



**2017/2136(DEC)**

1.3.2018

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 223**

**Draft report**

**Joachim Zeller**

2016 discharge: EU general budget - Commission  
(2017/2136(DEC))



### **Amendment 1**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

#### **Proposal for a decision 1**

##### **Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. ***Grants/postpones*** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016;

Or. it

### **Amendment 2**

**Indrek Tarand**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Benedek Jávor, Bart Staes**

#### **Proposal for a decision 1**

##### **Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. ***Grants/postpones*** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. ***Postpones*** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016;

Or. en

### **Amendment 3**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Notis Marias, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

#### **Proposal for a decision 1**

##### **Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. ***Grants/postpones*** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation

*Amendment*

1. ***Postpones*** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation

of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016;

of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 4**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

#### **Proposal for a decision 2**

##### **Paragraph 1**

###### *Proposal for a decision*

1. *Grants*/postpones the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

###### *Amendment*

1. Postpones the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. it

#### **Amendment 5**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Notis Marias, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

#### **Proposal for a decision 2**

##### **Paragraph 1**

###### *Proposal for a decision*

1. *Grants/postpones* the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

###### *Amendment*

1. *Postpones* the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 6**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

#### **Proposal for a decision 3**

##### **Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones the Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. it

**Amendment 7**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Notis Marias, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Proposal for a decision 3**

**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones** the Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. en

**Amendment 8**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Proposal for a decision 4**

**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

**Amendment 9**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Notis Marias, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Proposal for a decision 4**

**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones** the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. en

**Amendment 10**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Proposal for a decision 5**

**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. it

**Amendment 11**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Notis Marias, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Proposal for a decision 5**

**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

*Amendment*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

1. **Postpones** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Proposal for a decision 6**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in relation to the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in relation to the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. it

**Amendment 13**  
**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Notis Marias, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Proposal for a decision 6**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in relation to the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones** the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in relation to the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. en

**Amendment 14**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Proposal for a decision 7**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. it

**Amendment 15**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Notis Marias, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Proposal for a decision 7**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones** the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2016;

Or. en

**Amendment 16**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Proposal for a decision 8**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Approves/postpones** the closure of the accounts of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones the closure of the accounts of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016;

Or. it



**Amendment 17**

**Indrek Tarand**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital B a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**Ba.** *Whereas in the context of the discharge procedure, the Parliament wishes to stress the special importance of further strengthening the democratic legitimacy of the Union institutions through improving on transparency and accountability, implementing the concepts of Performance-Based Budgeting (PBB) and good governance of human resources;*

Or. en

**Amendment 18**

**Martina Dlabajová, Andrey Novakov, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital B a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**Ba.** *Whereas budgetary principles of unity, budgetary accuracy, annuality, equilibrium, universality, specification, sound financial management and transparency shall be respected when the Union budget is implemented;*

Or. en

**Amendment 19**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital B a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**Ba.** *Whereas the spending of the Union budget aims on improving the living conditions and qualities of life of its citizens and therefore needs to close the gaps in its social policies;*

Or. en

**Amendment 20**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital B (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**B.** *Whereas the Union budget has to take into account the implementation of a social pillar;*

Or. en

**Amendment 21**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital B c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**Bc.** *Whereas cohesion policy is a source for public investment in order to bring a clear added value and improve the quality of life of the Union citizens.*

Or. en

**Amendment 22**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Political* priorities

*Amendment*

*Specific* priorities *for 2016*

Or. es

**Amendment 23**  
**Tamás Deutsch**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to align policy objectives, financial cycles, the legislative period of the Parliament and the mandate of the Commission;

*Amendment*

1. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to align policy objectives, financial cycles, the legislative period of the Parliament and the mandate of the Commission; ***Acknowledges, however, that the timing of the next Parliament elections in spring 2019, given that the current MFF runs until December 2020, does not allow for solution to be implemented immediately; takes the view, therefore, that the next MFF should be set for a period of seven years (2021-2027);***

Or. en

**Amendment 24**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on the Commission and ***the***

*Amendment*

1. ***Taking into account the multi-***

**Member States** to align *policy objectives, financial cycles*, the legislative period of the Parliament and the mandate of the Commission;

*annual nature of the EU budget and the difficulties inherent in the political mandate and budgetary implementation*, calls on the Commission and *the Council* to align *the budgetary cycle with* the legislative period of the Parliament and the mandate of the Commission, *with a view to achieving a better understanding of European citizenship*;

Or. es

#### **Amendment 25**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 1**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to align policy objectives, financial cycles, the legislative period of the Parliament and the mandate of the Commission;

###### *Amendment*

1. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to align *the Union's* policy objectives, financial cycles, the legislative period of the Parliament and the mandate of the Commission;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 26**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 2**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

2. *Calls on the Commission to provide the Parliament with a mid-term evaluation of the current and an evaluation of the past financial periods, including a spending review*;

###### *Amendment*

*deleted*

Or. es

## Amendment 27

Marco Valli, Laura Agea

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 2

##### *Motion for a resolution*

2. Calls on the Commission to provide the Parliament with a mid-term evaluation of the current financial period and an evaluation of the past financial periods, **including** a spending review;

##### *Amendment*

2. Calls on the Commission to provide the Parliament with a mid-term evaluation of the current financial period and an evaluation of the past financial periods, **to identify which programmes have not shown any clear added value and then carry out** a spending review;

Or. it

## Amendment 28

Inés Ayala Sender

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 3

##### *Motion for a resolution*

3. Reminds that the Commission should take into account in its proposals for a new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) that some policy areas, like cohesion or research, often rely on longer-term programming and need **more time** to achieve political objectives **than other policy areas**;

##### *Amendment*

3. Reminds that the Commission should take into account in its proposals for a new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) that some policy areas, like cohesion or research, **rural development, infrastructure, ITER, Galileo, migration, defence, etc.** often rely on longer-term programming and need **a longer budgetary cycle than that of the MFF** to achieve political objectives;

Or. es

## Amendment 29

Marco Valli, Laura Agea

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

3. Reminds that the Commission should take into account in its proposals for a new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) that some policy areas, like cohesion or research, often rely on longer-term programming and need more time to achieve political objectives than other policy areas;

*Amendment*

3. Reminds that the Commission should take into account in its proposals for a new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) that some policy areas, like cohesion or research, often rely on longer-term programming and need more time to achieve political objectives than other policy areas. ***Nevertheless, suitable flexibility should be given in emergency situations;***

Or. it

**Amendment 30**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

4. Insists that the Union budget, as a consequence of the “budget focused on results initiative”, be presented according to the political objectives of the MFF;

*Amendment*

4. Insists that the Union budget, as a consequence of the “budget focused on results initiative”, ***should*** be presented according to the ***Union’s*** political objectives of the MFF; ***reminds, also in the light of the post-2020 MFF, that the Union budget should be a true European added value budget, aimed for common Union objectives promoting sustainable economic and social development of the whole Union, which cannot be achieved by singular Member States on their own and therefore should not be seen merely as a net balance or benefit of single Member States;***

Or. en

**Amendment 31**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

4. Insists that the Union budget, as a consequence of the “budget focused on results initiative”, be presented according to the political objectives of the MFF;

*Amendment*

4. Insists that the Union budget, as a consequence of the “budget focused on results initiative”, be presented according to the political objectives of the MFF *or of other EU programme documents like the European Pillar of Social Rights, which was signed on 17 November 2017;*

Or. es

**Amendment 32**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

4. Insists that the Union budget, as a consequence of the “budget focused on results initiative”, be presented according to the political objectives of the MFF;

*Amendment*

4. Insists that the Union budget, as a consequence of the “budget focused on results initiative”, be presented according to the political objectives of the *Treaties, the Europe 2020 Strategy and the MFF;*

Or. en

**Amendment 33**  
**Benedek Jávor, Bart Staes, Indrek Tarand**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**4a. Expresses the need to establish an independent disclosure, advice and**

*referral body with sufficient budgetary resources, in order to help whistle-blowers use the right channels to disclose information on possible irregularities affecting the financial interests of the Union, while protecting their confidentiality and offering needed support and advice;*

Or. en

**Amendment 34**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

5. Calls on the Commission to commit itself to *fundamentally reviewing the young farmers' and greening schemes in light of the findings of the Court of Auditors (the "Court") before the next financing period;*

*Amendment*

5. Calls on the Commission, *in its next revision of the CAP*, to commit itself to *taking into account the criticisms and recommendations made by the Court concerning young farmers and greening; welcomes the fact that, in its communication The Future of Food and Farming, the Commission makes an effort to incorporate the ECA's recommendations in its general reflection on the future of the CAP; also welcomes the fact that, by means of a delegated act, the Commission has already improved greening payments to guarantee more effective results, one year after implementation;*

Or. es

**Amendment 35**  
**Peter Jahr, Albert Deß, Norbert Lins, Mairead McGuinness**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5**



*Motion for a resolution*

5. Calls on the Commission to commit itself to fundamentally reviewing the young farmers' and greening schemes in light of the findings of the Court of Auditors (the "Court") **before** the next financing period;

*Amendment*

5. Calls on the Commission to commit itself to fundamentally reviewing the young farmers' and greening schemes in light of the findings of the Court of Auditors (the "Court") **with regard to** the next financing period;

Or. en

**Amendment 36**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

5. Calls on the Commission to commit itself to fundamentally **reviewing** the young farmers' and greening schemes in light of the findings of the Court of Auditors (the "Court") **before** the next **financing period**;

*Amendment*

5. Calls on the Commission to commit itself to fundamentally **review** the young farmers' and greening schemes in light of the findings of the Court of Auditors (the "Court") **for** the next **MPF**;

Or. en

**Amendment 37**

**Martina Dlabajová, Andrey Novakov, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

**5a. Calls on the Commission to include in its performance reports assessments on the quality of the data used and a declaration on the quality of the performance information;**

Or. en

**Amendment 38**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**5b.** *Calls on the Commission to provide the Parliament and the Court with more balanced reporting, by including in its performance reports more transparent information on challenges, pitfalls and failures;*

Or. en

**Amendment 39**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

6. Calls on the Commission to speed up the delivery of cohesion policy programmes and related payments with a view to reducing the length of the implementation period, initially, to year n+2;

6. Calls on the Commission to speed up the delivery of cohesion policy programmes and related payments with a view to reducing the length of the implementation period, initially, to year n+2, *provided that it does not impair the degree of uptake and implementation of EU policies; in this regard, strongly urges the Commission and the Member States to speed up the adoption of the post-2020 MFF as much as possible and undertakes that the European Parliament will cooperate in order to achieve this goal;*

Or. es

**Amendment 40**

**Tamás Deutsch**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

6. Calls on the Commission to speed up the delivery of cohesion policy programmes and related payments *with a view to reducing the length of the implementation period, initially, to year n+2*;

*Amendment*

6. Calls on the Commission to speed up the delivery of cohesion policy programmes and related payments;

Or. hu

**Amendment 41  
Martina Dlabajová, Andrey Novakov, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*6a. Calls on the Commission to fulfil the original 20% spending target in integrating climate action into the various Union spending programmes;*

*Amendment*

Or. en

**Amendment 42  
Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 7**

*Motion for a resolution*

7. Insists that the Commission finally instruct all its directorates-general to publish their proposals for the country specific recommendations in their respective annual activity reports (AARs), as called for by Parliament;

*Amendment*

7. Insists that the Commission finally instruct all its directorates-general to publish their proposals for the country specific recommendations in their respective annual activity reports (AARs), as called for by Parliament, *provided that the corresponding European policy allows*

*it and that said recommendations are demonstrably useful for the Member States;*

Or. es

**Amendment 43**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Calls on the Commission to improve the transparency of migration policy financing as recommended by the Court in its annual report for 2016;

*Amendment*

8. Calls on the Commission to improve the transparency of migration policy financing as recommended by the Court in its annual report for 2016, *in order to make sure the needs and necessities of migrants and refugees as well as NGOs and public administration hosting them in Europe, are met adequately and that the financing of those needs is ensured.*

