders.

Draft amendment 102
Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 12 02 77 10

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Heading:
Pilot project - Initial Coin Offerings (ICO) Observatory of the European Commission

Remarks:
Add following text:

Initial Coin Offerings (ICOs) is a pioneering source of funding for start-ups which uses the blockchain technology to distribute tokens in exchange of fiat money or cryptocurrencies. When the token is designed as a security (claim in a future cash flow or equity) the existing financial regulations apply. However, the vast majority of those tokens do not qualify as securities. These are classified as utility tokens.

In the case of utility tokens the ICOs gives wider flexibility for the start-ups. This flexibility, have as a result the creation of wide range of ICO designs, characteristics, options and technical dimensions. To
some extent this is beneficial but the legal certainty is limited if not completely absent. Consequently, we have excellent cases of projects that cannot access funding and many seemingly excellent projects end up being frauds. In any case, the lack of legal certainty contributes to a volatility that does not necessarily reflect the fundamentals of the underlying project. the absence of clear economic and legal criteria

It is of paramount importance, in order to capitalize on the benefits that utility tokens can bring to technology transfer and innovation funding, to mitigate uncertainty, clarify best practices, and identify criteria that distinguish a good use case from the bad. This can be achieved by the creation of an ICO Observatory under the responsibility of the European Commission and with the participation of the related stakeholders from the market, regulatory authorities, consumer protection bodies, associations and the academia, which will delve into the taxonomy, characteristics, secondary market design, prospectus elements, and best practices of the ICOs that do not qualify as securities, as well as the examination of borderline cases of hybrid tokens.

This will be beneficial because it will give a set of criteria that will increase investors’ protection, give a direction to start-ups on which practices to choose and which to avoid, and will serve as a guideline for a regulatory framework that will allow the convergence of the regulations of the Member States.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:

EU needs to find innovative financial methods to channel funding to pioneering SMEs and start-ups and accelerate technology transfer. ICOs have a strong potential in funding innovation but also great regulatory challenges. An ICOs Observatory will be a suitable tool in mapping the utility tokens regulations of the Member States, their taxonomy, characteristics, sources of volatility and best practices, and it will also create a pool of cases that will be beneficial for the market participants.

Draft amendment 432
Tabled by Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION
Add: 14 03 77 04

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Heading:
Preparatory action — EU Tax and Financial Crimes Observatory - Capacity building to support Union policymaking in the area of taxation

Remarks:
Add following text:
The abundance of money laundering, tax evasion and avoidance revelations over the last few years has
significantly shaken the confidence of European citizens, businesses and trade unions in the robustness and fairness of EU rules against money laundering, tax evasion and tax avoidance. When 3 out of 4 citizens expect the European Union to do more on taxation, it is essential to ensure that public interests and interests of all stakeholders are taken into account in designing initiatives aiming at strengthening European rules against financial crimes, tax evasion and tax avoidance.

This Preparatory Action aims at creating a specialized and independent observatory on EU tax and financial crime matters, with its main functions being:

– create a publicly-available repository of data on tax evasion and tax avoidance in the EU and the effects of policy reform in these domains;
– disseminate the available data in a user-friendly manner and inform the wider public of issues related to tax fairness, including related issues like anti-money laundering rules, for business and individual taxpayers and the wider public.
– ensure secretarial and management functions for a future multi-stakeholder expert forum (to be created); Amongst other, the forum would be a consultative body in charge of methodological guidance in the area of taxation and financial crime.
– based on the work of the forum, produce evidence and recommendations related to fighting tax evasion, tax avoidance, and financial crime;
– participate in Union policymaking in the area of taxation and financial crime, with a view to providing policymakers with robust and diversified expertise;
– liaise with different international organisations and national administrations on issues related to EU tax and anti-money laundering policy making (i.e. anti-money laundering legislation is necessary to counter tax evasion).

Given the role of this Observatory, we suggest that the leadership for the implementation of this preparatory action is taken by Directorate General (DG) TAXUD within the European Commission, in close collaboration with other relevant DGs.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

It is essential to have a body with a specific mandate to follow EU decision-making in the area of taxation and financial crime, provide new elements of information and representing voices which are currently absent from the debate. The current lack of quality data specific to the EU and absence of a broad range of stakeholders, currently limited to the business sector, tax administrations (trade unions), or NGOs having a narrow mandate to discuss EU taxation policies (related to the environment, development or the fight against corruption) call for the set up of this body.

Draft amendment 810

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament
SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 14 03 77 04

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Heading:

Preparatory action — EU Tax and Financial Crimes Observatory - Capacity building to support Union policymaking in the area of taxation

Remarks:

Add following text:

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This Preparatory Action aims at creating a specialized and independent observatory on EU tax and financial crime matters, with its main functions being:

- create a publicly-available repository of data on tax evasion and tax avoidance in the EU and the effects of policy reform in these domains;
- disseminate the available data in a user-friendly manner and inform the wider public of issues related to tax fairness, including related issues like anti-money laundering rules, for business and individual taxpayers and the wider public.
- ensure secretarial and management functions for a future multi-stakeholder expert forum (to be created); Amongst other, the forum would be a consultative body in charge of methodological guidance in the area of taxation and financial crime.
- based on the work of the forum, produce evidence and recommendations related to fighting tax evasion, tax avoidance, and financial crime;
- participate in Union policymaking in the area of taxation and financial crime, with a view to providing policymakers with robust and diversified expertise;
- liaise with different international organisations and national administrations on issues related to EU tax and anti-money laundering policy making (i.e. anti-money laundering legislation is necessary to counter tax evasion)

Given the role of this Observatory, we suggest that the leadership for the implementation of this preparatory action is taken by Directorate General (DG) TAXUD within the European Commission, in close collaboration with other relevant DGs.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Justification:
It is essential to have a body with a specific mandate to follow EU decision-making in the area of taxation and financial crime, provide new elements of information and representing voices which are currently absent from the debate. The current lack of quality data specific to the EU and absence of a broad range of stakeholders, currently limited to the business sector, tax administrations (trade unions), or NGOs having a narrow mandate to discuss EU taxation policies (related to the environment, development or the fight against corruption) call for the set up of this body.

Draft amendment 525
Tabled by Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 14 03 77 04

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Heading:
Preparatory action — Analysing the consequences of common ownership by institutional investors

Remarks:
Add following text:

Currently, we can observe a massive shift of money from actively managed funds to index funds that passively track established benchmark indices. There are multiple reasons for this recent development. First, private pension has become more important and investors are seeking for products with low costs as offered by passively managed funds in order to maximize their profits. Second, MiFID II has entered into force and introduces stricter governance, accountability and transparency requirements that large investment firms can more easily meet.

Since the index funds industry is highly concentrated in three large investment firms located outside the Union, the high growth of index funds leads to a concentration of ownership in European publicly listed corporations. Additionally, the shift to passively managed index funds increases the market power of the small group of virtually unstudied index providers setting the criteria for the inclusion of companies in key benchmark indices. This situation, first and foremost, causes concerns for the corporate governance of European firms including but not limited to co-determination, long-term investments and location choice. Furthermore, the ‘common ownership’ causes competition concerns. Moreover, the ongoing concentration process within the asset management industry may also have potentially negative consequences for financial stability in the Union.

This pilot project aims at conducting the first analysis of the consequences of common ownership in European publicly listed corporations by institutional investors. The analysis will be three-pronged, combining (1) the first truly comprehensive empirical mapping of common ownership in the EU Member States with (2) an analysis of the voting behaviour of the large index investment firms in European companies, (3) expert interviews with market participants and company executives about the influence of both index investment firms and index providers and (4) the impact on corporate governance, competition and financial stability in the Union.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:

Currently, we can observe a concentration of ownership in European publicly listed corporations driven by a rise of passively managed index funds. This pilot project aims at conducting the first analysis of the consequences of common ownership by institutional investors in particular with regard to corporate governance in the Union.

Draft amendment 527

Tabled by Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 14 03 77 04

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Heading:

Pilot project — Feasibility study for a European asset registry in the context of the fight against money laundering and tax evasion

Remarks:

Add following text:

As demonstrated by recent tax and money laundering media investigations like the Panama and Paradise Papers, the use of ‘offshore’ structures, like companies, trusts, foundations and financial instruments held in or via other jurisdictions, allows not only the real ownership of wealth to remain hidden, but also its location and perhaps its very existence. In the short to medium term, this secrecy allow for this wealth to escape taxation but also creates fertile ground for financial crimes such as corruption, money laundering, tax evasion and avoidance, and the funding of terrorism. In the longer term, this secrecy helps fuelling inequality as approximately 50% of the wealth hidden offshore (wealth held offshore and not reported to authorities) belongs to the top 0.01% of the wealthiest people in the world. Offshore wealth is likely therefore to be a key factor responsible for exacerbating wealth inequality if it remains under-taxed.

Several progress have been made in the past to tackle this secrecy, especially at the European level. Many Member States have land registries, they adopted the directive on administrative cooperation to automatically exchange financial information among themselves (including bank accounts) and with the revision of the anti-money laundering directive, they will soon all have public registries of beneficial owners of companies and registries of trusts’ beneficial owners accessible to persons with a legitimate interest to obtain this information.

However, there are still gaps in the availability of important information in order to properly be able to tax wealth in the European Union and fight money laundering. Having a less fragmented approach across the 28 Member States would be beneficial. The European Union should consider the feasibility and modalities of creating an EU-wide registry where details of ownership of certain type of assets
are recorded, to ensure the necessary linkages between the existing transparency mechanisms and with the view to add new key information necessary to fight tax evasion and money laundering.

With this pilot project, we would like the Commission to explore how to better collect and link full beneficial ownership information (e.g. registries of land, companies, trusts and foundations; and central depositories of securities ownership) and analyse areas for further work (design, scope, capacity constraints...) for such EU registry. The Commission should especially pay attention to the scope for other assets that could be included in such registry (e.g. bitcoins, art, gold, real estate), to the IT requirements and take into consideration privacy issues.

Through a mapping of existing information (in a public and non-public form) and exchanges with experts in the relevant field (taxation, corruption, money laundering, financial markets, IT and legal experts), this pilot project aims at providing recommendations for the possible creation of an asset registry, which could be turn into policy action in the future, if technical and political conditions are met.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:
The use of ‘offshore’ structures allows not only the real ownership of wealth to remain hidden, but also its location and perhaps its very existence, undermining the European Union’s effort fight against tax evasion and money laundering. There are still gaps to fill in terms of accessing the available information and obtaining new necessary information. Having a centralised system, common to all EU Member States to have key information about asset ownership would be a tremendous help for law enforcers and policy makers in these areas.

Draft amendment 437
Tabled by Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 14 03 77 05

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Heating:
Pilot project — Monitoring the amount of wealth hidden by individuals in offshore financial centres and impact of recent internationally agreed standards on tax transparency on the fight against tax evasion

Remarks:
Add following text:

With an original timeframe of two years (2019-2020) this pilot project is complementary to ongoing research implemented by the European Commission. In order to be able to better evaluate the impact of new international and European standards of automatic exchange of information on the amount of
wealth hidden by individual in offshore financial centres, it is important to renew this study for a second year. This will help to understand possible evolutions and compare geographical and statistical information to determine trends for the fight against tax evasion in the Union.

Payments (€170000) include outstanding payments for 2018 (€70000) and half of proposed commitments for 2019 (€100000).

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

New tax standards have been recently agreed and implemented to increase automatic exchange of tax information among tax authorities in order to fight tax evasion. This pilot project aims at measuring to what extent these measures are effective in curbing international tax evasion as tax evaders might find new loopholes or shift their wealth to less compliant jurisdictions.

