



2016/2032(INI)

29.4.2016

AMENDMENTS

1 - 27

Draft opinion
Zbigniew Kuźmiuk
(PE580.545v01-00)

Access to finance for SMEs and increasing the diversity of SME funding in a
Capital Markets Union
(2016/2032(INI))

Amendment 1
Esteban González Pons

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Stresses that the EU budget should further facilitate SME access to funding and markets;

Amendment

1. Stresses that ***both the Commission and the European Central Bank recognise that access to financing is the second most serious problem facing SMEs, and it is therefore crucial that*** the EU budget should further facilitate SME access to funding and markets;

Or. es

Amendment 2
Siegfried Mureşan

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Stresses that the EU budget should further facilitate SME access to funding and markets;

Amendment

1. Stresses that the EU budget should further facilitate SME access to funding and markets; ***underlines that SMEs, as the backbone of European economy, contribute to a great extent to the creation of jobs and growth across the EU;***

Or. en

Amendment 3
Jean-Paul Denanot

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Stresses that the EU budget should further facilitate *SME* access to funding and markets;

Amendment

1. Stresses that the EU budget should further facilitate access *by SMEs, whatever their legal status*, to funding and markets;

Or. fr

Amendment 4
Paul Rübige

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Stresses that the EU budget should further facilitate SME access to funding and markets;

Amendment

1. Stresses that the EU budget should further facilitate SME access to funding and markets; *and promote a sufficiently diversified range of equity instruments across the Union, which is needed along the growth path of a company*;

Or. en

Amendment 5
Marco Zanni, Marco Valli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Stresses that the EU budget should further facilitate SME access to funding *and* markets;

Amendment

1. Stresses that the EU budget should further facilitate SME access to funding, *but does not believe that the Capital Markets Union is the right tool for meeting this requirement*;

Or. it

Amendment 6
Esteban González Pons

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Believes that major dysfunctions persist on the financial market as regards the granting of loans, in particular, when it comes to financing for newer and smaller enterprises; believes also that the differences in interest rates are still too high between the various Member States, which makes it difficult for SMEs to access credit, especially in those countries most affected by the crisis, and feels that this should be rectified;

Or. es

Amendment 7
Paul Rübiger

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Notes that bank lending still is one of the most important source of financing for European SMEs and therefore urges a healthy and stable banking sector in order to strengthen SMEs' access to finance; backs in this context the SME supporting factor which should be implemented as a permanent basis, ensuring that regulations follow the proportionality principle and acknowledge the specific role small local banks play for SME finance;

Or. en

Amendment 8
Clare Moody

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Notes that young entrepreneurs and women in particular face additional barriers in access to finance and emphasises that more should be done to unlock their potential as job creators and drivers of economic growth; this should be considered by the Commission as a measure of success or failure in its reports to the Parliament;

Or. en

Amendment 9
Clare Moody

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1b. Notes that SMEs in member states that do not have public investment banks may be at a disadvantage compared to those in countries with functioning publicly owned investment banks as assessment of public interest is not a priority for private banking institutions;

Or. en

Amendment 10
Siegfried Mureşan

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Welcomes the introduction and the performance of COSME as the first EU programme specifically benefitting SMEs; strongly believes that the current COSME appropriations, as well as those for other well-performing EU funding programmes such as the SME Instrument or InnovFin under Horizon 2020, should ***at least be maintained*** for the remaining years of the current MFF; ***points to the fact that*** Parliament has constantly sought to ***reinforce COSME appropriations***;

Amendment

2. Welcomes the introduction and the performance of COSME as the first EU programme specifically benefitting SMEs; strongly believes that the current COSME appropriations, as well as those for other well-performing EU funding programmes such as the SME Instrument or InnovFin under Horizon 2020, should ***be reinforced*** for the remaining years of the current MFF ***as the*** Parliament has constantly sought to;

Or. en

Amendment 11
Inese Vaidere

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Welcomes the introduction and the performance of COSME as the first EU programme specifically benefitting SMEs; strongly believes that the current COSME appropriations, as well as those for other well-performing EU funding programmes such as the SME Instrument or InnovFin under Horizon 2020, should ***at least*** be maintained for the remaining years of the current MFF; ***points to the fact that*** Parliament has constantly sought to reinforce COSME appropriations;

Amendment

2. Welcomes the introduction and the performance of COSME as the first EU programme specifically benefitting SMEs; strongly believes that the current COSME appropriations, as well as those for other well-performing EU funding programmes such as the SME Instrument or InnovFin under Horizon 2020, should be maintained ***and possibly reinforced*** for the remaining years of the current MFF; ***points to the fact that*** Parliament has constantly sought to reinforce COSME appropriations;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Jean-Paul Denanot

