



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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*Committee on Budgets*

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**2011/0414(CNS)**

16.7.2012

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on the proposal for a Council regulation on establishing an Instrument for  
Nuclear Safety Cooperation  
(COM(2011)0841 – C7-0014/2012 – 2011/0414(CNS))

Rapporteur: Jan Kozłowski

PA\_Legam

## SHORT JUSTIFICATION

As a response to global challenges and the need for internationally coordinated action in the field of nuclear safety, the Commission presented its proposal for a European Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC) for the 2014 – 2020 Multiannual Financial Framework. The new instrument will build on the existing framework for nuclear cooperation that EU has been developing gradually since the 1990s.

The instrument aims to ensure sufficient means for the Union to promote human and strategic security, by means of responding to challenges in the field of nuclear safety, radiation protection and nuclear safeguards in all third countries. Furthermore, the INSC will in fact translate externally some of the objectives of Europe 2020 through the promotion of regulatory and other forms of cooperation with emerging economies, and the exchange of best practices and standards.

As nuclear challenges change dynamically, and some of the previous EU project in the field of nuclear safety will soon become obsolete (such as the remediation of the Chernobyl site), resources will be directed towards slightly different objectives in the next MFF. The new programming priorities for 2014 – 2020 will thus be remediation of mining sites, proper disposal of spent fuel, waste management and decommissioning of installations. Intervention will also switch from technical assistance to cooperation and EU know-how sharing with third countries, including in the field of design, operation, maintenance and regulation of nuclear power plants.

### Budgetary implications

The Commission proposal for overall allocation for 2014 – 2020 for the Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation shows a 5,8 % growth in constant 2011 prices (from EUR 529 mln. in the current MFF to EUR 560 mln. in the next MFF).

EU money will be disbursed through multiannual strategy papers and indicative programmes, where priorities for financing and the specific objectives will be enshrined.

### Shortcomings of the current proposal:

The Commission proposal for a Regulation is an achievement in making the instrument more transparent, flexible and simplified. Being subject to the Common Implementing Regulation covering all instruments for external action, legal certainty for beneficiaries of the INSC will be improved and rules will be harmonized.

Despite the proposed improvements, your Rapporteur would like to emphasize on the need to ensure better coordination, consistency and complementarity of efforts in the field of nuclear safety on EU and national levels, but also with other international, local and regional organisations, in order to avoid overlaps and maximise the effects of financing.

In times of economic hardship further improvement of the sound financial management and the best possible use of EU financial resources should be sought.

Without undermining the importance of nuclear safety, your Rapporteur would like to reiterate the significance of this industry as an important source of energy. Therefore, he would like to emphasize the need to maintain its economic development, while respecting fully the highest safety standards in the production of nuclear energy.

Last but not least, your Rapporteur would like to point out the importance of providing priority access to the funding available under this instrument to candidate, potential candidate and ENI beneficiaries, especially in view of the fact that 1 candidate, 1 potential candidate and 9 neighbourhood countries have or are planning the construction of research and production nuclear reactors.

## **AMENDMENTS**

The Committee on Budgets calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

### **Amendment 1**

#### **Draft legislative resolution Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft legislative resolution*

*Amendment*

***1a. Points out that the financial envelope specified in the legislative proposal constitutes only an indication to the legislative authority and cannot be fixed until agreement is reached on the proposal for a regulation laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020;***

### **Amendment 2**

#### **Draft legislative resolution Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Draft legislative resolution*

*Amendment*

***1b. Recalls its resolution of 8 June 2011 on Investing in the future: a new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for a competitive, sustainable and inclusive Europe<sup>1</sup>; reiterates that,***

*sufficient additional resources are needed in the next MFF in order to enable the Union to fulfil its existing policy priorities and the new tasks provided for in the Treaty of Lisbon, as well as to respond to unforeseen events; points out that even with an increase in the level of resources for the next MFF of at least 5% compared to the 2013 level only a limited contribution can be made to the achievement of the Union's agreed objectives and commitments and the principle of Union solidarity; challenges the Council, if it does not share this approach, to clearly identify which of its political priorities or projects could be dropped altogether, despite their proven European added value;*