Draft amendment 906

Tabled by Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 15 02 77 20 — Preparatory action — DiscoverEU: Free travel pass for Europeans turning 18

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

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Remarks:

Before paragraph:

Accordingly, programmes such as Erasmus+ must not be affected by the preparatory action.

Delete following text:

This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the preparatory action.

Amend text as follows:

This preparatory action will serve as a follow-up to the first experimentation trial conducted in 2018 as a trial to the fully fledged programme providing every European turning 18 with a free travel pass. The objective is not only to give them an opportunity to explore Europe’s cultural diversity, but also, more importantly, to better connecting young people with European identity and raising awareness of the Union’s core values.

Because of low purchasing power, cultural obstacles, and a lack of inclusive and targeted projects, a substantial number of very young Europeans have never or rarely travelled within Europe. This is particularly true for particular regions of Europe and for low-income families. Although educational
exchange programmes exist and have benefited many Europeans, the EU has still not managed to set up an easy and inclusive tool providing any European, regardless of social or educational background, with a travel experience that would foster a European identity, familiarize them with a sustainable and clean mode of transport, and connect them with other cultures.

The European Parliament has repeatedly welcomed the DiscoverEU initiative and stressed that, if it were socially and geographically inclusive and at all times tied in with educational and cultural objectives, it could offer the younger generations a chance to take advantage of freedom of movement and travel in an environmentally friendly way.

The first steps of the initial project have started in 2018, and have allowed to already under the initial project were taken in 2018 and have made it possible to explore the conditions needed for the operational aspects to be successful. This first experience insight from the initial trial could be fine-tuned to ensure that more youngsters could benefit from the project and correct the shortcomings found during the first year of implementation by meeting the following key requirements and key objectives such as:

**Principle requirements:**

The European Commission must build on the first year of implementation of the preparatory action; however, the preparatory action must be seen as a unique and independent action, in particular with a view to targeting young people who are currently not covered by any EU programme.

After paragraph:

Accordingly, programmes such as Erasmus+ must not be affected by the preparatory action.

Amend text as follows:

The preparatory action will cover young people from all Member States regardless of whether they are part of the Interrail network (the five Member states currently not covered being Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta and Cyprus)

After paragraph:

Action points:

Amend text as follows:

- **Pursuing a contractor responsible for the organisation and delivery of the travel trips of participants will be selected in 2019 and who would pursue contact with and involving the relevant stockholders regarding European rail enterprises, in adjusting the format of the product to be offered to the young people turning 18 in 2018, including negotiations on pricing to determine the final number of users that could benefit from the preparatory action;**

- **Determining the number of young people who could be given the pass;**

- **Purchasing passes at the price renegotiated with EuRail;**

- **Distributing passes to beneficiaries;**

- **Defining precisely what the DiscoverEU pass is to cover so as to match young people’s travel patterns (duration, validity, seasonal requirements, time and budgetary constraints, load factors);**

- **Improving the user friendly system for the 18 years people to apply for the passes; more user-friendly for 18-year-olds applying for passes;**

- **Improving the selection process of the users that will benefit from the PA, for selecting the users who will benefit from the preparatory action, including defining criteria inter-alia allowing inter alia all Member States to be covered, including the five Member states that are currently not**
covered by the Interrail network, i.e. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Cyprus; Malta and Cyprus, and better targeting young people who are not already benefiting from a European programme;

- Improving the voucher solution for distributing and personalising passes in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders;
- Investigate, together with the relevant stakeholders, mechanisms to stimulate specific itineraries for young people to really experience Europe (to include less ‘popular’ destinations);
- Improving the arrangements to publicize the programme, so as to ensure visibility with a particular focus on linking the initiative to a campaign on European identity and values;
- Developing a creative and participative way for the users to share and follow-up their experience (e.g. a photo competition and exhibition in the European Parliament, social media contributions) further looking into partnership arrangements for the operational aspects of the project, with a view to lowering costs and reaching as many participants as possible;
- developing a creative and participative way for users to share and follow up their experience (e.g. a photo competition and exhibition in the European Parliament and social media contributions).

The preparatory action should be implemented in 2019 and 2020.

**Justification:**

With a still substantial number of young Europeans deprived from the opportunity to travel in Europe and from discovering the richness and diversity of the continent, a rising populism and misinformation and a growing need to promote within young generations sustainable mode of transportation, this preparatory action will provide for the necessary first steps in establishing a fully-fledged program that authentically reflects an interconnected and united Europe.

---

**Draft amendment 4340**

Tabled by Manfred Weber, Siegfried Mureșan, José Manuel Fernandes, Monika Hohlmeier, Committee on Budgets

**SECTION III — COMMISSION**

**Item 15 02 77 20** — Preparatory action — DiscoverEU: Free travel pass for Europeans turning 18

**Amend figures and remarks as follows:**

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**Remarks:**

**Before paragraph:**

Accordingly, programmes such as Erasmus+ must not be affected by the preparatory action.

**Delete following text:**

This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the preparatory action.
This preparatory action will serve as a follow-up to the first experimentation trial conducted in 2018 as a trial to the 2018, prior to setting up a fully-fledged programme providing every European turning 18 with a free travel pass. The objective is not only to give them an opportunity to explore Europe’s cultural diversity, but also, more importantly, to better connect young people with European identity and raise awareness of the Union’s core values.

Because of low purchasing power, cultural obstacles, and a lack of inclusive and targeted projects, a substantial number of very young Europeans have never or rarely travelled within Europe. This is particularly true for particular regions of Europe and for low-income families. Although educational exchange programmes exist and have benefited many Europeans, the EU has still not managed to set up an easy and inclusive tool providing any European, regardless of social or educational background, with a travel experience that would foster a European identity, familiarise them with a sustainable and clean mode of transport, and connect them with other cultures.

The European Parliament has repeatedly welcomed the DiscoverEU initiative and stressed that, if it were socially and geographically inclusive and at all times tied in with educational and cultural objectives, it could offer the younger generations a chance to take advantage of freedom of movement and travel in an environment-friendly way.

The first steps of the initial project have started in 2018, and have allowed to already under the initial project were taken in 2018 and have made it possible to explore the conditions needed for the operational aspects to be successful. This experience insight from the initial trial could be fine-tuned to ensure that more youngsters could benefit from the project and correct the shortcomings found during the first year of implementation by meeting the following key requirements and key objectives such as:

**Principle**

The European Commission must build on the first year of implementation of the preparatory action; however, the preparatory action must be seen as a unique and independent action, in particular with a view to targeting young people who are currently not covered by any EU programme.

**After paragraph:**

Accordingly, programmes such as Erasmus+ must not be affected by the preparatory action.

**Amend text as follows:**

The preparatory action will cover young people from all Member states regardless of whether they are part of the Interrail network (the five Member States currently not covered being Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta and Cyprus)

**After paragraph:**

Action points:

Add following text:

**Pursuing contact with and involving the relevant stockholders regarding the product offered to the young people turning 18**

**Determining the number of young people who could be given the pass;**

**Purchasing passes;**

**Distributing passes to beneficiaries;**

**Defining precisely what the DiscoverEU pass is to cover so as to match young people travel patterns**
duration, validity, seasonal requirements, time and budgetary constraints, load factors);

Improving the user friendly system for the 18 years people to apply for the passes;

Improving the selection process of the users that will benefit from the PA, including defining criteria inter alia allowing all Member states to be covered, including the five Member states that are currently not covered by the Interrail network i.e. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Cyprus; and better targeting young people who are not already benefiting from a European program;

Improving the voucher solution for distributing and personalizing passes in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders;

Investigate together with the relevant stakeholders mechanisms to stimulate specific itineraries for young people to really experience Europe (to include less ‘popular’ destinations);

Improving the arrangements to publicize the programme, so as to ensure visibility with particular focus on linking the initiative to a campaign on European identity and values;

Developing a creative and participative way for the users to share and follow-up their experience (photo competition and exhibition in the European parliament, social media contributions)

Delete following text:

- a contractor responsible for the organisation and delivery of the travel trips of participants will be selected in 2019 and who would pursue contact with European rail enterprises, in adjusting the format of the product to be offered to young people turning 18, including negotiations on pricing to determine the final number of users that could benefit from the preparatory action;
- determining the number of young people who could be given the pass;
- purchasing passes at the price renegotiated with EuRail;
- distributing passes to beneficiaries;
- defining precisely what the DiscoverEU pass is to cover so as to match young people’s travel patterns (duration, validity, seasonal requirements, time and budgetary constraints, load factors);
- making the system more user-friendly for 18-year-olds applying for passes;
- improving the process for selecting the users who will benefit from the preparatory action, including defining criteria allowing inter alia all Member States to be covered, including the five that are currently not covered by the Interrail network, i.e. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta and Cyprus, and better targeting young people who are not already benefiting from a European programme;
- improving the voucher solution for distributing and personalizing passes in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders;
- investigating, together with the relevant stakeholders, mechanisms to encourage specific itineraries for young people to really experience Europe (which will include less ‘popular’ destinations);
- improving the arrangements for publicising the programme, so as to ensure visibility, with a particular focus on linking the initiative to a campaign on European identity and values;
- further looking into partnership arrangements for the operational aspects of the project, with a view to lowering costs and reaching as many participants as possible;
- developing a creative and participative way for users to share and follow-up their experience (e.g. a photo competition and exhibition in the European Parliament and social media contributions).

Amend text as follows:

The preparatory action should be implemented in 2019 and 2020.

Justification:
With a still substantial number of young Europeans deprived from the opportunity to travel in Europe and from discovering the richness and diversity of the continent, a rising populism and misinformation and a growing need to promote within young generations sustainable mode of transportation, this preparatory action will provide for the necessary first steps in establishing a fully-fledged program that authentically reflects an interconnected and united Europe.

Draft amendment 176

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 15 02 77 21 — Preparatory action — Exchanges and mobility in sport

Amend figures as follows:

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Justification:

There is a strong demand for learning mobility, which is not covered by the sport chapter of the Erasmus+. Learning mobility understood as “move of the individual to a country other than their country of residence, in order to undertake study, training or other learning, including traineeships and non-formal learning, or teaching or participating in a transnational professional development activity” could be a benefit for the individual, the organisation and for sport as a whole.

Draft amendment 177

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 15 02 77 23 — Preparatory action — Monitoring and coaching, through sports, of youngsters at risk of radicalisation

Amend figures as follows:

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Justification:

In its resolution on an Integrated approach to sport policy, the Parliament recognises the importance of grassroots sports in preventing and fighting radicalisation.

A first experience was gained with the PP "Monitoring and coaching through sports of youngsters at risk of radicalisation". Building on this pilot, further structural and embedded actions should be envisaged. This could lead to mainstreaming of this action into existing programmes, related to internal security or citizenship.
SECTION III — COMMISSION

**Item 15 02 77 28** — Preparatory action — Sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees

Amend figures as follows:

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**Justification:**

Sport initiatives aiming at integrating refugees and promoting social inclusion have proven to be successful in the European context as well as conflict zones and their neighbours. However, existing programmes, even if open to social inclusion, do not provide sufficient support to sport organisations, in particular in terms of capacity building and possibility to work with non EU partners, in order to contribute efficiently to the integration of refugees through sport. These practices can be adapted and scaled to effectively engage refugee, host, and conflict communities.

**Draft amendment 4013**

Tabled by Nicolae Ștefănuță, Luis Garicano, Committee on Budgets

SECTION III — COMMISSION

**Add: 15 02 77 29**

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**Heading:**

Pilot project — Erasmus for seniors

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

The new Pilot Project Erasmus for Seniors intends to promote the following actions in line with the objectives set out in Articles 8 and 10 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as well as Articles 21 and 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union:

- Launch an open call for "Erasmus for seniors" designed for European +65/retired adults for short mobility actions (up to 30 days, including at least 1 and up to 3 European destinations), taking into account socioeconomic factors.