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Welcomes the introduction and the performance of COSME as the first EU programme specifically benefitting SMEs; strongly believes that the current COSME appropriations, as well as those for other well-performing EU funding programmes such as the SME Instrument or InnovFin under Horizon 2020, should at least be maintained for the remaining years of the current MFF; points to the fact that Parliament has constantly sought to reinforce COSME appropriations;

Amendment

2. Welcomes the introduction and the performance of COSME as the first EU programme specifically benefitting SMEs; strongly believes that the current COSME appropriations, as well as those for other well-performing EU funding programmes such as the SME Instrument or InnovFin under Horizon 2020, should at least be maintained for the remaining years of the current MFF; points to the fact that Parliament has constantly sought to reinforce COSME appropriations; ***stresses the importance of entrepreneurship coaching, guidance and training measures for all COSME population groups, particularly young people, women and older entrepreneurs, in order to promote gender equality;***

Or. fr

Amendment 13
Marco Zanni, Marco Valli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. ***Welcomes the fact that EUR 75 billion have been earmarked to support SMEs under the EFSI; will closely monitor the leverage created by its financing and its geographic distribution; notes the success of the SME window and calls for full use to be made of the flexibility clause provided in the regulation to increase this envelope;***

Amendment

3. ***Takes the view that support for SMEs under the EFSI is totally inadequate and is of no help to the recovery of the real economy in Europe;***

Or. it

Amendment 14
Siegfried Mureşan

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Welcomes ***the fact that EUR 75 billion have been earmarked to support SMEs under the EFSI***; will closely monitor the leverage created by its financing and its geographic distribution; notes the success of the SME window and calls for full use to be made of the flexibility clause provided in the regulation to increase this envelope;

Amendment

3. Welcomes ***that €75 billion of the total investment catalysed by EFSI over three years will go to SMEs and mid-caps via the European Investment Fund***; will closely monitor the leverage created by its financing and its geographic distribution; notes the success of the SME window and calls, ***as appropriate***, for full use to be made of the flexibility clause provided in the regulation to increase this envelope;

Or. en

Amendment 15
Andrej Plenković

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Welcomes the fact that EUR 75 billion have been earmarked to support SMEs under the EFSI; will closely monitor the leverage created by its financing and its geographic distribution; notes the success of the SME window and calls for full use to be made of the flexibility clause provided in the regulation to increase this envelope;

Amendment

3. Welcomes the fact that EUR 75 billion have been earmarked to support SMEs under the EFSI ***in order to cover more justified financial needs of SMEs***; will closely monitor the leverage created by its financing and its geographic distribution; notes the success of the SME window and calls for full use to be made of the flexibility clause provided in the regulation to increase this envelope; ***invites Commission to tackle the issue of unequal geographical spread in EU 28 MS in designing of further products to be launched***;

Or. en

Amendment 16
Nils Torvalds

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Welcomes the fact that EUR 75 billion have been earmarked to support SMEs under the EFSI; will closely monitor the leverage created by its financing and its geographic distribution; notes the success of the SME window and calls for full use to be made of the flexibility clause provided in the regulation to increase this envelope;

Amendment

3. Welcomes the fact that EUR 75 billion have been earmarked to support SMEs under the EFSI; ***notes that most of the earmarked funding for SMEs has already been distributed***; will closely monitor the leverage created by its financing and its geographic distribution; notes the success of the SME window and calls for full use to be made of the flexibility clause provided in the regulation to increase this envelope;

Or. en

Amendment 17
Siegfried Mureşan

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Welcomes the further opening of ESIFs to SMEs and the design of new dedicated schemes; ***supports the shift from grants to the provision of guarantees through financial instruments with higher leverage and less distortive effects on competition***; recalls the importance of structural funding for attracting further private investment ***to benefit SMEs in poorer regions***;

Amendment

4. Welcomes the further opening of ESIFs to SMEs and the design of new dedicated schemes; recalls the importance of structural funding for ***SMEs, including for*** attracting further private investment;

Or. en

Amendment 18
Marco Zanni, Marco Valli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. **Welcomes** the further opening of ESIFs to SMEs and the design of new dedicated schemes; ***supports the shift from grants to the provision of guarantees through financial instruments with higher leverage and less distortive effects on competition***; recalls the importance of structural funding for attracting further private investment to benefit SMEs in poorer regions;

Amendment

4. **Notes** the further opening of ESIFs to SMEs and the design of new dedicated schemes; recalls the importance of structural funding for attracting further private investment to benefit SMEs in poorer regions; ***considers it vital to have greater and better coordination with the activities of the European Investment Bank (EIB)***;

Or. it

Amendment 19
Clare Moody

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Welcomes the further opening of ESIFs to SMEs and the design ***of new dedicated*** schemes; ***supports*** the shift from grants to the provision of guarantees through financial instruments with higher leverage ***and less distortive effects on competition***; recalls the importance of structural funding for attracting further private investment to benefit SMEs in poorer regions;

