



**2016/2148(INI)**

13.9.2016

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 67**

### **Draft opinion**

**Nikolaos Chountis**

(PE582.241v01-00)

Investing in jobs and growth - maximising the contribution of European Structural and Investment Funds: an evaluation of the report under Article 16(3) of the CPR

Proposal for a decision

(COM(2015)0639 – 2016/2148(INI))



**Amendment 1**  
**Damian Drăghici**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the importance of equal access to education **and training** in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among **European** regions;

*Amendment*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines **that, in this framework, the European Social Fund (ESF) is the sole Structural Fund with the most direct impact on the daily life of citizens as it promotes employment, social inclusion and better education for all; welcomes in this regard its reinforced role in 2014-2020, in particular in fostering innovative solutions to social, employment and education challenges; underlines** the importance of equal access to **quality formal and non-formal** education, **training and lifelong learning opportunities** in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among **Member States, regions and territories in the EU;**

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Isabella Adinolfi**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the importance of equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions;

*Amendment*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments, **and that they are essential for demonstrating the commitment of the European project to the objective of real solidarity among Member States;** underlines the importance of equal access

to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions *and countries*; *stresses that, to this end, performing, properly-resourced and highly accessible public education systems are essential for reaching out to all layers of European society*;

Or. en

### **Amendment 3**

**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor, Milan Zver**

#### **Draft opinion Paragraph 1**

##### *Draft opinion*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the importance of equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions;

##### *Amendment*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines *that the aim of these funds is to address a funding gap that is hampering the ability of businesses and SMEs to grow and innovate, and to support strategic investments in key areas such as infrastructure, education, research and innovation*; notes that it also fosters the importance of equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions;

Or. en

### **Amendment 4 Momchil Nekov**

#### **Draft opinion Paragraph 1**

##### *Draft opinion*

##### *Amendment*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the importance of equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions;

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the importance of equal access to *quality* education and training, *both formal and non-formal*, in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions; *stresses the importance of the European Social Fund in creating high quality internships and traineeships as well as sustainable and quality jobs for young people*;

Or. en

## **Amendment 5** **Eleftherios Synadinos**

### **Draft opinion** **Paragraph 1**

#### *Draft opinion*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the importance of equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions;

#### *Amendment*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the importance of equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities *within Member States and* among European regions;

Or. el

## **Amendment 6** **Dominique Bilde, Steeve Briois**

### **Draft opinion** **Paragraph 1**

#### *Draft opinion*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU

#### *Amendment*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU

Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the importance of equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among *European regions*;

Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the importance of equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among *Member States*;

Or. fr

**Amendment 7**  
**Notis Marias**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the *importance of* equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions;

*Amendment*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; underlines the *need for* equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing *ever-growing* disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions;

Or. el

**Amendment 8**  
**Jill Evans**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; *underlines the importance of* equal access to education and training in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions;

*Amendment*

1. Recalls that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the EU Cohesion Policy's main financial instruments; *reiterates that* equal access to education and training *is one of the key priorities* in delivering genuine convergence and reducing disparities and socioeconomic inequalities among European regions;

**Amendment 9**

**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor, Milan Zver**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 a. Recalls that two million companies will be directly supported by the ESI Funds, to boost their competitiveness and increase their research and innovation capacity; welcomes that almost 15 million households will have access to high-speed broadband thanks to European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) support, while almost 20 million people in rural areas will have new or improved ICT services or infrastructure with the support of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD);***

Or. en

**Amendment 10**

**Damian Drăghici**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 a. Considers that economic, social and territorial cohesion must continue to be at the core of the EU's efforts towards a more prosperous, balanced and solidary Union; welcomes in this regard the increased flexibility and results orientation of the EU's Cohesion Policy for 2014-2020, with a view to maximise and optimise its contribution to the achievement of Europe 2020 strategy headline targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;***

**Amendment 11**  
**Krystyna Lybacka**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1a. Stresses the importance of the Structural and Investment Funds for improving pre-school, educational and university infrastructure with a view to improving the quality of training and modernising education and training systems so as to offer young people the skills and qualifications that will enable them to find a job and to help workers improve their skills and qualifications;***

Or. pl

**Amendment 12**  
**Jill Evans**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 a. Emphasizes the huge innovation and employment potential of renewable energy sources, search for greater resource efficiency and energy efficiencies; calls on the Commission to integrate a specific energy and environmental strategy for regional development with a view also to education and employment;***

Or. en

**Amendment 13**  
**Franz Obermayr**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1a. Stresses that it would be a mistake to reduce education and its promotion simply to considerations of economic utility; stresses, also, that culture and its contribution to the forging and creating of identity and the development of creative potentials are essential aspects of education;***

Or. de

**Amendment 14**  
**Damian Drăghici**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 b. Stresses that, according to 2015 Education and Training Monitor's findings, there is an urgent need to improve inclusiveness, quality and relevance of education in the EU in order to ensure sustainable growth, boost productivity, address structural and long-term unemployment, promote fair mobility and foster social inclusion; calls in this regard on Member States to promote and support projects targeting education systems, teachers and trainers, learners of all ages, in particular those from vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, by making efficient use of the resources available under the ESIFs, especially the ESF, in conjunction with other EU tools such as Erasmus+ and European Territorial Cooperation programmes;***