- Help senior European citizens gain access to educational opportunities by means of travelling to other EU Member States, reinforcing common EU values and promoting life-long learning through partnerships with universities, cultural institutes, offices of the European capitals of culture, European Cultural Heritage sites and other potential actors. Such an initiative would follow the logic of the WHO’s report "Active Ageing: A Policy Framework", in which it is stated that "social support, opportunities for
education and lifelong learning, peace, and protection from violence and abuse are key factors in the social environment that enhance health, participation and security as people age”.

- Nurture intergenerational exchanges: activate mentorship projects to share knowledge among the elderly and young people.

- Discover and strengthen our common European identity.

- Serving Articles 165, 166 (2) and 167 (2) TFEU as the proposal’s legal basis.

Justification: One fifth of the EU population is over 65 years old. Currently, Europe’s seniors lack opportunities to actively participate in society. The Erasmus programme is one of the great success stories of the EU. Extending these educational exchanges to people that could not enjoy this program when they were young will promote lifelong learning and active and healthy aging. It will also allow EU seniors to enjoy the cultural and natural heritage of Europe, while fostering closer ties between European citizens and strengthening a sense of belonging to a common culture and civilisation.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


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**Draft amendment 978**

Tabled by Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left

SECTION III — COMMISSION

**Add: 15 02 77 29**

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**Heading:**

*Pilot project — Untapping the potential of sports in the EU: Mapping sports and recreational facilities and open spaces in the EU*

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

*EU’s sport policy is designed to maximize economic benefits from sport. Nonetheless there is an untapped potential in the sector of sports that is yet to be utilized. Science has indicated that sport and physical exercise can have beneficial effects on one’s mental and physical health, as well as, positive impact on*
society and the economy. Even being a spectator has been marked as lowering stress levels and is a method of social and cultural participation.

The EU can among others contribute in certain objectives in the field of sports which include:

- to improve the monitoring and forecasting of sport data in order to influence social and economic policy
- to identify sport’s economic potential and share best practices on financing measures
- to support legislation in the areas of antitrust, merger control and state aid under European competition law
- to determine the best options for public and private financing of sport at grassroots level
- to create awareness of the social and economic implications sport-related media and to safeguard intellectual property rights

Among those objectives lies the raising of public awareness on the benefits of sports. Indeed, according to the European Union Work Plan for Sport (2017-2010), which is the compass of the Union activities on sports, priority no. 3 focuses particularly in liaising sport and society.

In addition, efforts to promote health-enhancing physical activity (HEPA) have been also stepped up by the European Week of Sport, a EU-wide initiative, statistical data show that in certain member states practicing sports (at least once a week) remains below 40% for population aged 15 and more.

The Council Recommendation on promotion health-enhancing physical activity across sectors proposes a series of indicators to chart the member state’s performance but there is no or little reference to networking of different sports clubs, mapping the facilities across Europe.

Finally, the European Parliament Resolution on ‘An integrated approach to Sport Policy: good governance, accessibility and integrity’ stresses that member states should provide urban planning and construction of sport facilities and particularly for vulnerable groups including full and equal access to public sports facilities as well as foster the establishment of new sports clubs.

Therefore, this pilot project will aim at:

(1) mapping the public sports facilities and public open spaces on a digital platform
(2) inform people about the availability and accessibility of nearby facilities on different sports categories
(3) minimum specification, technical details, age appropriateness, safety details and the availability of sports equipment
(4) pooling of material and available resources with the view to exchange (products covered by the Harmonized System – HS)
(5) inform about employment opportunities and vacancies in the facilities;

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Accessibility of facilities for persons with disabilities includes, apart from the build environment, the information sharing on the availability of facilities and what those entail. Non-discrimination in the access includes fostering the awareness of the benefit of the sport and the prospect of acquiring it without supplementary or excessive cost for the citizen. This is the added value provided by this pilot project promoting inclusion, integrity and accessibility in sports through the use of new technologies and
innovation.

Draft amendment 278
Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 15 02 77 29

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Heading:
Pilot project — Sport as a tool for social inclusion of disadvantaged youth

Remarks:
Add following text:

Sport is known to have a great potential as an instrument for social inclusion of people. Yet often youth from socio-economic disadvantaged backgrounds or with a disability, or due to health reasons, cannot participate in sport in their neighbourhood. These young people therefore miss the opportunities that are inherent to sport: meeting other people from other backgrounds and getting motivated for new opportunities in life, such as education and work. In some Member States, social inclusion through sport is increasingly seen as an opportunity, but improvements can be easily made by linking organisations active in this field and disseminating best practices.

This pilot project therefore aims to promote social inclusion of disadvantaged youth through concrete actions and initiatives in sport. It will consist of a platform facilitating the linkage of organisations active in the field of social inclusion of disadvantaged young people through sport throughout the EU [1] and the exchange of best practices relating to projects and initiatives that aim at social inclusion of disadvantaged youth through sport, through the organisation of seminars, conferences and online tools.

The main share of the funding under this pilot project will be spent on such concrete actions and initiatives in sport that aim to promote social inclusion of disadvantaged youth. The remaining part will be spent to create the platform.

[1] Including the territories listed in Article 355 paragraph 1 TFEU and the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs)

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:

Sport has proven to be an efficient tool for social inclusion of disadvantaged youth, and especially to make them motivated for education and work. This pilot project will contribute to social inclusion of disadvantaged youth by funding concrete actions and initiatives, and by setting up a platform which will facilitate the exchange of best practices by organisations active in the field of social inclusion of
disadvantaged youth through sport throughout the EU.

Draft amendment 716
Tabled by Renew Europe Group

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 15 02 77 29

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Heading:

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Remarks:

Add following text:

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It will consist of a platform facilitating the linkage of organisations active in the field of social inclusion of disadvantaged young people through sport throughout the EU [1] and the exchange of best practices relating to projects and initiatives that aim at social inclusion of disadvantaged youth through sport, through the organisation of seminars, conferences and online tools.

The main share of the funding under this pilot project will be spent on such concrete actions and initiatives in sport that aim to promote social inclusion of disadvantaged youth. The remaining part will be spent to create the platform.

[1] Including the territories listed in Article 355 paragraph 1 TFEU and the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs)

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Sport has proven to be an efficient tool for social inclusion of disadvantaged youth, and especially to make them motivated for education and work. This pilot project will contribute to social inclusion of disadvantaged youth by funding concrete actions and initiatives, and by setting up a platform which will
facilitate the exchange of best practices by organisations active in the field of social inclusion of disadvantaged youth through sport throughout the EU.

Draft amendment 179

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 15 02 77 30

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Heading:

Pilot project — Grassroots sports programmes and infrastructure innovation

Remarks:

Add following text:

Grassroots sports is a traditional and slowly evolving area. Society in general and individuals’ needs and preferences regarding sports on the other hand, change more rapidly. Indeed: participation figures indicate there is a rising mismatch between the supply of sports via traditional sports organizations and the demand for sports by individuals. The system of sports associations and clubs and their lack of innovation inhibits them from bridging this gap. This project aims to challenge parties outside the traditional sports structure to propose innovative solutions to make supply of sports meet the demand of individual athletes on all levels. And provide a sports innovation ecosystem to make it possible for new ways of playing sports to be offered to the general public faster.

In order to reach a working innovative ecosystem among grassroots sports organizations, two things are needed: new soft programmes offering sports in new ways, and a flexible sports infrastructure ready to host different kinds of sports (organizers) at a single location.

The purpose of this pilot project is to identify and test multiple promising innovations in both categories. In order to reach this, innovation challenges will be organized that select and reward promising innovations by any interested party (institution, company, startup, individual(s) or other parties). The project then makes it possible to introduce and test these new concepts over a substantial period (minimum 6 months). The funding will be invested in the realization of soft programmes and implementation of new (small) sports infrastructure.

The final aim is to include tested innovations into the ecosystem of existing sports clubs and infrastructure. Examples of soft programmes might be 3-a-side football, cross-overs between different sports (e.g. fitness and football) or recurring local mini-tournaments. Examples of new small infrastructure innovations might be flexible pitch line marking systems or sensors indicating the active use and availability of pitches. Successfully tested examples will be actively shared with European stakeholders via an (online) platform, with cooperation of European governing bodies such as UEFA.

The aim of the project is:

Unlock innovative solutions of non-traditional sports parties through organizing open innovation challenges;

Increase the number of people practicing sports through offering new concepts;

Increase the usage of existing sports infrastructure.
The expected outcomes include:

A number of tested innovative soft programmes ready to be integrated in the proposition of grassroots sports clubs;

A number of tested innovative small infrastructure elements ready to be implemented in existing sports infrastructure;

New methods to increase sports participation by innovation, with effects on public health and social integration;

Learnings about including non-traditional stakeholders in innovating the sports landscape, to be shared through European association structures.

Since the expected outcomes of this project include adaptations to existing sports infrastructure, this project is not suitable for an application to the Erasmus+ program.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Grassroots sport is a traditional and slowly evolving area. Participation figures indicate there is a rising mismatch between the supply of sports via traditional sports organizations and the demand for sports by individuals. The system of sports associations and clubs and their lack of innovation inhibits them from bridging this gap. This project aims to propose innovative solutions to make supply of sports meet the demand of individual athletes on all levels. And provide a sports innovation ecosystem for new ways of playing sports to be offered to the general public faster.

Draft amendment 184

Tabled by Committee on Culture and Education

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 15 04 77 18 — Preparatory action — Music Moves Europe: Boosting European music diversity and talent

Amend figures as follows:

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Justification:

Following discussion at EU level with the representatives of the music ecosystem, this PA responds to the identified need for more targeted support to Europe’s music sector to address topical issues by means of selected activities. It would complement and build on the existing, but far too limited support options for music under Creative Europe. Very importantly, it would add value to the formulated political priorities in the field of culture as stipulated in the Treaties.
Draft amendment 4010

Tabled by Olivier Chastel, Committee on Budgets, Charles Goerens, Frédérique Ries

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 15 04 77 22

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Heading:

Preparatory action — Protecting the Jewish Cemeteries of Europe: A full mapping process with research and monitoring and individual costed proposals for protection.

Remarks:

Add following text:

The Pilot Project has allowed mapping Jewish cemeteries across Europe, itself an urgent task due to the increasing threat of erosion, neglect and vandalism. The resulting database is unique in its accuracy, thoroughness and scope, but it is only partially finished — the action would make most sense if the survey was completed in every EU country as well as in Neighbourhood Policy states. Maintenance of the database would be crucial for it to function appropriately and continue to serve as a reference point.

Jewish cemeteries in Europe are a ubiquitous form of cultural heritage, that testify the multicultural history of the continent, and often serve as the sole such heritage in remote, rural areas. Its protection inevitably bring together state actors, NGOs, local communities, Jewish communities, descendants, offering a unique opportunity to develop strong, cross-sectoral ties of cooperation, strengthening and enriching local identity.

Developing and implementing a bottom-up, decentralised form of protection therefore serves as an entry point for many such localities into the broader infrastructure of conservation, heritage management and heritage-oriented education. This being so, protecting Jewish cemeteries is a key element towards capacity building in the cultural sector, a more active and tolerant civil society, and a multi-scalar European heritage infrastructure.