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<sup>1</sup> *Texts adopted, P7\_TA(2011)0266.*

### **Amendment 3**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(1a) This Regulation should lay down, for the entire duration of the instrument, a financial envelope constituting the prime reference, within the meaning of point [] of the Interinstitutional Agreement of XX/201Z between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, for the budgetary authority during the annual budgetary procedure.*

#### **Amendment 4**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 1 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(1b) Improving implementation and quality of spending should constitute guiding principles for achieving the objectives of the instrument while ensuring optimal use of the financial resources.***

#### **Amendment 5**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 1 c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(1c) It is important to ensure sound financial management of the instrument and its implementation in the most effective and user-friendly manner possible, while also ensuring legal certainty and the accessibility of the instrument to all participants.***

#### **Amendment 6**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(4) By acting within common policies and strategies with its Member States, the European Union alone has the critical mass to respond to global challenges and is also best placed to coordinate the cooperation with third countries.

(4) By acting within common policies and strategies with its Member States, the European Union alone has the critical mass to respond to global challenges and is also best placed to coordinate the cooperation with third countries ***in the field of nuclear safety.***

## Amendment 7

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 12 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(12a) Coherence, coordination and complementarity of Union assistance in the field of nuclear safety should be ensured with the individual efforts of Member States, as well as other international, regional and local organisations in order to avoid overlaps and double financing.***

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a regulation Article 1 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

3. The Commission shall ensure that the measures adopted are consistent with the Union's overall strategic policy framework for the partner country and in particular with the objectives of its development and economic cooperation policies and programmes.

3. The Commission shall ensure that the measures adopted are consistent with the Union's ***internal and external policies, the*** overall strategic policy framework for the partner country and in particular with the objectives of its development and economic cooperation policies and programmes.

## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a regulation Article 1 – paragraph 5 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***5a. The aid provided under this Instrument shall be made available with priority to countries beneficiaries of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) and the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI).***

### *Justification*

*Although nuclear safety is of major importance for all countries and should be supported worldwide, your rapporteur is of the opinion that the primary focus of EU-aid should be related to its closest vicinity, namely countries beneficiaries of IPA and ENI instruments.*

## **Amendment 10**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 3**

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

3. Strategy papers will aim at providing a coherent framework for cooperation between the Union and the partner countries or regions concerned, consistent with the overall purpose and scope, objectives, principles and **policy** of the Union.

#### *Amendment*

3. Strategy papers will aim at providing a coherent framework for cooperation between the Union and the partner countries or regions concerned, consistent with the overall purpose and scope, objectives, principles and ***external and internal policies*** of the Union.

## **Amendment 11**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 5**

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

5. The strategy paper shall be approved by the Commission in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 15(3) of the Common Implementing Regulation. Strategy papers may be reviewed at mid-term or whenever necessary in accordance with the same procedure. However, that procedure shall not be required for updates of the strategy which do not affect the initial priority areas and objectives set out in the paper.

#### *Amendment*

5. The strategy paper shall be approved by the Commission in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 15(3) of the Common Implementing Regulation. Strategy papers may be reviewed at mid-term or whenever necessary in accordance with the same procedure. However, that procedure shall not be required for updates of the strategy which do not affect the initial priority areas and objectives set out in the paper, ***unless they have a financial impact above the thresholds defined in Article 2(2) of the Common Implementing Regulation.***



## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – paragraph 2

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

2. Multiannual indicative programmes shall set out the priority areas selected for financing, the specific objectives, the expected results, *the* performance indicators and the indicative financial allocations, both overall and per priority area, and including a reasonable reserve of unallocated funds; this may be given in the form of a range or a minimum, where appropriate.

#### *Amendment*

2. Multiannual indicative programmes shall set out the priority areas selected for financing, the specific objectives, the expected results, ***clear, specific and transparent*** performance indicators and the indicative financial allocations, both overall and per priority area, and including a reasonable reserve of unallocated funds ***without prejudice to the powers of the budgetary authority***; this may be given in the form of a range or a minimum, where appropriate.