Or. en

**Amendment 44**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Calls on the Commission to improve the transparency of migration policy financing as recommended by the Court in its annual report for 2016;

*Amendment*

8. Calls on the Commission to improve the transparency of migration policy financing as recommended by the Court in its annual report for 2016; *in this context, welcomes the Commission's commitment to, in 2018, provide the Parliament with specific reports regarding spending on this policy;*

**Amendment 45**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Calls on the Commission to improve the transparency of migration policy financing as recommended by the Court in its annual report for 2016;

*Amendment*

8. Calls on the Commission to improve the transparency of migration policy financing as recommended by the Court in its annual report for 2016 ***and to actively monitor public procurement procedures when they are held in emergency situations;***

Or. it

**Amendment 46**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

***8a. Also calls on the Commission to improve transparency of research and rural development policies with the aim of identifying and correcting the causes of particularly high and persistent error rates, as indicated in the ECA's annual reports;***

Or. es

**Amendment 47**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9**

*Motion for a resolution*

9. Calls on the Commission to improve transparency for trust funds and for the external assistance management reports;

*Amendment*

9. Calls on the Commission to improve transparency for trust funds and for the external assistance management reports, ***regularly providing all data at its disposal***;

Or. it

**Amendment 48**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 10**

*Motion for a resolution*

10. Calls on the Commission to arrange a reduction in the fees charged by the European Investment Bank for creating and administering financial instruments;

*Amendment*

10. Calls on the Commission to arrange a reduction in the fees charged by the European Investment Bank for creating and administering financial instruments ***and to regularly present information about the beneficiaries and the results achieved by means of these instruments***;

Or. en

**Amendment 49**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 10**

*Motion for a resolution*

10. Calls on the Commission to arrange a reduction in the fees charged by the European Investment Bank for creating and administering financial instruments;

*Amendment*

10. Calls on the Commission to arrange a reduction in the fees charged by the European Investment Bank for creating and administering financial instruments ***and that these funds flow back into the EU budget***;

**Amendment 50**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 11**

*Motion for a resolution*

11. Calls on the Commission to speed up the preparation of the Union accounts, to ensure that information from Member States on shared management spending is obtained in a more timely manner and to present the management's view on Union spending earlier and together with the accounts, with the view to adopting a discharge decision in year n+1;

*Amendment*

11. Calls on the Commission to speed up the preparation of the Union accounts, to ensure that information from Member States on shared management spending is obtained in a more timely manner and to present the management's view on Union spending earlier and together with the accounts, with the view to adopting a discharge decision in year n+1 ***without under any circumstances damaging the data quality and the guarantee of good management and verification;***

**Amendment 51**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 11**

*Motion for a resolution*

11. Calls on the Commission to speed up the preparation of the Union accounts, to ensure that information from Member States on shared management spending is obtained in a more timely manner and to present the management's view on Union spending earlier and together with the accounts, with the view to adopting a discharge decision in year n+1;

*Amendment*

11. Calls on the Commission to speed up the preparation of the Union accounts, to ensure that ***reliable*** information from Member States on shared management spending is obtained in a more timely manner and to present the management's view on Union spending earlier and together with the accounts, with the view to adopting a discharge decision in year n+1; ***reminds, in this context, of the importance of data reliability;***

**Amendment 52**  
**Dennis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 11 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***11a. Calls on the Commission to ensure a balanced composition of expert groups; takes note of the Corporate Europe Observatory report of 14 February 2017 “Corporate interests continue to dominate key expert groups”<sup>1a</sup>; is concerned with its conclusion, specifically of the imbalance in the expert groups GEAR2030, Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information, Joint Transfer Pricing Forum, Platform for Good Tax Governance and the Working Group on Motor Vehicles subgroup Real Driving Emissions - Light Duty Vehicles; considers that the European Parliament has still not received a formal answer to its resolution on “Control of the Register and composition of the Commission’s expert groups” of 14 February 2017<sup>1b</sup>; calls upon the Commission to yield a thorough response without delay;***

---

<sup>1a</sup> <https://corporateeurope.org/expert-groups/2017/02/corporate-interests-continue-dominate-key-expert-groups>

<sup>1b</sup> (2015/2319(INI))

**Amendment 53**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**



## Paragraph 11 a (new)

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**11a.** Welcomes the fact that, for the first time since 1994, the Court of Auditors has given a favourable opinion on the regularity of the EU accounts, in this case referring to 2016, which, in the Court's view, reflects a major improvement in EU finances;

Or. es

## Amendment 54 Inés Ayala Sender

### Motion for a resolution Paragraph 12

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

12. Welcomes the fact that the Court has given a clean opinion on the reliability of the accounts for 2016, as it had done since 2007, and that **the Court concluded that** revenue was free from material error **in 2016**; Notes with satisfaction that commitments underlying the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016 are legal and regular in all material respects;

12. Welcomes the fact that the Court has given a clean opinion on the reliability of the accounts for 2016, as it had done since 2007, and that revenue was free from material error **for the third year in a row since 2014**; Notes with satisfaction that commitments underlying the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016 are legal and regular in all material respects;

Or. es

## Amendment 55 Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz

### Motion for a resolution Paragraph 13

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**13.** Notes with concern that as to the revenue for 2016, the director general of Directorate-General for Budget has

*deleted*

*issued a reservation for the traditional own resources revenue, in view of the OLAF's fraud case related to United Kingdom customs duties;*

Or. en

**Amendment 56**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 14**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**14.** *Points out that the revenue affected by the quantified reservation is EUR 20.1 billion: i.e. 15 % of own resources for 2016; calls on the Commission to provide precise information on this fraud case, which indirectly affects the Value Added Tax basis of some Member States and thus Value Added Tax-related resources plus the Gross National Income-related balancing of the Commission<sup>75</sup> ;*

*deleted*

---

<sup>75</sup> See Commission's 2016 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget, p. 81.

Or. en

**Amendment 57**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 14 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**14a.** *Calls on the Commission to develop an action plan to ensure the full*

*and on time implementation of the VAT regulations in all and every Member State in order to secure this source of Union own resources;*

Or. en

**Amendment 58**

**Martina Dlabajová, Andrey Novakov, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 15**

*Motion for a resolution*

15. Welcomes the positive trend of the most likely error rate issued by the Court compared to that of recent years since the payments are affected in 2016 by a most likely error rate of 3.1%; recalls that the most likely error rate for payments was estimated in the financial years 2015 at 3.8%, 2014 at 4.4%, 2013 at 4.7%, 2012 at 4.8%, 2011 at 3.9%, 2010 at 3.7%, 2009 at 3.3%; 2008% at 5.2%, and 2007 at 6.9%;

*Amendment*

15. Welcomes the positive trend of the most likely error rate issued by the Court compared to that of recent years since the payments are affected in 2016 by a most likely error rate of 3.1%; recalls that the most likely error rate for payments was estimated in the financial years 2015 at 3.8%, 2014 at 4.4%, 2013 at 4.7%, 2012 at 4.8%, 2011 at 3.9%, 2010 at 3.7%, 2009 at 3.3%; 2008% at 5.2%, and 2007 at 6.9%; *as the Court's s estimated error rate is not final, considers it important that Commission's residual error rate is taken into account when assessing efficiency of Union's funding;*

Or. en

**Amendment 59**

**Martina Dlabajová, Andrey Novakov, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 16**

*Motion for a resolution*

16. Stresses that the estimated level of error for cohesion does not include a quantification of 2016 disbursements to

*Amendment*

16. Stresses that the estimated level of error for cohesion does not include a quantification of 2016 disbursements to

financial instruments amounting to EUR 2.5 billion that the Court considers to be outside the eligibility period defined in Article 56(1) of Council Regulation EC 1083/2006; notes that those disbursements would represent an estimated level of error of 2.0% of overall expenditure; ***points out that if the Court had quantified this flagrant irregularity, the most likely error rate would have been estimated at 5.1% (nearly the same level as for 2008); calls on the Court to take on board all the irregularities having a financial impact when determining the most likely error rate and the Commission to table the necessary legislative proposal to put an end to this irregularity;***

financial instruments amounting to EUR 2.5 billion that the Court considers to be outside the eligibility period defined in Article 56(1) of Council Regulation EC 1083/2006; notes that those disbursements would represent an estimated level of error of 2.0% of overall expenditure; ***notes that the Court had quantified this separately (box 1.2 of the 2016 annual report) as a one-off, ring-fenced observation related to the absence of a timely Commission legislative proposal; notes the Commission's unilateral decision to accept expenditure up to 31 March 2017;***

Or. en

**Amendment 60**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16**

*Motion for a resolution*

16. Stresses that the estimated level of error for cohesion does not include a quantification of 2016 disbursements to financial instruments amounting to EUR 2.5 billion that the Court considers to be outside the eligibility period defined in Article 56(1) of Council Regulation EC 1083/2006; notes that those disbursements would represent an estimated level of error of 2.0 % of overall expenditure; ***points out that if the Court had quantified this flagrant irregularity, the most likely error rate would have been estimated at 5.1 % (nearly the same level as for 2008); calls on the Court to take on board all the irregularities having a financial impact when determining the most likely error rate and the Commission to table the necessary***

*Amendment*

16. Stresses that, ***due to the different methodology required for its calculation,*** the estimated level of error for cohesion does not include a quantification of 2016 disbursements to financial instruments amounting to EUR 2.5 billion that the Court considers to be outside the eligibility period defined in Article 56(1) of Council Regulation EC 1083/2006; notes that those disbursements would represent an estimated level of error of 2.0 % of overall expenditure; ***recognising that the specific methodology for financial instruments prevents the simple addition of error rates,*** calls on the Court to take on board all the irregularities having a financial impact when determining the most likely error rate and the Commission to table the necessary

legislative proposal to put an end to this irregularity;

legislative proposal to put an end to this irregularity;

Or. es

**Amendment 61**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**16a. Regrets that the increased use of financial instruments, in order to decrease the amount of the Union budget, poses higher risks for accountability and the coordination of Union policies and operations;**

Or. en

**Amendment 62**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**16b. Points out that there is not enough information available for an appropriate evaluation of financial instruments and in particular with regard to their social and environmental impact; emphasises that financial instruments can supplement grants but should not replace them;**

Or. en

**Amendment 63**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17**

*Motion for a resolution*

17. Notes with satisfaction that for the first time in 23 years, the Court has issued a qualified (rather than an adverse) opinion on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts which means that in the Court's view, material error was confined mainly to reimbursement-based expenditure, representing around half of the audited population;

*Amendment*

17. Notes with satisfaction that for the first time in 23 years, the Court has issued a qualified (rather than an adverse) opinion on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts which means that in the Court's view, ***this reflects an important improvement in the management of EU finances, as well as that*** material error was confined mainly to reimbursement-based expenditure, representing around half of the audited population;

Or. en

**Amendment 64**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 18**

*Motion for a resolution*

18. Regrets that for the 23st year in a row, payments are materially affected by error because of the fact that the management and control systems are only partially effective at ensuring timely payment;

*Amendment*

18. Regrets that for the 23st year in a row, payments are materially affected by error because of the fact that the management and control systems are only partially effective at ensuring ***sound financial management and*** timely payment;

Or. en

**Amendment 65**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 19**

*Motion for a resolution*

19. **Notes with concern that if** the corrective measures taken by the Member States and the Commission **had not been applied to** the payments audited by the Court, **the** overall estimated level of error **would have** been 4.3 % rather than 3.1 % (*i.e. the same level as in 2015; see paragraph 1.34 of the 2016 ECA annual report*);

*Amendment*

19. **Notes that** the payments audited by the Court, **thanks to** the corrective measures taken by the Member States and the Commission, **resulted in an** overall estimated level of error **of** 4.3 % rather than 3.1 %;

Or. es

**Amendment 66**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 20**

*Motion for a resolution*

20. Notes that the type of management has a limited impact **on level of error** as the Court finds the same estimated level of error under shared management with the Member States and for all other forms of operational expenditure managed directly by the Commission, namely 3.3 %;