It is therefore of utmost importance to carry the Pilot Project forward as a Preparatory Action for another two year period.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Survey at least 1,500 Jewish cemeteries (about 25% of total in Europe) in 3 EU and 2 neighbourhood countries over 2 years, examine costs of protection of the sites, collate data received into online database, draw up plans for future fencing, train engineers and architects locally to demands of cemetery protection, utilise projects to encourage recognition of Europe's historical and cultural diversity by promoting educational projects in minority rights and cultural heritage. Provide a prototype for a full survey of all
Europe’s cemeteries following completion of the pilot.

Draft amendment 112

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 15 04 77 22

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Preparatory action — Finance, Learning, Innovation and Patenting for Cultural and Creative Industries (FLIP for CCIs)

Remarks:

Add following text:

These appropriations are intended to launch the preparatory action, as well as cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years.

Cultural diversity and identification of the proper cultural mix are of strategic importance for creativity and innovation. The cultural and creative industries (CCIs) in Europe employ more than 12 million workers, or 7.5% of the European workforce, and create about EUR 509 000 000 000 in added value as a result, in particular, of the contribution made by small and micro enterprises. CCIs represent a driving force generating a competitive advantage for Europe, especially since they provide products and services that promote evolution of the production paradigms of Industry 4.0.

This pilot project will define and test the policies and actions necessary to sustain and develop these enterprises, which, with adequate support, can generate cross-benefits and spill-overs in all the areas and sectors these companies interface with in achieving their business objectives.

The thrust of the pilot project involves four areas:

1. A new model for analysing skills

The model for recognising skills normally used in European training systems needs to be reviewed and updated to properly include the organisational model of those enterprises, which often have little hierarchy, a broader tolerance for risk, a different time-management approach and strong disciplinary interchange, and which are therefore not compatible with the traditional manufacturing paradigm. This new model for analysing and identifying skills compatible with the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering/Environment, Arts, Manufacturing) areas, seeks to create a privileged relationship among virtuous companies, the most significant best practices, and success experiences, in order to identify and define both the skills and the characteristics of the professional figures who work in these contexts. In other words, the genesis and evolution of those skills must be traced back, moving beyond the more widespread paradigm in which professional figures are codified within analytical-descriptive work processes (typical of manufacturing organisations), to obtain job descriptions consistent with the distinctive organisational characteristics of those companies.

More specifically, the project will be divided into the following phases:

— selecting ‘best practice’ CCIs to involve in the enquiry to formulate a skill classification model that recognises the special nature of the various sectors (historical and artistic heritage, industry of content,
ICT industries, and materials culture, including the macro-sectors of fashion, design and the taste industry) and the regional dimensions of the Union,

— developing a model for recognising skills,
— testing the model with a broader panel of enterprises,
— releasing the model for codifying skills and associating them with professional figures in the light of the European framework on skills.

2. Indications for the education system

Nowadays, the development of creative and cultural skills is the result of a process that is neither fully structured, nor entirely aligned with the needs for medium/long-term management of CCIs. The output generated by the skill recognition model would pave the way for the identification of aspects and issues in the education system with respect to the characteristics of training programmes aimed at developing skills. In fact, the development of strategic skills for CCIs is often left to chance and individual initiative and inventiveness, or to informal processes, without a structural approach derived from a vision that fosters a precise training policy and targeted programmes.

The key goal of this phase of the pilot project is to perpetuate these skills through the training system, so as to prepare more European citizens for operating effectively in the various business areas in which CCIs are involved.

The guidelines should be structured in such a way that observing the specific nature of the national and regional education systems will guide their training programmes, from primary training to tertiary education. Efforts should be made to improve the capability of the education system to dialogue with CCIs and promote innovative training models (learning laboratories, creative hubs, etc.). This should accompany the formulation of guidelines to empower teachers to promote skill-based learning, going beyond a rigid system of disciplines and favouring a holistic and multi-disciplinary approach. Centuries of craftsmen’s traditions across Europe show the value of spending time gaining experience from different workshops as an important part of the cultural and practical training of an aspirant master in creative artisanship. While the German ‘Wandergeselle’ or the French ‘compagnon’ of the past were self-organised forms of learning, they highlight the need for a structured and common European approach to identify and transfer the elusive skills of CCIs.

3. A new financial classification for CCIs

Access to finance is a major obstacle to growth for many CCIs, which are generally small and often undercapitalised. The banking and financial system is slow to classify those enterprises within traditional systems, as most of them are founded on one prototype or single project and are heavily dependent on their products and services, on individual talent, and on assumption of risks. Unlike companies operating in the technological sectors, CCIs find it hard to obtain recognition of the value of their intangible assets on their balance sheets, and their investments in the development of new talent and creative ideas do not correspond to the usual concept of R&D.

The project will define guidelines to improve CCIs’ capability to better communicate financial values associated with intangible assets to give them fair access to lending. This would make it easier for CCIs to access guarantee systems (e.g. Creative Europe Programme and the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)) and other financing mechanisms. The guidelines will be defined on the basis of a comparison of existing instruments in European Countries (e.g. Bancopass in Italy) that those enterprises are already using to dialogue proactively with banks.

4. Valuing and defending intellectual property produced by CCIs

Companies that protect their intellectual activities are 22% more productive (for the same territory, sector and size), with revenue growth 2% higher than the sample average. Specifically, companies that filed a patent in 2011-2013 have a 6,5% higher percentage of exports to total revenue, for the same territory, size and sector.
Because of the often under-structured organisation of cultural and creative industries, the registration or patenting of innovations they are able to produce is not always a priority, thus diminishing the value of the results produced by that innovation. It is therefore essential to study how to make those industries — especially the small and medium size ones — more aware of the benefits in terms of stronger impact deriving from the registration or patenting of their innovative products and services, and foster access to those opportunities, as these enterprises are often undercapitalised. Through a close tie-in with outputs emerging from a comparison of best practices and instruments described in point 3, the project will take forward existing instruments in European countries, which enterprises use to dialogue with banks, financial bodies and institutions, involving specific items that can enhance the values of innovation registration or patenting.

Framework development of the project

The initiative will be developed through the creation of European partnerships that enhance the qualified organisations' expertise in the various phases and activities that make up the pilot project. The organisations that carry out the pilot project should represent the main reference regions for CCIs and be equipped with the necessary resources to maximise the project’s impact.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Europe's cultural and creative heritage is unparalleled in the world. Its interdisciplinary nature overcomes traditional distinctions between STEM and Humanities, favouring the STEAM paradigm, which bridges the S and T of Science and Technology with the A of Arts (i.e. creativity, design, fashion, craftsmanship), and the M not of Mathematic, but Manufacturing. Competitiveness and growth of CCIs begin with a unique blend of technology, beauty, culture, manufacturing, craftsmanship.

Draft amendment 976

Tabled by Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 15 04 77 22

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Heading:

Pilot project — Protecting ancient theaters and amphitheaters in Europe: Common memories and roadmaps of drama

Remarks:

Add following text:

Since their inception during the classical period of Ancient Greece and the Roman Empire times, theaters
have been sacred places that remained at the urban epicenter of political, social and religious life for the years to come.

Initially the theatres were built to host plays, which were originally closely linked to religious rituals. In the following years, they disengaged from strict religious purposes to hosting events of the performing arts and complex productions. During the course of their evolution, theatres acquired a central role in the function of the city-state, and became multifunctional, used not only for dramatic and religious performances but also for political purposes linked to the institution of Democracy.

Being constantly repurposed through the centuries to serve the needs of the time, those architectural monuments of European cultural heritage, bare on their benches the history of European culture. Not only that, but also, they reveal a whole spectrum of human activity as their structure has served multiple purposes from political gatherings and other mystifying rituals. They also reveal communal habits of the early societies, including therapeutic seances for people visiting the asklepeion (healing temples attached to the theatres).

Apart from that their architectural design, a unified design based on mathematical principles that embodied harmony. This design has been the inspiration of modern structures since its simplicity offers great acoustics and unimpeded view. That is achieved by the semi-circular or circular seating layout combined with tiers (rows) with differentiated height among them.

Lastly, their geographical situation was very carefully selected and therefore all of them are situated in exceptional sceneries and places of significant natural beauty.

Therefore, the entirety of the ancient theatre including the landscape and the full span from the traditions, performing arts and manuscripts and plays that came to life, as well as the archaeological site itself presents a wonderful mixture of cultural heritage, that is of mixed nature (manmade and natural) and includes tangible (including movable and immovable parts) and intangible elements (oral traditions, performing arts, crafts and rituals) and diverse cultural expressions.

They are scattered throughout mostly the largest part of them Euro-Mediterranean area in the south, the littoral states of the Black Sea in the east, the Iberian Peninsula in the west, and all the way up to the shores of the North Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean.

Unfortunately, many theatres have been abandoned due to the high cost of restoration and preservation. The financial crisis that hit Europe reoriented completely priorities of the Member states and took the focus away from cultural actions.

Building on Article 167 TFEU ‘the Union shall contribute to the flowering of the cultures of the Member States, while respecting their national and regional diversity and art the same time bringing common cultural heritage to the force’ . Doing that is shall encourage cooperation between the Member states supporting and supplementing their action in the ‘improvement of the knowledge and dissemination of the culture and history of the European peoples’ as well as in the ‘conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage of European significance’. Cultural heritage can also have environmental benefits as it enables sustainable development of landscapes.

Since the adoption of the European Agenda for Culture in 2007, which was revamped with the adoption of a New European Agenda in 2018 by the European Commission, cultural heritage has been a priority for European cooperation on culture policy. Cultural heritage can play a significant role in the economic and social development process of many member states and can directly support cultural and social innovation integrated into local settings in which it can drive development and help improve people’s welfare. This was pointed out in the Resolution of the European Parliament ‘Towards an integrated approach to cultural heritage for Europe’ of 8 September 2015. That is also highlighted by the Rome Declaration adopted by the leaders of the 27 member states, the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission which pointed out that a social Europe is a Union that ‘preserves our cultural heritage and promotes cultural diversity’ . Similarly, in the ‘Report of the Horizon 2020 expert group on cultural heritage: Getting cultural heritage to work for Europe’.
More recently the Council Conclusions on the need to bring cultural heritage to the fore across policies in the EU (2018/C, 196/05) the Council called on the Commission and the member states to “promote support for the digitization of cultural heritage as a tool for open access to culture and knowledge, thus stimulating innovation, creativity and participatory governance of cultural heritage”

More concretely, the pilot project, building on the momentum of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018, includes three main aspects:

(a) Full mapping process with the view of identifying the needs and pinpoint endangered cultural heritage
(b) Networking of organizations (consortium) dealing with the ancient theaters in order to:
   a. exchange good practices
   b. trace common paths and histories and
   c. organize common activities with a view of creating a pan-European theater festival
(c) Creation of an online platform that will aim at achieving full digitization of the theaters, their history, relevant information about current activities and also a virtual (3D preferably) representation of the actual theater

This first phase of the project will aim at creating the basis for the second basis, which will be the inauguration of a Pan-European Theatre festival to be held in different locations each year.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:

Ancient theatres’ mark the birthplace of the core values that compose the European civilization. Their immaculate architecture bears witness of the undeniable liaison between culture and democracy. Through them, we can trace back to the role of open assemblies. As their configurations have persevered to this day and they are or can easily become operational, they offer contemporary visitors the opportunity to reconnect with timeless concepts and be part of a living museum.

Draft amendment 846

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 15 04 77 23

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Heading:

Preparatory action — Music Moves Europe: Boosting European music diversity and talent

Remarks:
Add following text:

This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the preparatory action.

