



Plenary sitting

A8-0455/2018

10.12.2018

REPORT

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument to finance immediate budgetary measures to address the on-going challenges of migration, refugee inflows and security threats
(COM(2018)0901 – C8-0492/2018 – 2018/2274(BUD))

Committee on Budgets

Rapporteur: Daniele Viotti

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MOTION FOR A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument to finance immediate budgetary measures to address the on-going challenges of migration, refugee inflows and security threats (COM(2018)0901 – C8-0492/2018 – 2018/2274(BUD))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the European Parliament and the Council (COM(2018)0901 – C8-0492/2018),
 - having regard to Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013 of 2 December 2013 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020¹, and in particular Article 11 thereof,
 - having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management², and in particular point 12 thereof,
 - having regard to the new draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019, which the Commission adopted on 30 November 2018 (COM(2018)0900), in accordance with Article 314(8) TFEU,
 - having regard to the conclusions of the budgetary trilogue of 4 December 2018,
 - having regard to the position on the new draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019, which the Council adopted on 11 December 2018 and forwarded to Parliament on the same day (15206/2018 – C8-0492/2018),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets (A8-0455/2018),
- A. whereas the Flexibility Instrument is intended to allow the financing, for a given financial year, of clearly identified expenditure which could not be financed within the limits of the ceilings available for one or more other headings,
- B. whereas the Commission had proposed to mobilise the Flexibility Instrument to supplement the financing available in the general budget of the Union for the financial year 2019 beyond the ceiling of heading 3 by the amount of EUR 985 629 138 to finance measures in the field of migration, refugees and security,
- C. whereas representatives of the Parliament and the Council agreed, at the budgetary trilogue of 4 December 2018, to further mobilise the Flexibility Instrument by EUR 178 715 475 as a result of reinforcements of Horizon 2020 and Erasmus+ programmes in subheading 1a;

¹ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 884.

² OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

1. Agrees with the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument for an amount of EUR 1 164 344 613 in commitment appropriations;
2. Reiterates that the mobilisation of this instrument, as provided for in Article 11 of the MFF Regulation, shows, once more, the crucial need for the Union budget to be more flexible;
3. Reiterates its long-standing view that the payments stemming from commitments previously mobilised through the Flexibility Instrument can only be counted over and above the MFF ceilings;
4. Approves the decision annexed to this resolution;
5. Instructs its President to sign the decision with the President of the Council and arrange for its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution, including its annex, to the Council and the Commission.

ANNEX: DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument to reinforce key programmes for the competitiveness of the EU and to finance immediate budgetary measures to address the on-going challenges of migration, refugee inflows and security threats

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management¹, and in particular point 12 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas,

- (1) The Flexibility Instrument is intended to allow the financing of clearly identified expenditure which could not be financed within the limits of the ceilings available for one or more other headings.
- (2) The ceiling on the annual amount available for the Flexibility Instrument is EUR 600 000 000 (2011 prices), as laid down in Article 11 of Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013², increased, where applicable by lapsed amounts made available in accordance with the second subparagraph of paragraph 1 of that Article.
- (3) In order to reinforce key programmes for the competitiveness of the EU and to address the ongoing challenges of migration, refugee inflows and security threats, it is necessary to mobilise significant additional amounts to finance such programmes and measures as a matter of urgency.
- (4) Having examined all possibilities for reallocating appropriations under the expenditure ceilings of heading 1a (*Competitiveness for growth and jobs*) and heading 3 (*Security and citizenship*), it is necessary to mobilise the Flexibility Instrument to supplement the financing available in the general budget of the Union for the financial year 2019 beyond the ceilings of heading 1a by the amount of EUR 178 715 475 to reinforce key programmes for the competitiveness of the EU and of heading 3 by the amount of EUR 985 629 138 to finance measures in the field of migration, refugees and security.

¹ OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

² Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013 of 2 December 2013 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 884).

- (5) On the basis of the expected payment profile, the payment appropriations corresponding to the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument should be distributed over several financial years.
- (6) In order to allow for rapid use of the funds, this Decision should apply from the beginning of the financial year 2019,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. For the general budget of the Union for the financial year 2019, the Flexibility Instrument shall be mobilised to provide the amount of EUR 178 715 475 in commitment appropriations in heading 1a (*Competitiveness for growth and jobs*) and of EUR 985 629 138 in commitment appropriations in heading 3 (*Security and Citizenship*).

The amounts referred to in the first subparagraph shall be used to reinforce key programmes for the competitiveness of the EU and finance measures to address the ongoing challenges of migration, refugee inflows and security threats.

2. On the basis of the expected payment profile, the payment appropriations corresponding to the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument shall be estimated as follows:
 - (a) EUR 548 740 834 in 2019;
 - (b) EUR 257 223 207 in 2020;
 - (c) EUR 135 194 558 in 2021;
 - (d) EUR 140 942 662 in 2022;
 - (e) EUR 82 243 352 in 2023.

The specific amounts of payment appropriations for each financial year shall be authorised in accordance with the annual budgetary procedure.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2019.

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament
The President The President

For the Council

INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

Date adopted	10.12.2018
Result of final vote	+: 20 -: 2 0: 2
Members present for the final vote	Jean Arthuis, Richard Ashworth, Lefteris Christoforou, Manuel dos Santos, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Jens Geier, Ingeborg Gräßle, John Howarth, Siegfried Mureşan, Liadh Ní Riada, Jan Olbrycht, Paul Rübig, Petri Sarvamaa, Jordi Solé, Patricija Šulin, Indrek Tarand, Monika Vana, Daniele Viotti, Marco Zanni
Substitutes present for the final vote	Xabier Benito Ziluaga, Karine Gloanec Maurin, Marco Valli
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Claudia Schmidt

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

20	+
ALDE	Jean Arthuis
PPE	Richard Ashworth, Lefteris Christoforou, José Manuel Fernandes, Ingeborg Gräßle, Siegfried Mureşan, Jan Olbrycht, Paul Rübzig, Petri Sarvamaa, Claudia Schmidt, Patricija Šulin
S&D	Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Jens Geier, Karine Gloanec Maurin, John Howarth, Daniele Viotti, Manuel dos Santos
VERTS/ALE	Jordi Solé, Indrek Tarand, Monika Vana

2	-
GUE/NGL	Xabier Benito Ziluaga, Liadh Ní Riada

2	0
EFDD	Marco Valli
ENF	Marco Zanni

Key to symbols:

- + : in favour
- : against
- 0 : abstention