*Amendment*

20. Notes that, **as opposed to the long-standing belief that shared management generates more errors than direct management**, as the Court finds the same estimated level of error under shared management with the Member States and for all other forms of operational expenditure managed directly by the Commission, namely 3.3 %;

Or. es

**Amendment 67**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Andrey Novakov, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 21**

*Motion for a resolution*

21. Points out that the Court found the highest estimated levels of error in

*Amendment*

21. Points out that the Court found the highest estimated levels of error in

spending for economic, social and territorial cohesion (4.8. % **or 6.8% with the quantified irregularity concerning the financial instruments**) and for competitiveness for growth and jobs (4.1 %), whilst administrative expenditure had the lowest estimated level of error (0.2 %);

spending for economic, social and territorial cohesion (4.8. %) and for competitiveness for growth and jobs (4.1 %), whilst administrative expenditure had the lowest estimated level of error (0.2 %);

Or. en

**Amendment 68**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 21**

*Motion for a resolution*

21. Points out that the Court found the highest estimated levels of error in spending for economic, social and territorial cohesion (4.8. % **or 6.8 % with the quantified irregularity concerning the financial instruments**) and for competitiveness for growth and jobs (4.1 %), whilst administrative expenditure had the lowest estimated level of error (0.2 %);

*Amendment*

21. Points out that the Court found the highest estimated levels of error in spending for **rural development, environment, climate action and fisheries (4.9 %)**, for economic, social and territorial cohesion (4.8 %) and for competitiveness for growth and jobs (4.1 %), whilst administrative expenditure had the lowest estimated level of error (0.2 %);

Or. es

**Amendment 69**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 24**

*Motion for a resolution*

24. Notes, in particular, that the Commission points out in its **2016AMPR**<sup>76</sup> that **the scope of** the reservations issued by the directors general in their AARs has increased and amounts at: EUR 35.3 billion, which corresponds to 26 % of the

*Amendment*

24. Notes, in particular, that the Commission points out in its **2016 AMPR**<sup>76</sup> that the reservations issued by the directors general in their AARs has increased and amounts at: EUR 35.3 billion, which corresponds to 26 % of the



payments (2015: EUR 29.8 Billion: 21% of payments);

payments (2015: EUR 29.8 billion: 21% of payments);

---

<sup>76</sup> COM(2017) 351 final, p. 81,

---

<sup>76</sup> COM(2017) 351 final, p. 81,

Or. en

## **Amendment 70**

**Peter Jahr, Albert Deß, Norbert Lins, Mairead McGuinness**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 26**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

26. Points out that the Commission notes in its AMPR a deterioration of the financial management indicators in terms of AARs reservations and explained it by the difficulties of putting in place new and more demanding schemes, notably greening<sup>77</sup>; whilst the Court points out a clear amelioration in *this very precise policy area*;

---

<sup>77</sup> 2016 AMPR, p/ 82, DG AGRI, annual activity reports annex 10, p.140.

##### *Amendment*

26. Points out that the Commission notes in its AMPR a deterioration of the financial management indicators in terms of AARs reservations and explained it by the difficulties of putting in place new and more demanding schemes, notably greening<sup>77</sup>; whilst the Court points out a clear amelioration in *the determination of eligible agricultural areas*;

---

<sup>77</sup> 2016 AMPR, p. 82, DG AGRI, annual activity reports annex 10, p.140.

Or. en

## **Amendment 71**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 27**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

27. *Notes* in particular that the Court states “that the EAGF is at 1.7 % “free from material error”, which is a real improvement by comparison with 2015, when it was 2.2 %, and estimates the level

AM\1147048EN.docx

##### *Amendment*

27. *Welcomes* in particular that the Court states “that the EAGF is at 1.7 % “free from material error”, which is a real improvement by comparison with 2015, when it was 2.2 %, and estimates the level

33/102

PE618.333v01-00

of error for entitlement-based expenditure at 1.3 %, while observing that the biggest part of first pillar CAP is included in this kind of expenditure;

of error for entitlement-based expenditure at 1.3 %, while observing that the biggest part of first pillar CAP is included in this kind of expenditure;

Or. es

**Amendment 72**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 28**

*Motion for a resolution*

28. *Is surprised by the divergent views expressed by the Court and the Commission as to financial management of the first pillar of the CAP; expresses doubts as to the assertion made by the Court that in expenditure the error is not “pervasive” (ECA annual report paragraph 1.8) since the director general of Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), in his AAR, issued a reservation in direct payments concerning 18 paying agencies comprising 12 Member States;*

*Amendment*

28. *Takes note of the Court's assertion that in expenditure the error is not “pervasive” (ECA annual report paragraph 1.8);*

Or. en

**Amendment 73**  
**Indrek Tarand**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 28**

*Motion for a resolution*

28. *Is surprised by the divergent views expressed by the Court and the Commission as to financial management of the first pillar of the CAP; expresses doubts*

*Amendment*

28. *Is surprised by the divergent views expressed by the Court and the Commission as to financial management of the first pillar of the CAP; expresses doubts*

as to the assertion made by the Court that in expenditure the error is not “pervasive” (ECA annual report paragraph 1.8) since the director general of Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), in his AAR, issued a reservation in direct payments concerning 18 paying agencies comprising 12 Member States;

as to the assertion made by the Court that in expenditure the error is not “pervasive” (ECA annual report paragraph 1.8) since the director general of Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), in his AAR, issued a reservation in direct payments concerning 18 paying agencies comprising 12 Member States; ***calls on the Commission and the Court to align their methods of assertion by leaning on the international audit standards before issuing the next Annual Report or AAR;***

Or. en

**Amendment 74**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 28**

*Motion for a resolution*

28. ***Is surprised by the divergent views expressed by the Court and the Commission as to financial management of the first pillar of the CAP; expresses doubts as to the assertion made by the Court that in expenditure the error is not “pervasive” (ECA annual report paragraph 1.8) since the director general of Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), in his AAR, issued a reservation in direct payments concerning 18 paying agencies comprising 12 Member States;***

*Amendment*

28. ***Notes that, while the first pillar of the CAP is included in entitlement payments which are not affected by a material level of error (ECA annual report paragraph 1.11), the director general of the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), in his AAR, issued a reservation in direct payments concerning 18 paying agencies comprising 12 Member States;***

Or. en

**Amendment 75**  
**Peter Jahr, Albert Deß, Norbert Lins, Mairead McGuinness**

**Motion for a resolution**

## Paragraph 28

### *Motion for a resolution*

28. ***Is surprised by the divergent*** views expressed by the Court and the Commission as to financial management of the first pillar of the CAP; ***expresses doubts as to*** the assertion made by the Court that in expenditure the error is not “pervasive” (ECA annual report paragraph 1.8) ***since*** the director general of Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), in his AAR, issued a reservation in direct payments concerning 18 paying agencies comprising 12 Member States;

### *Amendment*

28. ***Notes the*** views expressed by the Court and the Commission as to financial management of the first pillar of the CAP; ***in particular*** the assertion made by the Court that in expenditure the error is not “pervasive” (ECA annual report paragraph 1.8) ***and*** the director general of Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), in his AAR, issued a reservation in direct payments concerning 18 paying agencies comprising 12 Member States ***while still having an error rate below materiality***;

Or. en

## Amendment 76 Inés Ayala Sender

### Motion for a resolution Paragraph 29

### *Motion for a resolution*

29. ***Stresses*** that the Commission finds in its 2016 AMPR that spending ***is*** affected by a material level of error, given that the Commission's overall average error rate is estimated to be between 2.1 % and 2.6 % (having been in 2015 between 2.3 % and 3.1 %) of total relevant expenditure, and the related estimated overall amount at risk at payment is between EUR 2.9 and 3.6 billion (while in 2015 it was between EUR 3.3 and 4.5 billion);

### *Amendment*

29. ***Notes*** that the Commission finds in its 2016 AMPR that spending affected by a material level of error ***has decreased***, given that the Commission's overall average error rate is estimated to be between 2.1 % and 2.6 % (having been in 2015 between 2.3 % and 3.1 %) of total relevant expenditure, and the related estimated overall amount at risk at payment is between EUR 2.9 and 3.6 billion (while in 2015 it was between EUR 3.3 and 4.5 billion);

Or. es

## Amendment 77 Indrek Tarand

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 30**

*Motion for a resolution*

30. Notes that this decrease is, according to the Commission, mainly due to cohesion's lower inherent risk of error for programmes of the current MFF; is surprised by this explanation given the very low level of budget implementation in this area;

*Amendment*

30. Notes that this decrease is, according to the Commission, mainly due to cohesion's lower inherent risk of error for programmes of the current MFF; is surprised by this explanation given the very low level of budget implementation in this area; ***calls on the Commission to further explain the matter;***

Or. en

**Amendment 78**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 31**

*Motion for a resolution*

31. ***Highlights that*** in annex 4 of its 2016 AMPR, the Commission points out that in cohesion, no expenditure was certified in the annual accounts submitted to the Commission in 2016, nor were any financial corrections imposed by the Commission following its audit activity”(AMPR 2016, annex 4 page 20);

*Amendment*

31. ***Points out that this low rate of implementation can be explained by the fact that,*** in annex 4 of its 2016 AMPR, the Commission points out that in cohesion, no expenditure was certified in the annual accounts submitted to the Commission in 2016, nor were any financial corrections imposed by the Commission following its audit activity”(AMPR 2016, annex 4 page 20);

Or. es

**Amendment 79**  
**Indrek Tarand**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

### Paragraph 33

#### *Motion for a resolution*

33. Shares the view of the Court that the Commission’s methodology for estimating its amount at risk error has improved over the years but that “individual DGs’ estimations of the level of irregular spending are not based on a consistent methodology”;

#### *Amendment*

33. Shares the view of the Court that the Commission’s methodology for estimating its amount at risk error has improved over the years but that “individual DGs’ estimations of the level of irregular spending are not based on a consistent methodology”; ***calls on the Commission to use the same methodology to estimate its amount at risk error for all DGs and inform the Discharge Authority on the progress;***

Or. en

### Amendment 80

**Peter Jahr, Albert Deß, Mairead McGuinness, Norbert Lins**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

### **Paragraph 35**

#### *Motion for a resolution*

35. Points out in particular that for more than three quarters of 2016 expenditure, Commission directorates-general base their estimates of amount at risk on data provided by national authorities, whilst it appears from the AARs of the concerned Commission directorates-general (in particular DG AGRI and DG REGIO) that the reliability of Member States’ control reports remains a challenge;

#### *Amendment*

35. Points out in particular that for more than three quarters of 2016 expenditure, Commission directorates-general base their estimates of amount at risk on data provided by national authorities, whilst it appears from the AARs of the concerned Commission directorates-general (in particular DG AGRI and DG REGIO) that ***while*** the reliability of Member States’ control reports ***reflect the error detected by the Member State, the reliability of some management and control systems*** remains a challenge;

Or. en

### Amendment 81

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 35**

*Motion for a resolution*

35. ***Points out in particular*** that for more than three quarters of 2016 expenditure, Commission directorates-general base their estimates of amount at risk on data provided by national authorities, ***whilst it appears from the AARs of the concerned Commission directorates-general (in particular DG AGRI and DG REGIO) that the reliability of Member States' control reports remains a challenge;***

*Amendment*

35. ***Notes*** that for more than three quarters of 2016 expenditure, Commission directorates-general base their estimates of amount at risk on data provided by national authorities; ***stresses, in this regard, the importance of Member States' data reliability;***

Or. en

**Amendment 82**

**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 35**

*Motion for a resolution*

35. Points out in particular that for more than three quarters of 2016 expenditure, Commission directorates-general base their estimates of amount at risk on data provided by national authorities, whilst it appears from the AARs of the concerned Commission directorates-general (in particular DG AGRI and DG REGIO) that the reliability of Member States' control reports remains a challenge;

*Amendment*

35. Points out in particular that for more than three quarters of 2016 expenditure, Commission directorates-general base their estimates of amount at risk on data provided by national authorities, whilst it, ***regretfully***, appears from the AARs of the concerned Commission directorates-general (in particular DG AGRI and DG REGIO) that the reliability of Member States' control reports ***still*** remains a challenge;