Europe is home to some of the leading music songwriters, performers, concert venues, festivals, record labels, publishers, distributors, start-ups and digital services in the world. In recent years, the creation, production, distribution and consumption of music have fundamentally changed: new distribution channels, powerful digital players, innovative start-ups, business models and consumption patterns have emerged. Digitalisation, for example in the case of music streaming, has brought opportunities, but also many challenges for the sector.

This preparatory action will address some of the sector’s main challenges, taking into account the outcome of the recent Union-level dialogue with music stakeholders and focusing on the following fields: (a) offline and online distribution (e.g. increasing citizens’ access to music in all its diversity); (b) artist and repertoire development (including boosting mobility of artists and cross-border circulation of European repertoire);

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Following discussion at EU level with the representatives of the music ecosystem, this PA responds to the identified need for more targeted support to Europe’s music sector to address topical issues by means of selected activities. It would complement and build on the existing, but far too limited support options for music under Creative Europe. Very importantly, it would add value to the formulated political priorities in the field of culture as stipulated in the Treaties.

Draft amendment 961

Tabled by Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 32 02 77 08 — Pilot project — Fuel/energy poverty — Assessment of the impact of the crisis and review of existing and possible new measures in the Member States

Amend figures as follows:

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Justification:

As energy poverty is a persisting problem, more needs to be done at EU level. This would be also in line with establishing EU Energy Poverty Observatory.

Draft amendment 99
Amend figures and remarks as follows:

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Remarks:

After paragraph:

This preparatory action will ensure the effectiveness .......... a platform which should enable the Commission to:

Amend text as follows:

– identify the Union’s coal and carbon-intensive regions in transition and their smart specialisations,

– build a dedicated practical toolkit with (a) best practices, (b) existing support instruments identifying best synergies, and (c) information exchange with and between regions,

– establish stakeholder fora and provide tools for intra-regional exchanges, including on comprehensive roadmaps for low-emission reindustrialisation and reskilling needs,

– identify on-the-ground bottlenecks and streamline support to new technologies and clean-coal innovation development and uptake, including carbon capture and storage, carbon capture and utilisation and coal gasification,

– establish a compendium of best practices and operational guidelines, and eventually a practical toolkit for third country coal and carbon-intensive regions in transition, as part of the capacity-building measures under the Paris Agreement,

– set up a cross-DG team to (a) identify areas of possible Union policy/programme synergies with a view to ensuring the most effective financial and policy support post-2020; (b) assist regions (central and local authorities) in developing sustainable transition strategies.

– **In order to reach the EU climate goals and fulfil the EU commitments under the Paris Agreement, while ensuring a just energy transition where the coal regions are not left behind, we propose to strengthen the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition and its Secretariat - established by the PA in 2018, and continued in 2019 - by providing an increased PA budget in 2020, and extending the scope of the action to:**

– **Further technical assistance and capacity building in the EU coal and carbon intensive regions in areas such as strategy preparation, project development, project financing and facilitating private investments (the number of pilot region participating in the EU initiative reached 20 regions as of March 2019, in comparison to 4 regions in 2017).**

– **Engagement with the Energy Community members and observers on the subject of ”coal regions in transition” through the organisation of regional outreach in cooperation with international financial institutions and international partners.**

– **Development of a social dimension of the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition using best practices of social innovation: re-skilling and up-skilling of workers, programmes for youth and retired miners.**
Justification:
In order to reach the EU climate goals and fulfil the EU commitments under the Paris Agreement, while ensuring a just energy transition where the coal regions are not left behind, we propose to strengthen the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition and its Secretariat - established by the PA in 2018, and continued in 2019 - by providing an increased PA budget in 2020, and extending the scope of the action: (1) further technical assistance and capacity building; (2) engaging with the Energy Community members and observers; (3) development of a social dimension of the Platform.

Draft amendment 108

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 32 02 77 16

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Heading:

Pilot project — Establishment of a European virtual platform and forum for identifying challenges for the definition of technical standards, for exchanging best practices and fostering the scale up of data-driven services

Remarks:
Add following text:

The project aims to set up a platform for exchanging best practices and technical advices, based on the experience made so far in the different Member States and local communities, in order to facilitate the scale up of data-driven services, such as Blockchain, Internet of Things and Artificial Intelligence.

In a fast changing world, information sharing, harmonisation and interoperability of the different initiatives could be key for establishing benchmarks for the use of these technologies in the next years, also taking into consideration the increasing connectivity and the need to have smart solutions ready to be implemented.

The virtual platform should involve representatives from all interested stakeholders and be open to all kind of contributions coming from potential users, active consumers and all citizens in general. It should help the construction of a permanent forum that should be monitored and coordinated by the European Commission. It could then be used to discuss the initiatives in the field of data-driven services, creating a sort of permanent consultation forum helping the brainstorming of an entire community of innovators, developers, stakeholders, traditional actors, active citizens that are working already with many concrete examples throughout Europe.

The Commission could use the platform to better disseminate information on this sector, knowing that a central input to develop common rules, standards and practices is always an advantage for the creation and the operation of new instruments.

Legal basis:
Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 54(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the

**Justification:**

The platform or the forum would allow a permanent discussion and exchange of best practices in the field of data-driven services, gathering the most suitable experiences that are put forward by the private and public sectors facilitating the scale up of such technologies.

Draft amendment 526

Tabled by Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance

SECTION III — COMMISSION

**Item 33 03 77 08 — Preparatory action — Capacity building, programmatic development and communication in the context of the fight against money laundering and financial crimes**

Amend figures as follows:

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**Justification:**

In the light of the challenges revealed by the Panama and Paradise Papers scandals and the fifth revision of the anti-money laundering directive, it is apparent that the Union-level capacity of a wide range of organisations (e.g. NGOs, trade unions and academic communities) in this field needs to be boosted.

Draft amendment 4

Tabled by Committee on Legal Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 33 03 77 09

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**Heading:**

_Pilot project — Study on corporate due diligence and liability in sub-contracting chains_

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

_The European Parliament has, in various reports, called on the European Commission to develop legislative proposals on corporate due diligence. Today, the only binding measures in this area are non-financial reporting obligations (limited to disclosure of information), obligations to a small number of companies in some sectors (diamonds, wood, minerals) and companies (importers, main subcontractors)._
Different competences defined in the EU Treaties give the Commission a right to regulate these issues: trade policy (Article 207 TFEU), environmental policy (Art 192 TFEU), the harmonisation of company law (Art 50(2) (g) TFEU) and the need to ensure well-functioning of the internal market (Art 114 TFEU).

The EU has an obligation to promote respect for fundamental rights, including workers rights, and sustainable development while exercising its competences. Furthermore, the introduction of different national legislations on responsible corporate conduct and due diligence may affect the functioning of the internal market and create difficulties for companies operating in different national regimes.

Considering the interests for EU citizens, companies, the EU internal market and the EU objectives of promoting workers' and human rights, the environment and ensuring that existing regulations can be properly enforced, it is important that corporate social responsibility is harmonised at EU level and enshrined in EU law in a binding form and applies to all companies with an office in an EU Member State. A pilot project on this issue could examine the feasibility of such an initiative in the EU to improve traceability and respect for fundamental rights and the environment; and how to enable the EU and Member States to better enforce corporate social responsibility and address abuses taking place in supply and subcontracting chains.

Specifically, a study could be launched on the following premises:

a) Consumers perspectives and expectations

b) Implementation of UN Guiding principles on Business and human rights

c) Proliferation of national legislation and potential inconsistencies in their internal market, unfair competition and barriers to trade

d) The implications for labour law and workers' rights, such as liability for breaches of occupational health and safety regulations, workers involvement and proper payment of wages and other remunerations.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

EU consumers want to purchase in the knowledge they are buying responsibly. Traceability of the origin of products and resources is a key way for the EU to deliver on its promises of policy coherence and improved sustainable development. EU citizens trust that public procurement contracts and other public funding go to responsible and honest companies. Despite citizens’ concerns there is no enforceable EU legislation on the issue. We must expand, harmonise and develop EU wide legislation on corporate due diligence. This study could serve as a basis for future EU legislation.

Draft amendment 1060

Tabled by Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 33 03 77 09

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93
Heading:

**Pilot project — Union Fund to support litigation cases on criminalisation of humanitarian action in the EU**

Remarks:

Add following text:

*These appropriations shall be used to create a Union fund for legal assistance to individuals and civil society organisations that have been victims in the EU of criminalisation of their humanitarian action to assist migrants in distress whether at sea or land.*

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

The last year has seen an increase of charges being brought against individuals rendering humanitarian assistance to people in distress at sea or on land. Search and Rescue NGOs, who were among the final nominees for the Sakharov price, have seen charges being brought against individuals but also the organisations and their ship being seized. The same situation is being faced by individuals and civil society organisations rendering assistance on land.

Draft amendment 848

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: **33 03 77 10**

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Heading:

**Pilot project — Study on corporate due diligence and liability in sub-contracting chains**

Remarks:

Add following text:

*Add following text:*

*The European Parliament has, in various reports, called on the European Commission to develop legislative*
proposals on corporate due diligence. Today, the only binding measures in this area are non-financial reporting
obligations (limited to disclosure of information), obligations to a small number of companies in some sectors
(diamonds, wood, minerals) and companies (importers, main subcontractors).
Different competences defined in the EU Treaties give the Commission a right to regulate these issues: trade
policy (Article 207 TFEU), environmental policy (Art 192 TFEU), the harmonisation of company law (Art 50(2) (g) TFEU)
and the need to ensure well-functioning of the internal market (Art 114 TFEU).
The EU has an obligation to promote respect for fundamental rights, including workers rights, and sustainable
development while exercising its competences. Furthermore, the introduction of different national legislations
on responsible corporate conduct and due diligence may affect the functioning of the internal market and create
difficulties for companies operating in different national regimes.
Considering the interests for EU citizens, companies, the EU internal market and the EU objectives of promoting workers' and human rights, the environment and ensuring that existing regulations can be properly enforced, it is important that corporate social responsibility is harmonised at EU level and enshrined in EU law
in a binding form and applies to all companies with an office in an EU Member State. A pilot project on this issue could examine the feasibility of such an initiative in the EU to improve traceability and respect for fundamental rights and the environment; and how to enable the EU and Member States to better enforce corporate social responsibility and address abuses taking place in supply and subcontracting chains.
Specifically, a study could be launched on the following premises:

a) Consumers perspectives and expectations
b) Implementation of UN Guiding principles on Business and human rights
c) Proliferation of national legislation and potential inconsistencies in their internal market, unfair competition

and barriers to trade
d) The implications for labour law and workers' rights, such as liability for breaches of occupational health and safety regulations, workers involvement and proper payment of wages and other remunerations.

Legal basis:

Add following text:
**Justification:**

EU consumers want to purchase in the knowledge they are buying responsibly. Traceability of the origin of products and resources is a key way for the EU to deliver on its promises of policy coherence and improved sustainable development. EU citizens trust that public procurement contracts and other public funding go to responsible and honest companies. Despite citizens’ concerns there is no enforceable EU legislation on the issue. We must expand, harmonise and develop EU wide legislation on corporate due diligence. This study could serve as a basis for future EU legislation.

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**Draft amendment 291**

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

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**SECTION III — COMMISSION**

**Item 10 02 77 04 — Pilot project — Integrated techniques for the seismic strengthening and energy efficiency of existing buildings**

**Amend figures as follows:**

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**Justification:**

The rehabilitation of the existing buildings is a main goal for EU member states.

To this end, an Action Plan to redevelop and modernize the existing building stock should be developed. However, defining sustainable rehabilitation techniques able to reduce seismic vulnerability and increase energy efficiency, is anything but easy. Additional and updated researches and results are strongly required.