Amendment

4. Welcomes the further opening of ESIFs to SMEs and the design ***and evolution of*** schemes ***to address market failures***; ***notes*** the shift from grants to the provision of guarantees through financial instruments with higher leverage; ***emphasises that grant funding should be maintained where it is playing a critical and necessary role in the promotion of innovation, development and research which are highly important for job creation and the future economic success of Europe***; recalls the importance of structural funding for attracting further private investment to ***the*** benefit ***of*** SMEs in ***less developed***, poorer ***and more remote*** regions;

Or. en

Amendment 20
Andrej Plenković

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Welcomes the further opening of ESIFs to SMEs and the design of new dedicated schemes; supports the shift from grants to the provision of guarantees through financial instruments with higher leverage and less distortive effects on competition; recalls the importance of structural funding for attracting further private investment to benefit SMEs in poorer regions;

Amendment

4. Welcomes the further opening of ESIFs to SMEs and the design of new dedicated schemes ***as a mitigating measure to facilitate SMEs access to finance***; supports the shift from grants to the provision of guarantees through financial instruments with higher leverage and less distortive effects on competition; recalls the importance of structural funding for attracting further private investment to benefit SMEs in poorer regions ***due to their higher lending rates, especially in south and south-eastern member states, therefore demanding greater attention***;

Or. en

Amendment 21
Nils Torvalds

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

4a. Supports the increased use by the Commission of the financial instruments which is necessary for mobilising additional investments from the private and public sector and reaching out to crucial target groups such as microenterprises and SMEs; calls on the Commission to simplify the access to the financial instruments for microenterprises and SMEs and to provide them with coaching activities, business and financial advice;

Amendment

Amendment 22

Marco Zanni, Marco Valli

Draft opinion**Paragraph 5***Draft opinion*

5. Believes that *the rules governing SME access to these instruments should be further simplified and made more flexible; calls on the Member States and the Commission to spare no effort to that end; calls also on the Member States, regional authorities and local business organisations to use available EU funding tools to increase the financial literacy of SMEs.*

Amendment

5. Believes that, *even where there is adequate financial literacy*, SME access to these instruments *cannot meet the need for finance, and that, therefore, the traditional channel of bank financing should be developed and improved, given that it is more closely linked to local business circumstances.*

Or. it

Amendment 23

Raffaele Fitto

Draft opinion**Paragraph 5***Draft opinion*

5. Believes that the rules governing SME access to these instruments should be further simplified and made more flexible; calls on the Member States and the Commission to *spare no effort to that end*; calls also on the Member States, regional authorities and local business organisations to use available EU funding tools to increase the financial literacy of SMEs.

Amendment

5. Believes that the rules governing SME access to these instruments should be further simplified and made more flexible; calls on the Member States and the Commission to *take all possible measures to broaden the range of SMEs, by supporting above all those micro-enterprises which, due to their size, have difficulty in gaining access to these instruments*; calls also on the Member States, regional authorities and local business organisations to use available EU funding tools to increase the financial literacy of SMEs.

Amendment 24
Clare Moody

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Believes that the rules governing SME access to these instruments should be further simplified and made more flexible; calls on the Member States and the Commission to spare no effort to **that end**; calls also on the Member States, regional authorities and local business organisations to use available EU funding tools to increase the financial literacy of SMEs.

Amendment

5. Believes that the rules governing SME access to these instruments should be further simplified and made more flexible; **particularly in the case of microfinance**; calls on the Member States and the Commission to spare no effort to **make smart simplification a priority**; calls also on the Member States, regional authorities and local business organisations to use available EU funding tools to increase the financial literacy of SMEs; **would further welcome accountability measures targeted at financial intermediaries which don't overburden SMEs or unreasonably increase costs**;

Or. en

Amendment 25
Esteban González Pons

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Believes that action should be taken to boost information and training channels for small businesses and entrepreneurs on the various European funding possibilities that they can access, so that they can acquire information on all the financial instruments provided for them by the European budget, such as those available under the LIFE+ and Creative Europe programmes and funds

for social entrepreneurship by social businesses, or European Investment Bank instruments, since these can provide financing that is more targeted and appropriate to their needs, based on the sector in which the SME is carrying on its activities; welcomes, in this context, the creation of the SME access to finance portal, www.access2finance.eu;

Or. es

Amendment 26
Clare Moody

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Welcomes the addition of the European Investment Advisory Hub as Europe's gateway to investment support but believes more could be done to develop signposting and support for SMEs to access relevant EU funds.

Or. en

Amendment 27
Esteban González Pons

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5b. Takes the view that both the EU and the Member States must continue to develop and expand European 'business angels' networks and the various ways of increasing 'crowd-funding' potentials in the EU, to ensure that the survival of this type of enterprise does not depend solely on financing from banks.