Or. en

**Amendment 83**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 36**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**36. Points out that since errors can be corrected more than 10 years after they have occurred, it is artificial to base the estimated impact of future corrections upon recorded corrections over the last six years;** **deleted**

Or. en

**Amendment 84  
Peter Jahr, Albert Deß, Norbert Lins**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 36**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**36. Points out that since errors can be corrected more than 10 years after they have occurred, it is artificial to base the estimated impact of future corrections upon recorded corrections over the last six years;** **deleted**

Or. en

**Amendment 85  
Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 36**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**36. Points out that *since* errors can be corrected more than 10 years after they have occurred, it is *artificial* to base the estimated impact of future corrections upon**

**36. Points out that, *due to the specificity of multi-annual programming and the fact that* errors can be corrected more than 10 years after they have**



recorded corrections over the last six years;

occurred, it is *insufficient* to base the estimated impact of future corrections upon recorded corrections over the last six years;

Or. es

**Amendment 86**  
**Ingeborg Gräble**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 36**

*Motion for a resolution*

36. Points out that *since* errors can be corrected more than 10 years after they have occurred, *it is artificial* to base the estimated impact of future corrections upon recorded corrections over the last six years;

*Amendment*

36. Points out that errors can be corrected more than 10 years after they have occurred; *rejects* to base the estimated impact of future corrections upon recorded corrections over the last six years;

Or. en

**Amendment 87**  
**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 38**

*Motion for a resolution*

38. *Asks* the Commission and the Member States once again to put in place sound procedures to confirm the timing, the origin and the amount of corrective measures and to provide information reconciling, as far as possible, the year in which payments is made, the year in which the related error is detected and the year in which recoveries or financial corrections are disclosed in the notes to the accounts;

*Amendment*

38. *Strongly reiterates its call on* the Commission and the Member States once again to put in place sound procedures to confirm the timing, the origin and the amount of corrective measures and to provide information reconciling, as far as possible, the year in which payments is made, the year in which the related error is detected and the year in which recoveries or financial corrections are disclosed in the notes to the accounts;

Or. en

**Amendment 88**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 38 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**38a. Regrets the divergences in data on the error rate provided by the Court of Auditors and the Commission; calls on the Commission to focus on making reimbursements where there is a higher error rate; highlights that the reduction in the error rate cannot be seen as significant, since around half of the EU budget is still affected by a high error rate;**

Or. it

**Amendment 89**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 39**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

39. Recalls that the distinction **made by the Commission** between the ‘political responsibility of Commissioners’ and the operational responsibility of directors-general means that it has not always been made clear whether ‘political responsibility’ encompasses **responsibility** for the directorates-general, or is distinct from it;

39. Recalls **the opinion expressed by the Court in its Special Report 27/2016** that the distinction **introduced by the Kinnock-Prodi reform** between the ‘political responsibility of Commissioners’ and the operational responsibility of directors-general means that it has not always been made clear whether ‘political responsibility’ encompasses **assuming responsibility for budget implementation** for the directorates-general, or is distinct from it;

Or. es

**Amendment 90**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 40**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**40.** *Points out that the College of the Commissioners does not produce an annual statement on governance, in line with best practice and the common practice of Member States;*

*deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 91**  
**Indrek Tarand**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 40**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**40.** Points out that the College of the Commissioners does not produce an annual statement on governance, in line with best practice and the common practice of Member States;

**40.** Points out that the College of the Commissioners does not produce an annual statement on governance, in line with best practice and the common practice of Member States; ***calls on the Commission, in order to provide for a higher transparency and accountability of its College, to produce an annual statement on governance;***

Or. en

**Amendment 92**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 40**

*Motion for a resolution*

40. Points out that the College of the Commissioners does not produce an annual statement on governance, in line with best practice and the common practice of Member States;

*Amendment*

40. Points out that the College of the Commissioners does not produce an annual statement on governance, in line with best practice and the common practice of Member States; ***asks that this practice be made obligatory starting from the beginning of the next College of Commissioners' term;***

Or. it

**Amendment 93**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 41**

*Motion for a resolution*

***41. Asks the Commission to implement recommendation number 2 of the Court's Special Report 27/2016 and, in addition, accompany its financial statements with an annual statement on governance and on internal control covering in particular:***

***(a) a description of the internal governance tools of the Commission,***

***(b) an assessment of the operational and strategic risk activities during the year; and a mid- and long-term fiscal sustainability statement;***

*Amendment*

*deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 94**  
**Peter Jahr, Albert Deß, Norbert Lins, Mairead McGuinness**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 42**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

42. Endorses the reservations issued by the directors general of DG REGIO, MARE, HOME, DEVCO and AGRI, in their annual activity report; is of the opinion that those reservations **demonstrate that the control procedures put in place in the Commission and the Member States cannot give the necessary guarantees** concerning the legality and regularity of **all** the underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas;

42. Endorses the reservations issued by the directors general of DG REGIO, MARE, HOME, DEVCO and AGRI, in their annual activity report; is of the opinion that those reservations **allow for a reasonable assurance** concerning the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas;

Or. en

### **Amendment 95**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 42**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

42. Endorses the reservations issued by the directors general of DG REGIO, MARE, HOME, DEVCO and AGRI, in their annual activity report; is of the opinion that those reservations demonstrate that the control procedures put in place in the Commission and the Member States **cannot** give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of all the underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas;

###### *Amendment*

42. Endorses the reservations issued by the directors general of DG REGIO, MARE, HOME, DEVCO and AGRI, in their annual activity report; is of the opinion that those reservations demonstrate that the control procedures put in place in the Commission and the Member States **can** give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of all the underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas **if necessary correction procedures are implemented successfully**;

Or. en

### **Amendment 96**

**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 42**

*Motion for a resolution*

42. Endorses the reservations issued by the directors general of DG REGIO, MARE, HOME, DEVCO and AGRI, in their annual activity report; is of the opinion that those reservations demonstrate that the control procedures put in place in the Commission and the Member States cannot give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of all the underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas;

*Amendment*

42. Endorses the reservations issued by the directors general of DG REGIO, **EMPL**, MARE, HOME, DEVCO and AGRI, in their annual activity report; is of the opinion that those reservations demonstrate that the control procedures put in place in the Commission and the Member States cannot **in all cases** give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of all the underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas;

Or. en

**Amendment 97**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 42**

*Motion for a resolution*

42. **Endorses** the reservations issued by the directors general of DG REGIO, MARE, HOME, DEVCO and AGRI, in their annual activity report; is of the opinion that those reservations demonstrate that the control procedures put in place in the Commission and the Member States cannot give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of all the underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas;

*Amendment*

42. **Takes note of** the reservations issued by the directors general of DG REGIO, MARE, HOME, DEVCO and AGRI, in their annual activity report; is of the opinion that those reservations demonstrate that the control procedures put in place in the Commission and the Member States cannot **yet** give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of all the underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas;

Or. es

**Amendment 98**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**

## Paragraph 42

### *Motion for a resolution*

42. Endorses the reservations issued by the directors general of DG REGIO, MARE, HOME, DEVCO and AGRI, in their annual activity report; is of the opinion that those reservations demonstrate that the control procedures put in place in the *Commission and the* Member States *cannot* give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of *all the* underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas;

### *Amendment*

42. Endorses the reservations issued by the directors general of DG REGIO, MARE, HOME, DEVCO and AGRI, in their annual activity report; is of the opinion that those reservations demonstrate that the control procedures put in place in the Member States *do not* give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of *certain* underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas;

Or. en

## Amendment 99 Inés Ayala Sender

### Motion for a resolution Paragraph 43

#### *Motion for a resolution*

43. *Calls on the director general of DG R&I to provide a more risk-based assurance in its AAR and to develop a system which will allow the directorate-general to do away with its undifferentiated horizontal reservations;*

#### *Amendment*

*deleted*

Or. es

## Amendment 100 Tamás Deutsch

### Motion for a resolution Paragraph 44

#### *Motion for a resolution*

44. Points out that the delays in the implementation of programmes in the first

#### *Amendment*

44. Points out that the delays in the implementation of programmes in the first

three years of the current MFF led to the transfer of commitment appropriations from 2014, mainly to 2015 and 2016, and to low payments in 2016;

three years of the current MFF led to the transfer of commitment appropriations from 2014, mainly to 2015 and 2016, and to low payments in 2016; ***however points out that 2017 was the first year when the implementation of ESIF programmes accelerated, expects that this trend will continue in 2018 and 2019; believes that sufficient levels of payment and appropriations for commitments should be provided in order for implementation to proceed smoothly;***

Or. en

### **Amendment 101**

**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 44**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

44. Points out that the delays in the implementation of programmes in the first three years of the current MFF led to the transfer of commitment appropriations from 2014, mainly to 2015 and 2016, and to low payments in 2016;

###### *Amendment*

44. Points out that the delays in the implementation of programmes in the first three years of the current MFF, ***due to the late adoption of the 2014-2020 MFF and considerable novelties introduced for the 2014-2020 period causing administrative difficulties despite efforts for simplification,*** led to the transfer of commitment appropriations from 2014, mainly to 2015 and 2016, and to low payments in 2016;

Or. en

### **Amendment 102**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 44**



*Motion for a resolution*

44. Points out that the delays in the implementation of programmes in the first three years of the current MFF led to the transfer of commitment appropriations from 2014, mainly to 2015 and 2016, and to low payments in 2016;

*Amendment*

44. Points out that the delays in the implementation of programmes in the first three years of the current MFF led to the transfer of commitment appropriations from 2014, mainly to 2015 and 2016, and to low payments in 2016; ***emphasises, nevertheless, that this abnormal backlog significantly decreased in 2015 and was completely eliminated in 2016;***

Or. es

**Amendment 103**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 44**

*Motion for a resolution*

44. Points out that the delays in the implementation of programmes in the first three years of the current MFF led to the transfer of commitment appropriations from 2014, mainly to 2015 and 2016, and to low payments in 2016;

*Amendment*

44. Points out that the delays in the implementation of programmes in the first three years of the current MFF led to the transfer of commitment appropriations from 2014, mainly to 2015 and 2016, and to low payments in 2016 (***implementing the Union budget at 7 % in 2014-2016 period of the current MFF***);

Or. en

**Amendment 104**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 44 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***44a. Notes with concern the complicated web of arrangements in the galaxy within and around the EU budget***

*as this hampers accountability, transparency, public scrutiny and democratic oversight of the EU budget and financial arrangements linked to it; regrets, in this regard, the lack of the unity of the EU budget, and fully shares the Court's concern as regards the complexity of the EU budget;*

Or. en

**Amendment 105**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 46**

*Motion for a resolution*

46. Notes with concern that a record level of outstanding commitments has been created, reaching by the end of 2016 an all-time high of EUR 238 billion, 72 % higher than in 2007 and equivalent to 2.9 years of payments compared to 2.2 years in 2007; considers that this has increased the amounts owed by the EU and thus the financial exposure of the Union budget;

*Amendment*

46. Notes with concern that a record level of outstanding commitments has been created, reaching by the end of 2016 an all-time high of EUR 238 billion, 72 % higher than in 2007 and equivalent to 2.9 years of payments compared to 2.2 years in 2007; considers that this has increased the amounts owed by the EU and thus the financial exposure of the Union budget; *acknowledges the efforts made in giving the European Parliament access to data on the subject, but calls on the Commission to also provide an overview of solutions for resolving the situation;*

Or. it

**Amendment 106**

**Indrek Tarand**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 46**

*Motion for a resolution*

46. Notes with concern that a record level of outstanding commitments has been created, reaching by the end of 2016 an all-time high of EUR 238 billion, 72 % higher than in 2007 and equivalent to 2.9 years of payments compared to 2.2 years in 2007; considers that this has increased the amounts owed by the EU and thus the financial exposure of the Union budget;