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**Draft amendment 837**

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

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**SECTION III — COMMISSION**

**Add: 10 02 77 06**

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**Heading:**

**Pilot project — Integrated techniques for the seismic strengthening and energy efficiency of existing buildings**

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

*This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the pilot project.*
Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

The rehabilitation of the existing buildings is a main goal for EU member states. To this end, an Action Plan to redevelop and modernize the existing building stock should be developed. However, defining sustainable rehabilitation techniques able to reduce seismic vulnerability and increase energy efficiency, is anything but easy. Additional and updated researches and results are strongly required.

Draft amendment 816

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 13 03 77 26

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Pilot project — Promoting city partnerships on a global scale for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) of the United Nations with particular emphasis on cooperation on issues and policies relating to circular economy as well as on issues of air quality, energy transition and the integration of migrants and refugees

Remarks:

Add following text:

EU urban development policy, and international cooperation on urban policy, is moving forward on themes such as smart cities, waste management and climate change adaptation. Other themes, on the evidence, are much less tested. Accordingly, this PPPA is intended to test international experience and to understand best practice regarding 4 sustainable urban development themes which are relatively neglected, and yet are crucially important for the quality of life in cities inside the EU and outside. These are themes in which cities across the world, including in less prosperous countries, have much experience to offer EU cities. For example, a fundamentally important field is the circular economy, where cities of the EU have much to learn from non-EU cities. Janez Potocnik, former EC Commissioner and now co-chairman of the UNEP International Resource Panel has said that "transition to the circular economy is not only necessary it is unavoidable". This is therefore one of the 4 key areas where we need to test new practices from the international experience which in turn can act as demonstration for future EU urban development programmes under cohesion policy. To ensure the success of this cooperation it is important that it involves the stakeholders inside and outside the EU, notably the research community and the private sector.

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:

At the adoption of the UN NUA in Quito in October 2016, the EU made voluntary commitments to deliver the NUA through the EU Urban Agenda and to foster cooperation between cities on sustainable urban development. Experience of EU actions up to the present shows that key themes of the urban agendas are neglected. Through this PPPA, 4 such themes will be piloted to improve EU and non-EU urban policy and inform future cooperation between cities.

Draft amendment 1004

Tabled by Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Heading:

Pilot project — BEST Culture : Program to support cultural diversity in the European overseas

Remarks:

Add following text:

The outermost regions (ORs) and overseas countries and territories (OCTs) are a source of immeasurable cultural wealth for the EU. That is demonstrated in particular by the fact that UNESCO classifies two ancestral cultural practices from those regions - 'maloya' from Réunion and 'gwoka' from Guadeloupe - as part of the world's intangible cultural heritage.

The EU's specific approach to ORs and OCTs should also be the basis for establishing an initiative to safeguard the identity and cultural diversity of those regions that primarily benefits European indigenous peoples such as Guyana's Amerindians.

Along the lines of the BEST programme for promoting and supporting biodiversity and ecosystem services, the BEST Culture pilot project will set up a dedicated mechanism for ORs and OCTs in order to safeguard and promote local and indigenous culture and provide a vehicle for local knowledge and popular arts and practices, which act as a unifying factor for overseas communities. It will set up a financing mechanism specifically given over to safeguarding, supporting and fostering the indigenous cultural richness of ORs and OCTs, as well as to promoting the territories and peoples concerned, and providing for cultural exchanges, among themselves and across the European Union.

The pilot project will address all living traditions and expressions inherited from ancestors and passed on to descendants, such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals and festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe, and the knowledge and know-how necessary for traditional craftsmanship. The pilot project will extend to the entire geographical area of the European ORs and OCTs, including Greenland. Any persons or organisations located in that
geographical area will be eligible to take part in the pilot project, provided that the main purpose of their actions is to safeguard and promote the traditional culture of ORs and OCTs.

Other European programmes, such as Creative Europe, could complement the pilot project's objective of safeguarding traditional culture and be used, for example, to disseminate cultural knowledge and practices throughout the EU via European communication networks and media.

By bringing greater prominence to overseas regions' identity and history, which also tie in with those of continental Europe, the pilot project will help continue the process of making European overseas regions better known. Promoting the local cultures of continental Europe's remote territories would therefore fully reflect the EU’s motto 'United in diversity' and would also combat certain prejudices.

**Legal basis:**

Add following text:


**Justification:**

The purpose of the pilot project is to safeguard and promote local and indigenous culture, provide a vehicle for local knowledge and popular arts and practices that act as a unifying factor for overseas communities, and set up a financing mechanism specifically given over to safeguarding, supporting and fostering the indigenous cultural richness of ORs and OCTs, as well as to promoting the territories and peoples concerned, and providing for cultural exchanges, among themselves and across the European Union.

Draft amendment 4014

Tabled by Younous Omarjee, Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

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Draft amendment 292

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

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Heading:

Pilot project — Capacity building for climate proofing in cohesion policy
Remarks:
Add following text:

Cohesion policy is expected to contribute to climate protection more than ever, and the EU Commission has therefore proposed for the next funding period starting in 2021 provisions to ensure the climate proofing of infrastructure projects. Although climate assessment has already been considered in the past for the appraisal of major projects, mainstreaming of climate proofing necessitates a streamlined and targeted approach and requires specific expertise and capacities from side of those actors to implement cohesion policy, in particular managing authorities and monitoring committees (including all partners involved). In order to avoid that climate proofing will be merely taken as a ticking-boxes exercise, it should instead be placed in the context of long-term structural change and transition of our economies. It is therefore necessary to build-up capacities and knowledge among the actors concerned so that climate proofing will be implemented in an effective way right from the beginning of the upcoming funding period.

The Pilot Project aims at capacity building among managing authorities and monitoring committees in the field of climate proofing. It also raises awareness for the need to take climate sensitive planning and investment decisions, and it shall contribute embedding cohesion policy funding into long-term decarbonisation pathways and the delivery of National Energy and Climate Plans. In the long-term, the project could be further developed into a tool that matches funding needs for climate adaptation with potential allocations from EU resources. The Pilot Project can also be used for publicity purpose to display the contribution of cohesion policy to climate protection.

The following activities are proposed:

- establishing a pool of relevant actors from managing authorities and monitoring committees that already have experience in implementing climate proofing tools or will be dealing with climate proofing in the near future, and from energy and climate protection authorities (‘participants’). Use should be made of already existing tools and networks available at the European Commission for training events targeting national and regional authorities responsible for the management of the Structural and Cohesion Funds;

- organising a process for the participants (e.g. via workshops), eventually in cooperation with appropriate experts from academia and consultancy, in view of testing a climate proofing mechanism (e.g. to be proposed by the EU Commission), generating experience and drawing lessons as to its applicability, effectiveness and possible fields for improvement;

- capitalisation from the process, dissemination of its outcome including proposal of mechanisms to increase the capacity of all relevant actors involved in implementing infrastructure projects in cohesion policy;

- policy recommendations aiming at ensuring that climate proofing will be an effective tool in cohesion policy programme implementation (e.g. development of a climate proofing online training tool).

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:

Tackling climate change is among the highest EU priorities and requires action on all fronts. Apart from obligations that derive from legislation, climate protection needs to be established as horizontal principle to be taken into account at any moment of decision- making in the Union and underpinned by a climate
proofing mechanism. For its effective implementation, capacities among relevant actors need to be built-up.
Draft amendment 294
Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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Pilot project — EU-Latin America cooperation on territorial development and innovation at regional level

Remarks:

Add following text:

This action will promote cooperation with Latin America and Caribbean countries and regional organisations in the field of innovation at the regional level and of cross-border development strategies.

Building on the experience of EU cohesion policy, and earlier initiatives on smart specialisation and cross-border cooperation. After the agreed letter of intent, it is time to start on cooperation programme. The core objective of this action is to train national, regional and local actors; promote dialogue between EU and Latin American countries and regions; and favour exchanges between the business, research and civil society communities. This would help develop organisational and administrative capacities in partner countries with a view to promoting economic change and diversification in less developed and border areas.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

This action contributes to strengthen links and cooperation between EU and Latin America partners and promote balanced territorial development and socio-economic cohesion, smart specialisation and innovation at the regional level, as well as to strengthen regional integration processes. It will contribute to implement the new EU-Latin America strategy.

Draft amendment 832
Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

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**Heading:**

Preparatory action — Smart local administration using IoT, AI, VR and Machine Learning tools to get closer and more present to the citizen

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

Centre of Innovation and Civic Imagination is an instrument of social innovation, communication, research and promotion, as well as a place for discussion and information available to citizens, the public and experts in various fields. The CIIC also aims to become a permanent laboratory in which to develop and test different forms of collaboration between city actors in order to support participatory practice and to promote discussions on urban innovation projects. The Center manages the analysis processes and develops pilot projects for the community and aims to solve the city’s pressing problems and to plan future projects, to identify complementary functions in relation to the current dynamics of the city. One of the particularities of the Center for Innovation and Civic Imagination is to use in the organization and the effective organization of open meetings and methodologies of innovation recommended by the European Commission, using the concept of helix quadruple (addressing the themes of analysis with the participation of experts in the public administration location, academics, business environment and NGO sector), or even helix quintuple, by joining and involving with the helix quadruple and a citizen - a direct beneficiary of measures aimed at increasing the quality of life in the city. The centre coordinates and guides complex networks of participatory governance.

The strong points of this pilot project is to emphasise the proactivity of citizens towards the local governments and to stress the importance of their participation into the decision making process.

**Legal basis:**

Add following text:


**Justification:**

Technology is meant to ease citizen's access to public administration. Therefore a policy aiming at funding local innovation solutions to be put to the service of municipalities should be adopted. The funding should help cities to design products adapted to local needs, using the digital solutions available on the market, like IoT, AI, VR and Machine Learning. The result will concretely show how machines are in the services of citizens and also create 24/7 accessible local public services.
### Heading:

**Preparatory action — The Adriatic Ionian Network of Universities, Regions, Chambers of Commerce and Cities (AI-NURECC) Spin-Off**

### Remarks:

Add following text:

The proposed project continues as a preparatory action following up on the success of the pilot project under the title: European Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) - generation and preparation of initiatives and projects with genuine added value for the region as a whole.

The Adriatic Ionian Network of Universities, Regions, Chambers of Commerce and Cities (AI-NURECC Initiative) proposed initiative involving the key stakeholders of the Adriatic Ionian Regions, who have joined their efforts to support the European Union Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Sea Region (EUSAIR) implementation, enhance appropriation of EUSAIR main objectives and opportunities, at regional and local level, and foster the sound implementation of its Action Plan.

The AI-NURECC initiative is coordinated by the CPMR with support of four partners of the area: Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE), Forum of Adriatic and Ionian Cities (FAIC), Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce, and UniAdrion.

The current AI-NURECC Initiative has a duration of 18 months (ending in autumn 2018) and the feedback from stakeholders and participants shows the necessity for a second – extended – initiative.

The duration of the AI-NURECC Initiative’s spin-off could be of 36 months (starting from October 2019 and ending in October 2022).

The AI-NURECC Initiative’s spin-off will aim at:

- Enhancing Regional and Local Authorities’ appropriation of EUSAIR main objectives and opportunities, promoting an efficient participatory and bottom-up approach;

- Promoting the development of sustainable tourism with focus on the eight Priority Activities for TSG 4 as derived from the report of the EUSAIR national tourism strategies on common priorities and actions in relation to the EUSAIR action plan - Pillar IV: "Sustainable Tourism", support the implementation of the activities in cooperation with the TSG 4 members;

- Encouraging multi-actor networking and collaboration among representatives of the private and public sector and civil society to:
  - Foster coordination among EU, National, regional, and local policies to develop circular economy;
  - Work on territorial challenges in specific Adriatic Ionian territories (mountains, islands and sparsely populated areas), linking EUSAIR to the new territorial agenda and supporting regional level with specific territorial challenges (existing platforms, young people in areas with territorial challenges) to establish a dialogue;
  - Increase skills and knowledge of young people, students and civil servants, including those who leave in areas with territorial challenges;
  - Promote the EUSAIR cross-pillar topics: ‘Research and Innovation’ and ‘SMEs development’ and ‘capacity building’. Therefore, to support entrepreneurship, transnational clusters and digital innovation hubs activities for the EUSAIR, as well as contributing to disseminate and to strengthen the existing RIS3

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platforms and to work on new ones, when appropriate.