## Amendment 13

### Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – paragraph 5

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

5. The multi annual indicative programmes shall be revised as necessary, taking into account any review of the relevant strategy papers, in accordance with the same procedure. However, the examination procedure shall not be required for modifications to multiannual indicative programmes, which make technical adjustments, reassign funds within the allocations per priority area, or increase or decrease the size of the initial indicative allocation ***by less than 20%***, provided that these modifications do not affect the initial priority areas and objectives set out in the document. Any such technical adjustments shall be communicated within one month to the European Parliament and to the Council.

#### *Amendment*

5. The multi annual indicative programmes shall be revised as necessary, taking into account any review of the relevant strategy papers, in accordance with the same procedure. However, the examination procedure shall not be required for modifications to multiannual indicative programmes, which make technical adjustments, reassign funds within the allocations per priority area, or increase or decrease the size of the initial indicative allocation ***within the relevant percentage limit set out in Article 2(2) of the Common Implementing Regulation***, provided that these modifications do not affect the initial priority areas and objectives set out in the document. Any such technical adjustments shall be communicated within one month to the European Parliament and to the Council.

*If the total amount of non-substantial amendments or their budgetary impact exceeds the thresholds for small-scale financing, as stipulated in Article 2(2) of the Common Implementing Regulation, the procedure referred to in Article 15(3) of that Regulation shall apply.*

## **Amendment 14**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 5 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### **Article 5a**

***Coherence and complementarity of Union assistance***

- 1. In implementing this Regulation, coherence shall be ensured with other areas and instruments of the Union external action, as well as other relevant Union policies.***
- 2. The Union and the Member States shall coordinate their respective support programmes with the aim of increasing the effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of support and policy dialogue in line with the established principles for strengthening operational coordination in the field of external support, and for harmonizing policies and procedures. Coordination shall involve regular consultations and frequent exchanges of relevant information during the different phases of the support cycle.***
- 3. The Union shall, in liaison with the Member States, take the necessary steps to ensure proper coordination and cooperation with multilateral and regional organisations and entities, including, but not limited to European financial institutions, international financial institutions, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, private***

*and political foundations and non-Union donors.*

## **Amendment 15**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The financial reference amount for the implementation of this Regulation over the period 2014 to 2020 is EUR 631 100 000.

*Amendment*

1. The financial reference amount *as defined in point [17] of the Interinstitutional Agreement of XX/201Z between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on cooperation in budgetary matters and sound financial management* for the implementation of this Regulation over the period 2014 to 2020 is EUR 631 100 000.

## **Amendment 16**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. Annual appropriations shall be authorised by the budgetary authority *within* the *limits* of the *multi-annual* financial framework.

*Amendment*

2. Annual appropriations shall be authorised by the budgetary authority *without prejudice to the provisions of the Regulation laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020 and the Interinstitutional Agreement of xxx/201z between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on cooperation in budgetary matters and sound financial management.*

## PROCEDURE

<b>Title</b>	Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation						
<b>References</b>	COM(2011)0841 – C7-0014/2012 – 2011/0414(CNS)						
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	ITRE 19.1.2012						
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	BUDG 19.1.2012						
<b>Rapporteur</b> Date appointed	Jan Kozłowski 15.2.2012						
<b>Date adopted</b>	12.7.2012						
<b>Result of final vote</b>	<table> <tr> <td>+: </td><td>27</td></tr> <tr> <td>–: </td><td>4</td></tr> <tr> <td>0: </td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	+:	27	–:	4	0:	2
+:	27						
–:	4						
0:	2						
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Marta Andreasen, Richard Ashworth, Zuzana Brzobohatá, Jean Louis Cottigny, Jean-Luc Dehaene, Isabelle Durant, James Elles, Göran Färm, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazábal Rubial, Salvador Garriga Polledo, Lucas Hartong, Jutta Haug, Anne E. Jensen, Jan Kozłowski, Alain Lamassoure, Giovanni La Via, Barbara Matera, Claudio Morganti, Juan Andrés Naranjo Escobar, Nadezhda Neynsky, Dominique Riquet, Alda Sousa, Helga Trüpel, Derek Vaughan, Angelika Werthmann						
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Alexander Alvaro, Bendt Bendtsen, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Lidia Joanna Geringer de Oedenberg, Jutta Steinruck, Nils Torvalds						
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote</b>	Leonardo Domenici						