*Amendment*

46. Notes with concern that a record level of outstanding commitments has been created, reaching by the end of 2016 an all-time high of EUR 238 billion, 72 % higher than in 2007 and equivalent to 2.9 years of payments compared to 2.2 years in 2007; considers that this has increased the amounts owed by the EU and thus the financial exposure of the Union budget; ***stresses that the EU Budget is not allowed to run a deficit while its long-term liabilities in fact represent the budget debt;***

Or. en

**Amendment 107**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 46**

*Motion for a resolution*

46. Notes with concern that a record level of outstanding commitments has been created, reaching by the end of 2016 an all-time high of EUR 238 billion, 72 % higher than in 2007 and equivalent to 2.9 years of payments compared to 2.2 years in 2007; considers that this has increased the amounts owed by the EU and thus the financial exposure of the Union budget;

*Amendment*

46. Notes with concern that a record level of outstanding commitments has been created, reaching by the end of 2016 an all-time high of EUR 238 billion, 72 % higher than in 2007 and equivalent to 2.9 years of payments compared to 2.2 years in 2007; considers that this has increased the amounts owed by the EU and thus the financial exposure of the Union budget, ***clearly demonstrating just how insufficient the current EU budget is;***

Or. es

**Amendment 108**  
**Tamás Deutsch**

**Motion for a resolution**

## Paragraph 48

### *Motion for a resolution*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new governance arrangements with limited public scrutiny;

### *Amendment*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new governance arrangements with limited public scrutiny; ***highlights that any legislative proposal should improve significantly the geographical coverage of the EFSI; recalls that the EFSI should remain an additional tool for boosting investments as cohesion policy should remain the investment policy of the Union;***

Or. en

## Amendment 109 Petri Sarvamaa

### Motion for a resolution Paragraph 48

### *Motion for a resolution*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new governance arrangements with limited public scrutiny;

### *Amendment*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new governance arrangements with limited public scrutiny; ***notes, however, the successful implementation and the high amount of private capita leveraged by the Fund, and acknowledges the further enhancements agreed on its transparency upon the negotiations for the extension of the duration of EFSI, referred to as EFSI 2.0;***

Or. en

## Amendment 110 Indrek Tarand

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 48**

*Motion for a resolution*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new governance arrangements with limited public scrutiny;

*Amendment*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new governance arrangements with limited public scrutiny; ***calls on the Court to strengthen its overview over the planning and the spending phase of the ESI funds;***

Or. en

**Amendment 111**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 48**

*Motion for a resolution*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new governance arrangements with limited public scrutiny;

*Amendment*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new governance arrangements with limited public scrutiny, ***thus requiring more careful surveillance by Parliament;***

Or. en

**Amendment 112**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 48**

*Motion for a resolution*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new

*Amendment*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new

governance arrangements with *limited* public scrutiny;

governance arrangements with *a level of* public scrutiny *that remains unsatisfactory*;

Or. es

**Amendment 113**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 48**

*Motion for a resolution*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and that the establishment of EFSI creates new governance arrangements with limited public scrutiny;

*Amendment*

48. Recalls that the Union is making increasing use of financial instruments and *regrets* that the establishment of EFSI creates new governance arrangements with limited public scrutiny;

Or. it

**Amendment 114**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 48 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**48a. Recalls that the revision of the Financial Regulation represents a big step forward in this regard, as it proposes a more efficient presentation of financial instruments and, for the first time, provides budgetary guarantees and financial assistance within that framework;**

Or. es

**Amendment 115**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 49**

*Motion for a resolution*

49. Points out that EU funds form a significant share of some Member States' expenditure, and in particular that in nine Member States (Lithuania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Croatia, Estonia, Slovakia,) outstanding commitments on ESI funds represent more than 15 % of general government spending;

*Amendment*

49. ***Emphasises that the EFSI funds are a good example of how the EU budget can be used efficiently: with limited budgetary resources, the EFSI has mobilised EUR 164 million of investment in Europe's economy for SMEs and infrastructure;*** Points out that EU funds form a significant share of some Member States' expenditure, and in particular that in nine Member States (Lithuania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Croatia, Estonia, Slovakia,) outstanding commitments on ESI funds represent more than 15 % of general government spending;

Or. es

**Amendment 116**

**Indrek Tarand**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 49**

*Motion for a resolution*

49. Points out that EU funds form a significant share of some Member States' expenditure, and in particular that in nine Member States (Lithuania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Croatia, Estonia, Slovakia,) outstanding commitments on ESI funds represent more than 15 % of general government spending;

*Amendment*

49. Points out that EU funds form a significant share of some Member States' expenditure, and in particular that in nine Member States (Lithuania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Croatia, Estonia, Slovakia,) outstanding commitments on ESI funds represent more than 15 % of general government spending; ***calls on the Commission to also prepare a positive advertising campaign with a view to informing the citizens of these countries in more detail about the***

*direct benefits of their membership;*

Or. en

**Amendment 117**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 49**

*Motion for a resolution*

49. Points out that EU funds form a significant share of some Member States' expenditure, and in particular that in nine Member States (Lithuania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Croatia, Estonia, Slovakia,) outstanding commitments on ESI funds represent more than 15 % of general government spending;

*Amendment*

49. Points out that, *in line with the principles of cohesion policy*, EU funds form a significant share of some Member States' expenditure, and in particular that in nine Member States (Lithuania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Croatia, Estonia, Slovakia,) outstanding commitments on ESI funds represent *financial support of* more than 15 % of general government spending;

Or. es

**Amendment 118**  
**Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 49**

*Motion for a resolution*

49. Points out that EU funds form a significant share of some Member States' expenditure, and in particular that in nine Member States (*Lithuania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Croatia, Estonia, Slovakia,*) outstanding commitments on ESI funds represent more than 15 % of general government spending;

*Amendment*

49. Points out that EU funds form a significant share of some Member States' expenditure, and in particular that in nine Member States outstanding commitments on ESI funds represent more than 15 % of general government spending;

Or. en



**Amendment 119**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 50**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**50.** *Fears that Member States where European Structural Investment (ESI) funds represent a significant percentage of general government expenditure may find it challenging to identify sufficiently high quality projects on which to spend the available Union funds or to provide co-financing;* **deleted**

Or. es

**Amendment 120**  
**Tamás Deutsch**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 50**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**50.** *Fears that Member States where European Structural Investment (ESI) funds represent a significant percentage of general government expenditure may find it challenging to identify sufficiently high quality projects on which to spend the available Union funds or to provide co-financing;* **deleted**

Or. en

**Amendment 121**  
**Indrek Tarand**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 50**

*Motion for a resolution*

50. Fears that Member States where European Structural Investment (ESI) funds represent a significant percentage of general government expenditure may find it challenging to identify sufficiently high quality projects on which to spend the available Union funds or to provide co-financing;

*Amendment*

50. Fears that Member States where European Structural Investment (ESI) funds represent a significant percentage of general government expenditure may find it challenging to identify sufficiently high quality projects on which to spend the available Union funds or to provide co-financing; ***calls on the Commission and the Court to pay greater attention to the sustainability aspect of the proposed investment projects and critically assess their adequacy;***

Or. en

**Amendment 122**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 50**

*Motion for a resolution*

50. ***Fears*** that Member States where European Structural Investment (ESI) funds represent a significant percentage of general government expenditure may find it challenging to identify sufficiently high quality projects on which to spend the available Union funds or to provide co-financing;

*Amendment*

50. ***Is concerned*** that Member States where European Structural Investment (ESI) funds represent a significant percentage of general government expenditure may find it challenging to identify sufficiently high quality projects on which to spend the available Union funds or to provide co-financing;

Or. es

**Amendment 123**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 51**

*Motion for a resolution*

51. Is disappointed that three years after the start of the 2014-2020 period, the Member States have designated only 77 % of the programme authorities responsible for implementing the ESI funds;

*Amendment*

51. Is disappointed that three years after the start of the 2014-2020 period, the Member States have designated only 77 % of the programme authorities responsible for implementing the ESI funds; ***calls on the Commission to carry out a careful analysis of why some regions still have a low fund absorption rate and to evaluate specific actions aimed at resolving the structural problems at the root of these low rates; asks the Commission to take on-the-spot action to improve absorption capacity in Member States experiencing difficulties in this regard;***

Or. it

**Amendment 124**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 51**

*Motion for a resolution*

51. Is disappointed that three years after the start of the 2014-2020 period, the Member States have designated only 77 % of the programme authorities responsible for implementing the ESI funds;

*Amendment*

51. Is disappointed that three years after the start of the 2014-2020 period, the Member States have designated only 77 % of the programme authorities responsible for implementing the ESI funds, ***therefore, questioning the need of modifying procedures at the beginning of each programming period;***

Or. en

**Amendment 125**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 51**

*Motion for a resolution*

51. *Is disappointed that* three years after the start of the 2014-2020 period, the Member States *have* designated only 77 % of the programme authorities responsible for implementing the ESI funds;

*Amendment*

51. *Is concerned about the reasons why*, three years after the start of the 2014-2020 period, the Member States *had* designated only 77 % of the programme authorities responsible for implementing the ESI funds; *is satisfied with the fact that, at present, this figure stands at 99 %;*

Or. es

**Amendment 126**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 52 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*52a. Stresses that public investment is necessary in order to close the investment gap and to boost jobs and growth and to ensure social standards within the Union;*

Or. en

**Amendment 127**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 53**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

53. Notes that the Commission mobilised various resources to deal with the refugee and migration crisis, but regrets that it did not establish a reporting structure to enable it to report comprehensively on the use of the funds involved;

53. Notes that the Commission mobilised various resources to deal with the refugee and migration crisis, but regrets that it did not establish a reporting structure to enable it to report comprehensively on the use of the funds involved; *deplores the fact that it is currently impossible to know how much is spent on each*

*migrant/refugee;*

Or. it

**Amendment 128**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 57 – point c a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(c a) to provide the Parliament in the context of discharge with a comprehensive report about the indirect managed and implemented EU budget resources by the EIB Group (EIB and EIF) apart from its external mandate starting with 2017 financial year;*

Or. en

**Amendment 129**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 57 – point d**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

(d) in the context of the debate on the future of Europe, to consider how the Union budgetary system could be reformed to provide a better balance between predictability and responsiveness as well as how best to ensure overall funding arrangements are no more complex than necessary to meet Union policy objectives and guarantee accountability;

(d) in the context of the debate on the future of Europe, to consider how the Union budgetary system could be reformed to provide ***an adequate budget to guarantee funding for the planned policies***, a better balance between predictability and responsiveness as well as how best to ensure overall funding arrangements are no more complex than necessary to meet Union policy objectives and guarantee accountability;

Or. es

**Amendment 130**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 57 – point d a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(d a) to consider as well the possibility to enable authorities designated or accredited to fulfil management, certification and audit functions during the period 2014-2020, which have proven their capacity, to continue implementing such functions in the next programming period without interruption or delay;*

Or. en

**Amendment 131**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 57 – point e a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(e a) to proactively assist Member States which encounter difficulties with timely and smooth absorption of available Union funding by using the available resources for technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission;*

Or. en

**Amendment 132**  
**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 58**

*Motion for a resolution*

58. Notes that the Commission uses two sets of objectives and indicators to measure the performance of its services and of spending programmes;

*Amendment*

58. Notes that the Commission uses two sets of objectives and indicators to measure the performance of its services and of spending programmes; ***regrets the almost-non-existence of usable and efficient impact and outcome indicators to measure, and to distribute information about, the performance of Union expenditure;***

Or. en

**Amendment 133**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 58**

*Motion for a resolution*

58. Notes that the Commission uses two sets of objectives and indicators to measure the performance of its services and of spending programmes;

*Amendment*

58. Notes ***with concern*** that the Commission uses two sets of objectives and indicators to measure the performance of its services and of spending programmes ***with hardly any cross-references, which hampers comparability between different types of performance documents;***