Enabling synergies with the EUSAIR TSGs;

Promoting synergies with other initiatives (WESTMED, BLUEMED,) and/or other macroregional strategies (EUSDR, EUSBSR, EUSALP).

The target groups of the AI-NURECC Initiative’s spin-off will be:

Practitioners of regional and local governments;

Universities, VET Institutions, Students and Associations of students;

Youth and Young unemployed;

Regional and/or local development agencies;

Chambers of Commerce;

Small and Medium Enterprises;

Creative and Cultural Industries;

Private investors;

Insular, rural and mountainous communities and networks.

The activities undertaken by the AI-NURECC Initiative’s spin-off will be the:

Organisation of AI-NURECC Training Seminars, focused on different thematic areas and the cross-cutting issues (sustainable tourism, blue growth, SMEs development, R&I, etc.);

Conducting RIS3, innovation and SMEs development issues within the Strategy;

Creation of the AI-NURECC SCHOLARSHIP FUND (6 months free costs internship in innovative AI enterprise);

Development of specific studies (e.g. on how to tackle challenges affecting the development of AI sustainable cruise tourism, maritime Western Silk Roads, indicators and data collections for EUSAIR islands, etc.).

The territorial scope of the AI-NURECC Initiative’s spin-off will be:

The EUSAIR macroregion;

Activities, where possible, should target and/or be implemented in AI territories with specific challenges (e.g. mountains, islands and sparsely populated areas).

Given the activities that the AI-NURECC Initiative’s spin-off aims to deliver, apart from the partners of the AI-NURECC Initiative associated partners will be also involved for the implementation of specific actions.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

The feedback from stakeholders and participants in the current AI-NURECC Initiative’s activities shows the necessity for a second – extended and more inclusive – initiative. Given the activities that the AI-NURECC Initiative’s spin-off aims to deliver, apart from the partners of the AI-NURECC Initiative associated partners will be also involved for the implementation of specific additional actions.
Draft amendment 296

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

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*Preparatory action — Smart local administration using IoT, AI, VR and Machine Learning tools to get closer and more present to the citizen*

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Pilot project — Capacity building for climate proofing in cohesion policy

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The Pilot Project aims at capacity building among managing authorities and monitoring committees in the field of climate proofing. It also raises awareness for the need to take climate sensitive planning and investment decisions, and it shall contribute embedding cohesion policy funding into long-term decarbonisation pathways and the delivery of National Energy and Climate Plans. In the long-term, the project could be further developed into a tool that matches funding needs for climate adaptation with potential allocations from EU resources. The Pilot Project can also be used for publicity purpose to display the contribution of cohesion policy to climate protection.

The following activities are proposed:

- establishing a pool of relevant actors from managing authorities and monitoring committees that already have experience in implementing climate proofing tools or will be dealing with climate proofing in the near future, and from energy and climate protection authorities (‘participants’). Use should be made of already existing tools and networks available at the European Commission for training events targeting national and regional authorities responsible for the management of the Structural and Cohesion Funds;

- organising a process for the participants (e.g. via workshops), eventually in cooperation with appropriate experts from academia and consultancy, in view of testing a climate proofing mechanism (e.g. to be proposed by the EU Commission), generating experience and drawing lessons as to its applicability, effectiveness and possible fields for improvement;

- capitalisation from the process, dissemination of its outcome including proposal of mechanisms to increase the capacity of all relevant actors involved in implementing infrastructure projects in cohesion
policy;
- policy recommendations aiming at ensuring that climate proofing will be an effective tool in cohesion policy programme implementation (e.g. development of a climate proofing online training tool).

Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:
Tackling climate change is among the highest EU priorities and requires action on all fronts. Apart from obligations that derive from legislation, climate protection needs to be established as horizontal principle to be taken into account at any moment of decision-making in the Union and underpinned by a climate proofing mechanism. For its effective implementation, capacities among relevant actors need to be built-up.

Draft amendment 843

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 13 03 77 30

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Heading:
Pilot project — EU-Latin America cooperation on territorial development and innovation at regional level

Remarks:
Add following text:

This action will promote cooperation with Latin America and Caribbean countries and regional organisations in the field of innovation at the regional level and of cross-border development strategies.

Building on the experience of EU cohesion policy, and earlier initiatives on smart specialisation and cross-border cooperation. After the agreed letter of intent, it is time to start on cooperation programme.

The core objective of this action is to train national, regional and local actors; promote dialogue between EU and Latina American countries and regions; and favour exchanges between the business, research and civil society communities. This would help develop organisational and administrative capacities in partner countries with a view to promoting economic change and diversification in less developed and border areas.

Legal basis:
Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 54(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the

Justification:

This action contributes to strengthen links and cooperation between EU and Latin America partners and promote balanced territorial development and socio-economic cohesion, smart specialisation and innovation at the regional level, as well as to strengthen regional integration processes. It will contribute to implement the new EU-Latin America strategy.

Draft amendment 297

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 13 03 77 31

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Heading:

Preparatory action — The European Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR): generation and preparation of initiatives and projects supporting multilevel governance and partnerships with an added value for the Region

Remarks:

Add following text:

The objective of this preparatory action is to organise and develop:

Effective multi-level governance in pursuit of the objectives laid down in the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian region (EUSAIR);

Capacity building among EUSAIR key implementers as a pre-requisite for effective implementation of the EUSAIR Action Plan;

Generation and preparation and actual implementation of initiatives and projects with a genuine macro-regional value;

Awareness-raising initiatives, supporting partnership of NGOs and local and regional authorities, cultural events, training programmes and/or seminars for citizens and especially for young people in the Region, with the aim of creating ownership with regards to EUSAIR, of emphasising shared regional identity and of promoting partnership and networking across the Region. These programmes should stress civic education, transnational entrepreneurship, opportunities for cultural events, good neighbourly relations, and help promote effective EU integration of candidate and potential candidate countries for EU membership;

Support international associations representing regions, cities, chambers of commerce, universities, portal authorities and others that aim to further improve the Strategy’s implementation.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Preparatory action within the meaning of Article 54(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the

Justification:
The Region plays a key role in strengthening geographical continuity in Europe.
The EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region should be implemented by making use of all available funding resources, from the European Union, its Member States and other coastal countries, International Financial Institutions, as well as private capital. Partnerships between stakeholders on the local and regional level, and NGOs is a precondition for the successful implementation of the Strategy.

Draft amendment 281
Tabled by Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
EMPL/5696 = Compromise amendment

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 32 02 77 15 — Pilot project — Covenant of Mayors as an instrument to tackle energy poverty

Amend figures as follows:

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Justification:
Energy poverty is a European-wide problem which, if left untreated, is likely to worsen in the current economic climate. It risks locking some EU consumers out of the energy transition currently under way and prevent them from benefitting from the advantages of an integrated and consumer-centric internal energy market. This project will help to improve the life conditions of the European citizens affected with Energy Poverty, fulfil the aims of the Energy Union and reduce Energy Consumption. This is an ongoing PP with an A grade from the EC (this proposal can be implemented as suggested).

Compromise amendment between EMPL/5679

Draft amendment 811
Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 32 02 77 16

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Heading:
Preparatory action — Establishing comprehensive support for coal and carbon-intensive regions in
transition

Remarks:

Add following text:

After paragraph:

This appropriation is intended to cover commitments ........... from previous years under the preparatory action.

Amend text as follows:

The recovery of the Union from the economic crisis and the effective implementation of its key goals of sustainable growth, high quality jobs, strong growth and global competitiveness, including through sustainable reindustrialisation and modernisation of the Union economy, must be founded on long-term environmental, economic and social sustainability. In the context of the ambitious climate commitments of the Union and a just transition to a net-zero greenhouse gas economy by 2050 as outlined in the Communication of the European Commission A Clean Planet for all A European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy (COM(2018) 773) and the European Parliament resolution on Climate Change: a European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern competitive and climate neutral economy in accordance to Paris Agreement. (2019/2582 (RSP)) low-emission economy based on the circular model, its coal and carbon-intensive regions with a high proportion of workers in carbon-dependent sectors need targeted support to effectively contribute to this strategic transformation.

According to Eurostat figures, coal and lignite mining alone currently account for over 300 000 direct jobs in the Union. These are concentrated in a limited number of regions, where they are the principal driver of the local economy and social cohesion. In the face of the challenges of technological progress, global competition and demanding, but necessary environmental and climate policies, the ability of those regions to contribute to and benefit from the Union’s just transition to a low-emission economy has a crucial bearing on the overall success of the Union. Furthermore, the transition has to be socially just and based on a strong involvement/participation of the communities and workers concerned in order to not only create sustainable and high quality jobs in the concerned regions through for example up- and re-skilling programmes, but also to create a better wellbeing in general. This would allow the regions to make their people beneficiaries and ensure that nobody is left behind in the transformation the European Union is undergoing. Such a participation of the entire society would allow the Union to have more public acceptance. This has been acknowledged by the Commission, which in its communication on ‘Clean Energy for All Europeans’ committed to ‘examine how to better support the transition in coal and carbon-intensive regions’.

The continuation of this preparatory action will further ensure the effectiveness of these support efforts, their long-term sustainability, and ultimately the success of the transformation of the Union economy and society as a whole and its global leadership, by intensifying the work of the established platform, establishing a platform which should enable the Commission to:

Add following text:

— identify the opportunities of the Union’s coal and carbon-intensive regions in transition for a just transition strategy to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, maintain sustainable and high quality jobs for their workforces, sustainable economic growth and increased wellbeing for their communities,

— focus the platform’s secretariat’s work on

(a) identifying areas of possible Union policy/programme synergies with a view to ensuring the most effective financial and policy support post-2020;

(b) working closely with various involved DGs to have a cross-sectoral approach to the matter;
(c) assisting regions (central and local authorities) in developing sustainable transition strategies by providing more targeted tools for intra-regional exchanges on best practices, including on comprehensive roadmaps for low-emission reindustrialisation and re-skilling and up-skilling needs;

— re-direct the concentration of existing stakeholder fora, including social dialogue and dialogue with civil society in general to exchanges on the establishment of just transition and economic strategies;

— identify and assist in the overcoming of on-the-ground bottlenecks, such as the incapacity of regions to successfully apply for EU funding, and streamline support to new sustainable technologies and clean innovation development and uptake in line with the net-zero greenhouse gas economy by 2050,

— provide additional financial support, on top of existing funding schemes without redeployment from other programs, for the establishment of regional /local just transition roadmaps towards carbon neutrality by 2050 in the most affected regions and communities. Extra funding should also support existing or future territorial / community projects that are based on the participation of affected workers and communities through consultation and empowerment.