Or. en

**Amendment 134**

**Indrek Tarand**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 59**

*Motion for a resolution*

59. Points out that the AARs of the directors general report on the annual payments of directorates-general by type of

*Amendment*

59. Points out that the AARs of the directors general report on the annual payments of directorates-general by type of

activity or spending programme, whilst on performance they report on the achievement of general and specific objectives with no indication of the corresponding expenditure; *regrets* that it is not possible to assess how much was spent on pursuing the set objectives;

activity or spending programme, whilst on performance they report on the achievement of general and specific objectives with no indication of the corresponding expenditure; *disagrees with Commission's explanation* that it is not possible to assess how much was spent on pursuing the set objectives; *calls on the Commission to fully implement the PBB principle of budget planning, implementation and reporting phase which will allow the ex-post reporting on the funds spent in pursuing the set objectives;*

Or. en

**Amendment 135**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 59**

*Motion for a resolution*

59. Points out that the AARs of the directors general report on the annual payments of directorates-general by type of activity or spending programme, whilst on performance they report on the achievement of general and specific objectives with no indication of the corresponding expenditure; regrets that it is not possible to assess how much was spent on pursuing the set objectives;

*Amendment*

*(Does not affect English version.)*

Or. es

**Amendment 136**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 60**

PE618.333v01-00

64/102

AM\1147048EN.docx



*Motion for a resolution*

60. Recalls that, in 2016, the OECD carried out a performance budgeting survey in OECD countries and at the Commission; that the OECD considered the Commission's performance framework to be the most extensive, which may partly be explained by the number of legal requirements in the EU;

*Amendment*

60. Recalls that, in 2016, the OECD carried out a performance budgeting survey in OECD countries and at the Commission; ***in this regard, welcomes the OECD's acknowledgement of the quality of the data and of the implementation of the EU's budget; recalls*** that the OECD considered the Commission's performance framework to be the most extensive, which may partly be explained by the number of legal requirements in the EU;

Or. es

**Amendment 137**

**Martina Dlabajová, Andrey Novakov, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 62**

*Motion for a resolution*

62. Notes that the programme statements for the EU's 2017 draft general budget contain 294 objectives and 709 indicators, which are particularly highly concentrated under MFF headings 1a, 3, 4, and that through the 'budget focused on results' (BFOR) initiative, the Commission is currently undertaking a review of its indicators to provide input for the next generation of spending programmes;

*Amendment*

62. Notes that the programme statements for the EU's 2017 draft general budget contain 294 objectives and 709 indicators, which are particularly highly concentrated under MFF headings 1a, 3, 4, and that through the 'budget focused on results' (BFOR) initiative, the Commission is currently undertaking a review of its indicators to provide input for the next generation of spending programmes; ***stresses that the Commission should use mainly results indicators that have performance relevant value;***

Or. en

**Amendment 138**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 62 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**62a.** *Stresses the need for a transparent and democratic process of establishing performance indicators involving all the EU institutions, partners and stakeholders concerned in order to make the indicators adequate for measuring the implementation of the EU budget, as well as to meet the expectations of EU citizens;*

Or. es

**Amendment 139**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 62 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**62a.** *Calls on the Commission to consult academic expertise in order to define the proper performance indicators needed for the BFOR measurements and to be able to prioritize investment in public goods to reply to citizens' concerns;*

Or. en

**Amendment 140**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 64 – introductory part**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

64. Regrets that the AMPRs for 2015 and 2016 did not provide comprehensive coverage of performance *and were overly*

64. Regrets that the AMPRs for 2015 and 2016 did not provide comprehensive coverage of performance, the only

*positive*, the only shortfalls to which they refer being implementation delays; regrets that the reports also:

shortfalls to which they refer being implementation delays; regrets that the reports also

Or. es

**Amendment 141**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 66**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**66.** *Deplores the fact that the Commission has not carried out a study on its use of evaluation results, or had one made, since 2005;*

*deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 142**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 66 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**66a.** *as explained in the annual report of the Court in chapter 3, conclusion 4, takes note that follow up evaluations is an intrinsic part of the better regulation system inn the Commission whereby evaluations results feed into impact assessments, which are publicly available documents, as well as into the process of annual programming and planning of Commission activities; the Commission systematically reviews evaluation results which are set-out in the REFIT scoreboard which is updated annually and in the Court's reports to the legislator;*

**Amendment 143**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 67**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**67. Points out that the Commission has no documented institutional system for the regular follow-up of evaluations;** *deleted*

**Amendment 144**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 68**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**68. Points out, in particular, that in practice the 2016 management plans of the directorates-general established no basis for monitoring the follow-up on evaluation;** *deleted*

**Amendment 145**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 69**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**69. Furthermore, regrets that as the Commission does not have an overview of the conclusions, recommendations or** *deleted*

*action plans resulting from its evaluations, or track their implementation at institutional or DG level, it cannot inform stakeholders about the positive impact of evaluations;*

Or. es

#### **Amendment 146**

**Petri Sarvamaa**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 70**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

70. *Stresses* that AARs do not include a declaration on the quality of the reported performance data, and that consequently in adopting the AMPR, the College of Commissioners takes overall political responsibility for the management of the EU budget but not for the information on performance and results;

###### *Amendment*

70. *Regrets* that AARs do not include a declaration on the quality of the reported performance data, and that consequently in adopting the AMPR, the College of Commissioners takes overall political responsibility for the management of the EU budget but not for the information on performance and results;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 147**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 70**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

70. *Stresses* that AARs do not include a declaration on the quality of the reported performance data, and that consequently in adopting the AMPR, the College of Commissioners takes overall political responsibility for the management of the EU budget but not for the information on performance and results;

###### *Amendment*

70. *Regrets* that AARs do not include a declaration on the quality of the reported performance data, and that consequently in adopting the AMPR, the College of Commissioners takes overall political responsibility for the management of the EU budget but not for the information on performance and results;

**Amendment 148**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 70**

*Motion for a resolution*

70. Stresses that AARs do not include a declaration on the quality of the reported performance data, **and that consequently in adopting the AMPR, the College of Commissioners takes overall political responsibility for the management of the EU budget but not for the** information on performance **and results**;

*Amendment*

70. Stresses that AARs do not include a declaration on the quality of the reported performance data; **welcomes the Commission's commitment to integrate information on the sources and quality of the data, where possible, including an in-depth analysis of the performance data provided by the Member States**;

Or. es

**Amendment 149**  
**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Notis Marias, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 70 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

**70a. Reiterates its call for thematic concentration, as expressed in its discharge report on budget year 2015; calls on the Commission to inquire to what extent thematic concentration could contribute to simplification and a decrease of the regulatory burden and control burden;**

*Amendment*

Or. en

**Amendment 150**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 70 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**70a. Welcomes and takes a careful note of the Court's observations on performance frameworks and reporting by entities within and outside the EU, especially as regards performance data quality and declaration on the quality of performance data;**

Or. en

**Amendment 151**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 71 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**71a. Shares the opinion of the Court that the performance reporting framework applied by the Commission could benefit from adopting international good practices;**

Or. en

**Amendment 152**  
**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 72 – point a – indent 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- further reducing the number of objectives and indicators it uses for its various performance reports and focusing on those which best measure the performance of the Union budget; in preparing the next MFF, the Commission

- further reducing the number of objectives and indicators it uses for its various performance reports and focusing on those which best measure the performance of the Union budget; in preparing the next MFF, the Commission

should propose less numerous and more appropriate indicators for the legal framework of the next generation of programmes; in this context, it should also consider the relevance of indicators for which information cannot be obtained until several years have elapsed;

should propose less numerous and more appropriate **outcome and impact** indicators for the legal framework of the next generation of programmes; in this context, it should also consider the relevance of indicators for which information cannot be obtained until several years have elapsed;

Or. en

**Amendment 153**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 72 – point d**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(d) take overall political responsibility in the AMPR for the information on performance and results and indicate, to the best of its knowledge, whether the performance information provided is of sufficient quality;*

*deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 154**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 75**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*75. Asks the Commission to present the Union budget according to the political objectives of the MFF;*

*deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 155**



**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 77 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**77a.** *Notes with concern that as to the revenue for 2016, the director general of Directorate-General for Budget has issued a reservation for the traditional own resources revenue, in view of the OLAF's fraud case related to United Kingdom customs duties;*

Or. en

**Amendment 156**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 77 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**77a.** *Calls on the Commission to develop an action plan to ensure the full and on time implementation of the VAT regulations in all and every Member State in order to secure this source of Union own resources;*

Or. en

**Amendment 157**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 77 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**77b.** *Points out that for 2016 the revenue affected by the quantified reservation is approximately EUR 517*

*million against total amount of EUR 20.1 billion of Traditional Own Resources: i.e. 2,5 % of Traditional Own Resources or 0,38% of all resources; calls on the Commission to provide precise information on this fraud case, which may also indirectly affect the Value Added Tax basis of some Member States and thus Value Added Tax-related resources plus the Gross National Income-related balancing of the Commission<sup>1a</sup>;*

---

*<sup>1a</sup> See Commission's 2016 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget, p. 81.*

Or. en

**Amendment 158**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 78**

*Motion for a resolution*

78. Stresses that the Commission inspections found that by October 2017, the UK authorities had not introduced remedial measures to prevent continued traditional own resource losses;

*Amendment*

78. Stresses that the Commission inspections found that by October 2017, the UK authorities had not introduced remedial measures to prevent continued traditional own resource losses; ***notes that from 12 October 2017 the UK authorities started to apply temporarily value thresholds at clearance to certain traders (so called Customs Operation Swift Arrow) with immediate result that the Traditional Own Resources losses incurred in the UK decreased dramatically;***

Or. en

**Amendment 159**

**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 78**

*Motion for a resolution*

78. ***Stresses that the Commission inspections found*** that by October 2017, the UK authorities had not introduced remedial measures to prevent continued traditional own resource losses;

*Amendment*

78. ***Regrets the Commission's findings*** that by October 2017, the UK authorities had not introduced remedial measures to prevent continued traditional own resource losses;

Or. en

**Amendment 160  
Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 78 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***78a. Regrets the discrepancies in the level of customs checks between the various Member States; highlights the importance of harmonising checks at all points of entry into the Customs Union and calls on the Member States to ensure a coordinated, uniform and efficient implementation of the border system, discouraging diverging practices between Member States to reduce the number of existing loopholes in customs check systems; calls on the Commission, in this respect, to examine different customs check practices in the EU and their impact on the deviation of trade, focusing in particular on EU customs practices at external borders, and to develop reference analyses and information on customs operations and the procedures used in the Member States;***

Or. it

**Amendment 161**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 79**

*Motion for a resolution*

79. Recalls that the new decision on the Union's own resources system (2014 ORD), which entered into force on 1 October 2016, with retroactive effect from 1 January 2014, stipulated that when **compiling** GNI for own resources purposes, the European system of national and regional accounts (ESA 2010) accounting framework should be used, and that this foresees that research and developments spending be considered as an investment (instead as of current expenditure under the preceding ESA 95 scheme);

*Amendment*

79. Recalls that the new decision on the Union's own resources system (2014 ORD), which entered into force on 1 October 2016, with retroactive effect from 1 January 2014, stipulated that when **considering** GNI for own resources purposes, the European system of national and regional accounts (ESA 2010) accounting framework should be used, and that this foresees that research and developments spending be considered as an investment (instead as of current expenditure under the preceding ESA 95 scheme); **notes that in the case of other programmes with high added value for the EU such as the CEF, this same consideration should be applied;**

Or. es

**Amendment 162**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 80**

*Motion for a resolution*

80. **Notes that Ireland's reported GNI increased very significantly in 2015 because of multinational companies relocating R&D assets to the country;**

*Amendment*

*deleted*

Or. it

**Amendment 163**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 81**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**81.** *Points out that the Commission has to carry out additional work to ascertain the potential implications of multinational activities for national accounts, in terms both of methodology and of the verification process and that it could trigger adjustments for the Member States' GNI contributions;*

*deleted*

Or. it

**Amendment 164**  
**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 84**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**84.** *Points out* that the Commission noted that six Member states - Belgium, Estonia, Italy, Portugal, Romania, and Slovenia - either did not carry out any post-clearance audits or did not provide any information on these audits;

**84.** *Regrets* that the Commission noted that six Member states - Belgium, Estonia, Italy, Portugal, Romania, and Slovenia - either did not carry out any post-clearance audits or did not provide any information on these audits;

Or. en

**Amendment 165**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 85 – point c**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(c) analyse, in cooperation with Member States, all the potential implications of multinational activities on the estimation of GNI, and provide guidance to them on how to deal with these activities when compiling national accounts*

*deleted*

Or. it

**Amendment 166**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 85 – point d**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

(d) confirm, during the GNI verification cycle, that R&D assets have been correctly captured in Member States' national accounts, paying particular attention to the valuation of R&D assets and to residency criteria in cases where multinational activities have relocated;

*(Does not affect English version.)*

Or. es

**Amendment 167**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 85 – point d a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(d a) shall bring forward proposals for new own resources in order to ensure stability of the EU budget*

Or. en

**Amendment 168**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 89**

*Motion for a resolution*

89. Observes that if the Commission or independent auditors had made proper use of all the information at their disposal, the estimated level of error for this chapter would have been **1,2 %** lower;

*Amendment*

89. Observes that if the Commission or independent auditors had made proper use of all the information at their disposal, the estimated level of error for this chapter would have been **2.9 %** lower;

Or. es

**Amendment 169**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 90**

*Motion for a resolution*

90. Appreciates that the Commission has invested considerable efforts in reducing administrative complexity, by introducing a new definition of additional remuneration for researchers, streamlining the Horizon 2020 work programme for 2018-2020, providing targeted support for start-ups and innovators and making wider use of lump-sum funding for projects;

*Amendment*

90. Appreciates that the Commission has invested considerable efforts in reducing administrative complexity, by introducing a new definition of additional remuneration for researchers, streamlining the Horizon 2020 work programme for 2018-2020, providing targeted support for start-ups and innovators and making wider use of lump-sum funding for projects; ***notes, however, that the Court sees both opportunities and risks in further simplifying the legal framework;***

Or. es

**Amendment 170**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 90**

*Motion for a resolution*

90. Appreciates that the Commission has invested considerable efforts in **reducing** administrative complexity, by introducing a new definition of additional remuneration for researchers, streamlining the Horizon 2020 work programme for 2018-2020, providing targeted support for start-ups and innovators and making wider use of **lump-sum funding for projects**;

*Amendment*

90. Appreciates that the Commission has invested considerable efforts in **simplification leading to reduction of** administrative complexity, by introducing a new definition of additional remuneration for researchers, streamlining the Horizon 2020 work programme for 2018-2020, providing targeted support for start-ups and innovators and making wider use of **Simplified Cost Options**;

Or. en

**Amendment 171**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 92**

*Motion for a resolution*

92. **Notes that, in line with the EU 2020 strategy, according to the “Strategic Plan for 2016-2020”, DG R&I pursued four objectives:**

- (a) a new boost for jobs, growth and investment;**
- (b) a connected digital single market;**
- (c) a resilient energy union with a forward looking climate-change policy; and**
- (d) becoming stronger global actor;**

*Amendment*

**deleted**

Or. es

**Amendment 172**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 92 – point a**



*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**(a) a new boost for jobs, growth and investment;** *deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 173**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 92 – point b**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**(b) a connected digital single market;** *deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 174**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 92 – point c**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**(c) a resilient energy union with a forward looking climate-change policy; and** *deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 175**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 92 – point d**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**(d) becoming stronger global actor;** *deleted*

**Amendment 176**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 93**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

93. Welcomes the fact that in pursuing *deleted* these objectives, Commissioner Moedas has established three priorities, namely “open innovation”, “open science” and “open to the world”;

Or. es

**Amendment 177**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 94 – introductory part**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

94. Notes that in order to measure progress towards *these* objectives the DG R&I used five key performance indicators (KPI):

94. Notes that in order to measure progress towards *the fixed* objectives the DG R&I used five key performance indicators (KPI):

Or. es

**Amendment 178**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 96**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

96. Recalls that the evaluation of FP 7 was dealt with in the previous discharge

96. Recalls that *given the low implementation rate of H2020 in 2015*, the

report<sup>78</sup>;

evaluation of FP 7 was dealt with in the previous discharge report<sup>78</sup>;

---

<sup>78</sup> P8\_TA(2017)0143, points 120 and 121.

---

<sup>78</sup> P8\_TA(2017)0143, points 120 and 121.

Or. es

## **Amendment 179** **Inés Ayala Sender**

### **Motion for a resolution** **Paragraph 98**

#### *Motion for a resolution*

98. ***Pinpoints*** that 73% (almost EUR 12 billion) of Horizon 2020 funding goes to Germany (EUR 3 464 million), the United Kingdom (EUR 3 083), France (EUR 1 813), Spain (EUR 1 813) and Italy (EUR 1 664);

#### *Amendment*

98. ***Notes with concern that the territorial distribution of H2020 is conspicuously limited given*** that 73% (almost EUR 12 billion) of Horizon 2020 funding goes to Germany (EUR 3 464 million), the United Kingdom (EUR 3 083), France (EUR 1 813), Spain (EUR 1 813) and Italy (EUR 1 664);

Or. es

## **Amendment 180** **Ingeborg Gräble**

### **Motion for a resolution** **Paragraph 98 a (new)**

#### *Motion for a resolution*

#### *Amendment*

***98a. Notes that 183 grant agreements for Horizon 2020 were signed with participants from Third Countries in 2016; points out that EUR 299,5 million have been committed to participants from Switzerland in grant agreements signed in 2016 while the contribution of Switzerland to Horizon 2020 amounted to EUR 180,9 million; refuses to grant a***

*"net recipient status" to one of the wealthiest countries in the world; calls on the Commission to put forward regulation to compensate such an imbalance;*

Or. en

**Amendment 181**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 99**

*Motion for a resolution*

99. *Acknowledges the success of* the common support centre *and* its contribution to delivering simplification and legal and technical advice; asks DG R&I *which* simplification measures *it intends to propose* for the period post-2020;

*Amendment*

99. *In this regard, reminds* the common support centre *of the need to expand* its contribution to delivering simplification and legal and technical advice; asks DG R&I *to increase the* simplification measures *and the measures to restore territorial balance* for the period post-2020;

Or. es

**Amendment 182**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 103**

*Motion for a resolution*

103. *Was interested to learn that* DG R&I *has established* a supervision strategy for financial instruments *and would therefore like to know how DG R&I establishes whether* financial and research-related objectives *have been achieved*;

*Amendment*

103. *Asks* DG R&I *for* a supervision strategy for financial instruments *that involves evaluating the fulfilment of the* financial and research-related objectives;

Or. es

**Amendment 183**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 104**

*Motion for a resolution*

104. *Notes that DG R&I estimated* the overall *detected* error rate at 4,42 %, with a residual error rate of 3,03 %;

*Amendment*

104. *Is concerned that* the overall error rate *detected by DG R&I was estimated* at 4.42 %, with a residual error rate of 3.03 %;

Or. es

**Amendment 184**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 106**

*Motion for a resolution*

106. *Welcomes* DG R&I's examination of the cost-effectiveness of direct and indirect grant management;

*Amendment*

106. *Notes* DG R&I's examination of the cost-effectiveness of direct and indirect grant management;

Or. es

**Amendment 185**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 113 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*113a. Considers that in research and innovation projects as well as Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs), standards and standardization support the impact of research results on different Technology readiness levels (TRLs) as they enhance the marketability and transferability of innovative products*

*and solutions; notes furthermore that standards and related activities support the dissemination of Horizon 2020 project results by spreading knowledge even after projects are finished by making it publicly available; calls on the Commission to enhance the involvement of standardization in upcoming calls and develop KPIs which take standardization activities into account;*

Or. en

**Amendment 186**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 114**

*Motion for a resolution*

114. Learnt from the “Seventh Report on Economic and Social Cohesion”<sup>79</sup> that, on the one hand, convergence is a *fragile* process which can *easily* be halted and reversed by economic crises, but that, *on the other hand*, public investments may reduce the impact of *the* crises;

---

<sup>79</sup> The report can be found here:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/information/cohesion-report/](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/cohesion-report/).

*Amendment*

114. Learnt from the “Seventh Report on Economic and Social Cohesion”<sup>79</sup> that, on the one hand, convergence is a process *which, depending on how it is created and consolidated, entails weaknesses* which can be halted and reversed by *poorly handled* economic crises *like that of 2008*, but that *stable and adequate* public investments may *be essential to* reduce the impact of *these* crises;

---

<sup>79</sup> The report can be found here:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/information/cohesion-report/](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/cohesion-report/).

Or. es

**Amendment 187**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 115**

*Motion for a resolution*

115. Is pleased that the employment **level** in 2016 reached again the 2008 pre-crisis level of 71%, notes **however that the employment level developed very unevenly and still remains** too high, in particular among young people;

*Amendment*

115. Is pleased that the employment **rate** in 2016 reached again the 2008 pre-crisis level of 71%, **but the situation varies markedly across the Union and this rate is well below the Europe 2020 target of 75%**; notes **with concern that unemployment rates still remain** too high, in particular among young people **and long-term unemployed**;

Or. en

**Amendment 188**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 115**

*Motion for a resolution*

115. **Is pleased** that the employment level in 2016 reached again the 2008 pre-crisis level of 71 %, notes **however** that the employment level developed very unevenly and still remains too high, in particular among young people;

*Amendment*

115. **Notes** that the employment level in 2016 reached again the 2008 pre-crisis level of 71 %, notes **with concern** that the employment level developed very unevenly and **unemployment** still remains too high, in particular among young people **, and inequalities have increased considerably**;

Or. es

**Amendment 189**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 116**

*Motion for a resolution*

116. Remains convinced that better and more numerous links are needed between economic governance mechanisms and

*Amendment*

116. Remains convinced that better and more numerous links are needed between economic governance mechanisms and

cohesion policy;

cohesion policy *provided that they lead to its improvement and progress*;

Or. es

**Amendment 190**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 116**

*Motion for a resolution*

116. Remains convinced *that better and more numerous links are needed between economic governance mechanisms and cohesion policy*;

*Amendment*

116. Remains convinced *of the need to incentivise internal demand to stimulate sustainable growth through investments with real added value and actions to recover land and protect the environment*;

Or. it

**Amendment 191**

**José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 116**

*Motion for a resolution*

116. Remains convinced that better and more numerous links are needed between economic governance mechanisms and cohesion policy;

*Amendment*

116. Remains convinced that better and more numerous links are needed between economic governance mechanisms and cohesion policy; *positive incentives could be foreseen for that purpose*;

Or. en

**Amendment 192**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 117**



*Motion for a resolution*

117. Welcomes that DG REGIO, in reply to Parliament's questions, detailed its country specific recommendations;

*Amendment*

117. Welcomes that DG REGIO, in reply to Parliament's questions, detailed its country specific recommendations; ***notes with interest, however, that the annual activity reports are not intended to provide detailed reports on the implementation of the country-specific recommendations according to Commissioner Oettinger's response to the rapporteur's letter;***

Or. es

**Amendment 193**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 118**

*Motion for a resolution*

118. Is aware that some provisions of the revised Financial Regulation concerning cohesion policy are supposed to enter into force retroactively;

*Amendment*

118. Is aware that some provisions of the revised Financial Regulation concerning cohesion policy are supposed to enter into force retroactively; ***welcomes the agreement reached in December 2017 through which this retroactive application guarantees the legal certainty of all stakeholders and is closely monitored by Parliament, the Commission and the Council;***

Or. es

**Amendment 194**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 119**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**119. Is concerned that such modifications may become a source of additional errors, as programmes and projects were selected on the basis of regulations which entered into force on 1 January 2014;**

*deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 195  
Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 119 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**119a. Welcomes the fact, that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI), is the best fund in terms of implementation;**

Or. en

**Amendment 196  
Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 120**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

120. Notes that the Court issued, for the first time, a qualified opinion on the legality and regularity of payments underlying the accounts; stresses that reimbursement schemes remain more error prone than entitlement schemes; **points out, however**, that the data recorded, under the heading “Economic, social and territorial cohesion” **did not fundamentally change** compared to previous year;

120. Notes **with satisfaction** that the Court issued, for the first time, a qualified, **and not an adverse**, opinion on the legality and regularity of payments underlying the accounts; stresses that reimbursement schemes remain more error prone than entitlement schemes; **welcomes** that the data recorded, under the heading “Economic, social and territorial cohesion” **improved** compared to **the** previous year **(from 5.2% in 2015 to 4.8% in 2016)**;

Or. es

**Amendment 197**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 122**

*Motion for a resolution*

122. Notes that the Court estimated the level of error in this policy area at 4,8 %; furthermore that the Court observed that the estimated level of error for cohesion did not include a quantification of 2016 disbursements to financial instruments, amounting to EUR 2,5 billion, that the Court considered to be outside the eligibility period defined in Article 56(1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 25) (paragraphs 6.20 to 6.21); observes that these disbursements would represent an estimated level of error of 2,0 % to overall Union expenditure<sup>80</sup>;

---

<sup>80</sup> OJ C 322, 28.9.2017, p. 19. Box 1.2, footnote 1.