Delete following text:

– identify the Union’s coal and carbon-intensive regions in transition and their smart specialisations,

– build a dedicated practical toolkit with (a) best practices, (b) existing support instruments identifying best synergies, and (c) information exchange with and between regions,

– establish stakeholder fora and provide tools for intra-regional exchanges, including on comprehensive roadmaps for low-emission reindustrialisation and reskilling needs,

– identify on-the-ground bottlenecks and streamline support to new technologies and clean-coal innovation development and uptake, including carbon capture and storage, carbon capture and utilisation and coal gasification,

– establish a compendium of best practices and operational guidelines, and eventually a practical toolkit for third country coal and carbon-intensive regions in transition, as part of the capacity-building measures under the Paris Agreement,

– set up a cross-DG team to (a) identify areas of possible Union policy/programme synergies with a view to ensuring the most effective financial and policy support post-2020; (b) assist regions (central and local authorities) in developing sustainable transition strategies.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

This PA is an extension of the current PA as adopted in Budget 2019 with slight modifications. Coal- and carbon-intensive regions will need to undergo a sustainable transition in order to allow the EU to achieve its climate goals. It is of utmost importance that this transition is not only supported economically, but also socially in order to make sure that the transition is just and that no-one is left behind. Therefore, EU support to enable this transition, and maintain and create sustainable and high quality jobs, is necessary.

Draft amendment 299

Tabled by Committee on Regional Development
SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 32 02 77 16

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**Heading:**

Preparatory action — Strengthening the cooperation on climate action among villages within the EU and beyond through the creation of a rural identity within the Covenant of Mayors

**Remarks:**

Add following text:

The action is unique in bringing villages and rural areas at the forefront of climate change action, through the new framework of the Global Covenant of Mayors. Through the action, EU villages and rural authorities around the world, having a closer knowledge of the climate change challenges for rural territories and having pushed for an ambitious global climate agreement, will join their forces to lead the efforts for the achievement of the zero emissions by 2050 climate objective.

Within the action, EU villages will work closely together within and beyond the EU for overall capacity building and more concretely to share experiences, to transfer knowledge and know-how on sustainable energy and climate planning, to share best examples on climate change mitigation and adaptation, to share their knowledge on EU innovative financial instruments in support of sustainable energy investments.

The action will involve the analysis of existing good practices of sustainable energy and climate planning implemented in villages and rural areas and the development of innovative integrated rural strategies that would properly address access to energy and energy poverty, mitigation of climate change and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as adaptation of rural territories to climate change.

These strategies will be in line with the ‘Clean planet for all’ strategy ‘Clean Energy for all Europeans’ package, as well as with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the ‘Sustainable Energy for All’ objectives.

Finally, provisions for the transparent monitoring, reporting and verification of the greenhouse gas emissions, in line with the UNFCCC requirements, will be foreseen.

**Legal basis:**

Add following text:


**Justification:**

The aim of this proposal is to ensure that EU strategies and legislative proposals take sufficiently into account the decarbonisation challenges of Europe’s villages and rural areas. Through proposed actions EU villages and rural areas could significantly contribute to the achievement of the ‘zero emissions by 2020’ objective. Within rural identity of the Global Covenant of Mayors, the action can export this knowledge to rural areas beyond the EU and exchange best practices with them, with the aim to reinforce the EU leadership in climate change action.
SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 32 02 77 16

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Heading:

*Pilot project — Teaching Islands how to tender for renewable energy projects*

Remarks:

Add following text:

The aim of this project is to teach island authorities and communities how to write open tenders themselves. These open tenders are then for private clean energy companies to competitively respond to with proposals; particularly solar, wind, storage (not only batteries) and district heating/cooling. Rapidly falling renewable energy costs and increasing numbers of clean energy providers mean that EU islands should now be transitioning to clean energy; provided they know how to write, evaluate, deliver and maintain tenders. For islands with low administrative budgets, this process is risky, as it’s highly technical, financial and legal. This project should provide islands with off-the-shelf templates for tendering, and will be developed throughout the project by taking islanders to renewable energy island experts and sites around europe, who are already delivering on profitable clean energy projects, where possible with renewable energy communities, and share their first hand experiences and the latest project-life cycle budgeting on islands. These real life training classes and site visits will then be distilled into free open access online training courses at the end of the project.

This project flips the normal EU project on its head, in that instead of being a stand alone successful proposal which response to a European Commission open tender, it will teach islands how to write tenders themselves to which they will receive responses to which they are educated to deliver and manage.

In short, it follows the well-known manta ‘Give a person a fish he will eat for a day, teach a person to fish he will eat for a lifetime.’

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

Many EU energy projects do not adequately address details on writing tenders, especially in the context of latest prices of technologies and legal. Following the successful launch of the ‘Clean Energy for EU Islands secretariat’, 26 EU islands are already receiving support to create strategies for their transition towards clean energy. This project would cover the missing link between existing programmes for technical assistance, and financing programmes such as the European Islands Facility by providing knowledge to island authorities to tender for renewable energy projects.
Draft amendment 110

Tabled by Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 32 02 77 16

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Heading:

Pilot project — Energy Communities Repository – Monitoring and Support to Energy Communities in the EU

Remarks:

Add following text:

The provisions on consumer empowerment in REDII and the Electricity Directive are among the most innovative in the Clean Energy Package. They oblige the Member States to adopt enabling frameworks for energy communities. The Internal Market Directive foresees providing level playing field for ‘citizens energy communities’ on electricity markets, while the Renewables Directive requires adoption of level playing field and incentives for ‘renewable energy communities’ active in all the areas of renewable energy. While energy communities already exist in some Member States, they constitute a novelty in others.

The Repository should fulfil two basic functions: (i) monitoring and collecting data on development of energy communities in the EU and (ii) providing communities with models for technological and administrative solutions.

On one hand, the data collected through the repository would constitute a very important source of information for the European institutions and national and local governments. These data would fit into existing and future policy streams. In other words, they would facilitate the implementation or, if need be, revision or improvement of the regulatory framework.

On the other hand, the repository could be a great source of know-how for citizens and their associations that wish to set up their energy communities, in particular in the Member States that did not develop regulatory framework or best practices so far. The best practices can include: technological solutions, e.g. for electricity sharing, the use of blockchain and distributed ledger for transacting and providing information on the origin of electricity from sources belonging to the community; documentation to set up a community, e.g. models for rules of associations, examples of agreements with DSOs; etc.

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:

There are many challenges for implementation of energy communities: a good understanding of the
definitions of renewable or citizens energy communities and collective self-consumption or jointly acting active customers; practical questions about sharing electricity without a supplier, the responsible entity for balancing and forecasting the production, whether traditional suppliers must accept electricity sharing by their customers. No best practice has been established and a repository could be a very important factor in assuring proper implementation and replicability.

Draft amendment 819

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 32 02 77 17

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Heading:

Pilot project — Teaching Islands how to tender for renewable energy projects

Remarks:

Add following text:

The aim of this project is to teach island authorities and communities how to write open tenders themselves. These open tenders are then for private clean energy companies to competitively respond to with proposals; particularly solar, wind, storage (not only batteries) and district heating/cooling.

Rapidly falling renewable energy costs and increasing numbers of clean energy providers mean that EU islands should now be transitioning to clean energy; provided they know how to write, evaluate, deliver and maintain tenders. For islands with low administrative budgets, this process is risky, as it’s highly technical, financial and legal. This project should provide islands with off-the-shelf templates for tendering, and will be developed throughout the project by taking islanders to renewable energy island experts and sites around Europe, who are already delivering on profitable clean energy projects, where possible with renewable energy communities, and share their first hand experiences and the latest project-life-cycle budgeting on islands. These real life training classes and site visits will then be distilled into free open access online training courses at the end of the project.

This project flips the normal EU project on its head, in that instead of being a stand alone successful proposal which respond to a European Commission open tender, it will teach islands how to write tenders themselves to which they will receive responses to which they are educated to deliver and manage.

In short, it follows the well-known mantra ‘Give a person a fish he will eat for a day, teach a person to fish he will eat for a lifetime.’

Legal basis:

Add following text:


Justification:
Many EU energy projects do not adequately address details on writing tenders, especially in the context of latest prices of technologies and legal. Following the successful launch of the ‘Clean Energy for EU Islands secretariat’, 26 EU islands are already receiving support to create strategies for their transition towards clean energy. This project would cover the missing link between existing programmes for technical assistance, and financing programmes such as the European Islands Facility by providing knowledge to island authorities to tender for renewable energy projects.

Draft amendment 827
Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 32 02 77 18

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Heading:

Preparatory action — Strengthening the cooperation on climate action among villages within the EU and beyond through the creation of a rural identity within the Covenant of Mayors

Remarks:

Add following text:

Add following text:

The action is unique in bringing villages and rural areas at the forefront of climate change action, through the new framework of the Global Covenant of Mayors. Through the action, EU villages and rural authorities around the world, having a closer knowledge of the climate change challenges for rural territories and having pushed for an ambitious global climate agreement, will join their forces to lead the efforts for the achievement of the zero emissions by 2050 climate objective.

Within the action, EU villages will work closely together within and beyond the EU for overall capacity building and more concretely to share experiences, to transfer knowledge and know-how on sustainable energy and climate planning, to share best examples on climate change mitigation and adaptation, to share their knowledge on EU innovative financial instruments in support of sustainable energy investments.

The action will involve the analysis of existing good practices of sustainable energy and climate planning implemented in villages and rural areas and the development of innovative integrated rural strategies that would properly address access to energy and energy poverty, mitigation of climate change and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as adaptation of rural territories to climate change.

These strategies will be in line with the ‘Clean planet for all’ strategy ‘Clean Energy for all Europeans’ package, as well as with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the ‘Sustainable Energy for All’ objectives.

Finally, provisions for the transparent monitoring, reporting and verification of the greenhouse gas emissions, in line with the UNFCCC requirements, will be foreseen.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Justification:

The aim of this proposal is to ensure that EU strategies and legislative proposals take sufficiently into account the decarbonisation challenges of Europe’s villages and rural areas. Through proposed actions EU villages and rural areas could significantly contribute to the achievement of the ‘zero emissions by 2020’ objective. Within rural identity of the Global Covenant of Mayors, the action can export this knowledge to rural areas beyond the EU and exchange best practices with them, with the aim to reinforce the EU leadership in climate change action.

Draft amendment 828

Tabled by Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: 32 02 77 19

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<th>Council's position 2020</th>
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Heading:

Pilot project — Covenant of Mayors as an instrument to tackle energy poverty

Remarks:

Add following text:

This appropriation is intended to cover commitments remaining to be settled from previous years under the pilot project.

This pilot project will reduce household energy consumption and guarantee universal access to energy. Energy poverty is a Europe-wide problem that requires a holistic approach underpinned by a joint, strong effort at all levels: local, regional, national and European. Towns, cities and regions are often best placed to identify at an early stage those households at risk of energy poverty and thus tackle it in the most effective way.

By the end of this project, outcomes will include: —

providing vulnerable homes with technical support to reduce energy consumption and costs, together with support to improve their energy performance; —

action across a number of government departments involving public health, social services, housing and environmental services, in order to take coordinated action to tackle the various aspects of energy poverty, which causes public health problems and social vulnerability and is often is linked to buildings with poor energy performance; reducing energy consumption also has a positive effect in terms of combating climate change; —

actions to link energy savings in local public facilities with the creation of a fund to fight energy poverty in all municipalities; —

actions to empower consumers in their energy consumption patterns;
Legal basis:
Add following text:


Justification:
Energy poverty is a European-wide problem which, if left untreated, is likely to worsen in the current economic climate. It risks locking some EU consumers out of the energy transition currently under way and prevent them from benefitting from the advantages of an integrated and consumer-centric internal energy market. This project will help to improve the life conditions of the European citizens affected with Energy Poverty, fulfil the aims of the Energy Union and reduce Energy Consumption. This is an ongoing PP with an A grade from the EC (this proposal can be implemented as suggested).