*Amendment*

122. Notes that the Court estimated the level of error in this policy area at 4,8 %; furthermore that the Court observed that the estimated level of error for cohesion did not include a quantification of 2016 disbursements to financial instruments, amounting to EUR 2,5 billion, that the Court considered to be outside the eligibility period defined in Article 56(1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 25) (paragraphs 6.20 to 6.21); observes that these disbursements would represent an estimated level of error of 2,0 % to overall Union expenditure<sup>80</sup>; ***the Court, however, notes that if the available information had been used correctly, the overall error level would have been 1.1 %;***

---

<sup>80</sup> OJ C 322, 28.9.2017, p. 19. Box 1.2, footnote 1.

Or. es

**Amendment 198**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Andrey Novakov, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 123**

*Motion for a resolution*

123. Points out that the errors in cohesion contributed to 43% of the overall estimated level of error of 3,1%;

*Amendment*

123. Points out that the errors in cohesion contributed to 43% of the overall estimated level of error of 3,1%; ***notes that one of the reasons for the high error rate***

*is the complexity of Union' and Member States' regulation;*

Or. en

**Amendment 199**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Rosa D'Amato**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 124 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124a. Calls on the Commission to duly take into account the remarks of the Court of Auditors, which found inaccuracies in the analysis of the performance of at least four of the 12 ERDF and ESF financial instruments examined in the 2016 European Court of Auditors report; shares the concern of the Court of Auditors, which highlights that these errors have the effect of overstating performance and, if not corrected, could artificially increase the declared amount of eligible expenditure at closure, especially in the case of guarantee funds;***

Or. it

**Amendment 200**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 125**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

125. Notes also that 42% of the errors were caused by ineligible casts included in expenditure declarations, 30% relate to serious failure to respect public procurement rules, and 28% relate to ineligible projects, activities or

125. Notes also that 42% of the errors were caused by ineligible casts included in expenditure declarations, 30% relate to serious failure to respect public procurement rules, and 28% relate to ineligible projects, activities or

beneficiaries;

beneficiaries; *regrets that up until now the public procurement directive has not demonstrated any real effectiveness in combating the enduring weaknesses found;*

Or. it

#### **Amendment 201**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 125**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

125. Notes also that 42% of the errors were caused by ineligible *casts* included in expenditure declarations, 30% relate to serious failure to respect public procurement rules, and 28% relate to ineligible projects, activities or beneficiaries;

###### *Amendment*

125. Notes also that 42% of the errors were caused by ineligible *costs* included in expenditure declarations, 30% relate to serious failure to respect public procurement rules, and 28% relate to ineligible projects, activities or beneficiaries;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 202**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 125 a (new)**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

###### *Amendment*

*125a. Notes with regret that one of the main sources of expenditure-related errors under the heading ‘Economic, social and territorial cohesion’ continues to be breaches of the rules on public procurement; points out that serious breaches of the rules on public procurement include the direct award of additional contracts or additional works or services for which no justification is*

*given, the illegal exclusion of bidders, conflicts of interest and discriminatory selection criteria; regards as essential a policy of complete transparency in respect of information concerning contractors and subcontractors, with a view to addressing errors and abuses of the rules;*

Or. it

**Amendment 203**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 126**

*Motion for a resolution*

126. Welcomes that the Court emphasised that projects using the simplified cost options are less error-prone than reimbursements of actual costs;

*Amendment*

126. Welcomes that the Court emphasised that projects using the simplified cost options are less error-prone than reimbursements of actual costs; ***calls on the Commission to simplify performance measurement by reducing the number of objectives and indicators;***

Or. it

**Amendment 204**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 127**

*Motion for a resolution*

127. Is concerned that the sample comprised also three “major projects”, which required the approval of the Commission, and for which Member State authorities had not submitted the necessary application by the 31 March 2017 closure deadline; notes that the Commission should therefore recover the expenditures;

*Amendment*

127. Is concerned that the sample comprised also three “major projects”, which required the approval of the Commission, and for which Member State authorities had not submitted the necessary application by the 31 March 2017 closure deadline; notes that the Commission should therefore recover the expenditures;

*nevertheless recalls that the ECA is not questioning the 2016 expenditure which is considered eligible in accordance with the rules, and if the Commission confirms further problems, it will launch a final revision procedure;*

Or. es

**Amendment 205**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 129**

*Motion for a resolution*

129. Is worried *that years after the start of the 2014-2020 period*, Member States *have designated only 77 % of* the programme authorities responsible for cohesion policy funds; as of 1 March 2017 the Commission received final accounts with expenditure covering just 0,7 % of the budget allocated for the entire programming period; as of mid-2017, the delays in budget implementation were greater than they were at the same point in the 2007-2013 period; notes that consequently, the outstanding commitments at the end of the current financing period could be even higher than in the previous one;

*Amendment*

129. Is worried *by how long it is taking* Member States *to designate* the programme authorities responsible for cohesion policy funds; as of 1 March 2017 the Commission received final accounts with expenditure covering just 0,7 % of the budget allocated for the entire programming period; *due to the delay in adopting the MFF, notes that* as of mid-2017, the delays in budget implementation were greater than they were at the same point in the 2007-2013 period; notes that consequently, the outstanding commitments at the end of the current financing period could be even higher than in the previous one;

Or. es

**Amendment 206**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 131**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

131. Recalls that the summary of data on the progress made in financing and implementing financial engineering instruments in **2016** was only published on **20 September 2018**, and that therefore the Court could not comment on the document;

131. Recalls that the summary of data on the progress made in financing and implementing financial engineering instruments in **March 2017** was only published on **1 October 2017**, and that therefore the Court could not comment on the document;

Or. en

**Amendment 207**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 131**

*Motion for a resolution*

131. Recalls that the summary of data on the progress made in financing and implementing financial engineering instruments in 2016 was only published on 20 September **2018**, and that therefore the Court could not comment on the document;

*Amendment*

131. Recalls that the summary of data on the progress made in financing and implementing financial engineering instruments in 2016 was only published on 20 September **2017**, and that therefore the Court could not comment on the document;

Or. es

**Amendment 208**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 132 – introductory part**

*Motion for a resolution*

132. Notes that the key figures for **2016** are the following:

*Amendment*

132. Notes that the key figures for **2007-2013 programming period on 31 March 2017** are the following:

Or. en

**Amendment 209**



**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 134**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**134.** *Is concerned, in this context, that the national audit authorities did not sufficiently cover implementation of financial engineering instruments;* **deleted**

Or. es

**Amendment 210  
Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 138**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**138.** *Notes that the DG REGIO highlights its contribution to the EU 2020 objectives:* **deleted**

*(a) creating jobs, growth and investments,*

*(b) developing the digital single market,*

*(c) further energy efficiency and the digital Single Market,*

*(d) enhancing the effectiveness of the Single Market, and*

*(e) assisting the effective integration of migrants;*

Or. es

**Amendment 211  
Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 138 – point a**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**(a) *creating jobs, growth and investments,***

***deleted***

Or. es

**Amendment 212  
Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 138 – point b**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**(b) *developing the digital single market,***

***deleted***

Or. es

**Amendment 213  
Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 138 – point c**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**(c) *further energy efficiency and the digital Single Market,***

***deleted***

Or. es

**Amendment 214  
Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 138 – point d**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**(d) *enhancing the effectiveness of the***

***deleted***

*Single Market, and*

Or. es

**Amendment 215**

**Tamás Deutsch**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 138 – point e**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(e) assisting the effective integration  
of migrants;* **deleted**

Or. en

**Amendment 216**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 138 – point e**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(e) assisting the effective integration  
of migrants;* **deleted**

Or. es

**Amendment 217**

**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 138 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***138a. Takes note also that the ERDF-CF  
ex-post evaluation indicates that although  
regional convergence over the 2007-2013  
programming period was insufficient,***

*without Cohesion Policy there would have been divergence, because the financial crisis of 2007-2008 created a poor climate for investment and convergence;*

Or. en

**Amendment 218**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 144**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*144. Attaches great importance to the ex-ante conditionalities, which set out sector-specific and horizontal conditions to ensure effective spending; believes that once the ex-ante conditionalities are fulfilled, together with the 10% retention from payments foreseen by the revised regulation, implementation of projects will be easier and less error-prone;*

*deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 219**  
**José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 144**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

144. Attaches great importance to the ex-ante conditionalities, which set out sector-specific and horizontal conditions to ensure effective spending; believes that once the ex-ante conditionalities are fulfilled, together with the 10% retention from payments foreseen by the revised regulation, implementation of projects will be easier and less error-prone;

144. Attaches great importance to the ex-ante conditionalities, which set out sector-specific and horizontal conditions to ensure effective spending; believes that once the ex-ante conditionalities are fulfilled, together with the 10% retention from payments foreseen by the revised regulation, implementation of projects will be easier and less error-prone, *although*

*stresses that they have been a source of complexity and the cause of delays in the implementation of certain programmes, calls on the Commission to continue with its simplification trend also in this regard;*

Or. en

**Amendment 220**  
**Georgi Pirinski, Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 144**

*Motion for a resolution*

144. *Attaches* great importance to the ex-ante conditionalities, *which set* out sector-specific and horizontal conditions to ensure effective spending; *believes that once the ex-ante conditionalities are fulfilled, together with the 10% retention from payments foreseen by the revised regulation, implementation of projects will be easier and less error-prone;*

*Amendment*

144. *Recalls the* great importance *attributed* to the ex-ante conditionalities *for setting* out sector-specific and horizontal conditions to ensure effective spending *of ESIF, however, stresses the Court's opinion in its Special Report 15/2017 questioning to what extent this has effectively led to changes on the ground;*

Or. en

**Amendment 221**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Rosa D'Amato**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 147**

*Motion for a resolution*

147. Regrets furthermore that in general only 26,1% of projects were selected, and only 3,7% of the available structural funds absorbed at the end of 2016 and whereas the selection process accelerated in 2017, the slow start may lead to a high number of outstanding commitments at the end of the current financing period;

*Amendment*

147. Regrets furthermore that in general only 26,1% of projects were selected, and only 3,7% of the available structural funds absorbed at the end of 2016 and whereas the selection process accelerated in 2017, the slow start may lead to a high number of outstanding commitments at the end of the current financing period; *calls on the Commission to guarantee further efforts to strengthen the administrative capacity*

*of national, regional and local  
authorities;*

Or. it

**Amendment 222**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 148**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**148.** *Emphasises that project selection was particularly slow in Spain, Cyprus, Romania, Austria, in the Czech Republic, in Croatia and Slovakia;*

*deleted*

Or. es

**Amendment 223**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 149**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

149. Notes that, **consequently**, for most of the operational programmes (247 out of 295) no amounts were certified in the accounts ("zero accounts") since no expenditure was declared until 31/07/2016;

149. Notes that for most of the operational programmes (247 out of 295) no amounts were certified in the accounts ("zero accounts") since no expenditure was declared until 31/07/2016;

Or. es