Or. en

**Amendment 15**  
**Isabella Adinolfi**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Regrets that the overall level of the MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period *of* austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people;

*Amendment*

2. Regrets that the overall level of the MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; ***is deeply worried that such reduction shall deliver to the European citizens the clear message that in times of crisis, the European Union is less keen on solidarity among its Member States;*** stresses that in a period ***characterised by*** austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments ***designed to serve the interests of financial institutions and to assuage the fears of some Member States rather than to contribute to the well-being and prosperity of citizens,*** pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent unemployment ***and underemployment,*** especially among young people;

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Dominique Bilde, Steeve Briois**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. ***Regrets*** that the overall level of the MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent

*Amendment*

2. ***Notes*** that the overall level of the MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent

unemployment, especially among young people;

unemployment, especially among young people; *points out that, at the same time, further efforts are being asked of the Member States to finance costly European policies of unproven effectiveness, such as the PNR system, which is estimated to cost EUR 500 million;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 17**  
**Momchil Nekov**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Regrets that the overall level of the MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people;

*Amendment*

2. Regrets that the overall level of the MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education, *has affected the right to education* and has generated high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people *with poor qualifications, NEET's and those with disadvantaged background; recalls that the level of education funding across Member States remains low in comparison to the pre-crisis situation;*

Or. en

**Amendment 18**  
**Notis Marias**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Regrets that the overall level of the  
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*Amendment*

2. Regrets that the overall level of the  
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MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people;

MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on *southern European* Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people; *notes that Greece's education spending is down 35.6% compared to 2009;*

Or. el

### Amendment 19

Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor

#### Draft opinion Paragraph 2

##### *Draft opinion*

2. *Regrets that the overall level of the MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people;*

##### *Amendment*

2. *Notes with concern a decrease in the budget between MFF 2014-2020 and MFF 2007-2013; notes that a decrease in public financing for education may contribute to generate high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people;*

Or. en

### Amendment 20

Eleftherios Synadinos

#### Draft opinion Paragraph 2

##### *Draft opinion*

2. Regrets that the overall level of the PE589.247v01-00

##### *Amendment*

2. Regrets that the overall level of the

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MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people;

MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education *and the development of innovative technologies* and has generated high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people;

Or. el

## **Amendment 21** **Damian Drăghici**

### **Draft opinion** **Paragraph 2**

#### *Draft opinion*

2. Regrets that the overall level of the MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people;

#### *Amendment*

2. Regrets that the overall level of the MFF 2014-2020 is lower compared with the MFF 2007-2013; stresses that in a period of austerity policies and extreme fiscal adjustments, pressure on Member States' budgets increases; highlights the fact that such pressure has led to a decrease, *extreme in some Member States*, in public financing for education and has generated high and persistent unemployment, especially among young people;

Or. en

## **Amendment 22** **Nikolaos Chountis**

### **Draft opinion** **Paragraph 2 a (new)**

#### *Draft opinion*

#### *Amendment*

**2a. Deplores the institutionalisation of the principle of macroeconomic**

*conditionality and the correlation between cohesion policy, its objectives and funds on the one hand and the stability and growth pact, economic governance and any economic and financial convergence between Member States on the other; notes that the imposition of strict macroeconomic and financial conditions and austerity measures undermines the role of cohesion policy and the support it can give to action for culture, education and sport with a view to ensuring balanced growth, creating jobs and eliminating inequalities in order to achieve genuine convergence;*

Or. el

**Amendment 23**  
**Momchil Nekov**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2 a. Is of the opinion that a broader investment strategy is needed that should cover the full cycle of education and training, encompassing all sectors of lifelong learning, work-based learning and formal and non-formal learning; as 'Better education' is one of the main priorities of the European Social Fund, encourages Member States to make full use of it by channelling investments into inclusive education which responds to societal challenges with regards to ensure equal access and opportunities for all;*

Or. en

**Amendment 24**  
**Jill Evans**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

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*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**2 a.** *Highlights the potential of CCIs regarding youth employment; stresses that further promotion of and investment in the cultural and creative sector may contribute substantially to investment, growth, innovation and employment; calls on the Commission to consider therefore the special opportunities offered by the whole CCS, comprising NGOs and small associations, in the framework for example of the Youth Employment Initiative;*

Or. en

**Amendment 25**  
**Damian Drăghici**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**2 a.** *Calls on the Member States to use the ESIFs to their full potential by enhancing the added value and result-orientation of their projects and by providing sufficient and adequate information to potential beneficiaries, including those from education, culture and sport sectors;*

Or. en

**Amendment 26**  
**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor, Milan Zver**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**2 a.** *Notes that the ESIF targets areas*

*which foster an environment for job creation such as the areas of education, training, cultural and creative industries, by supplementing national budgets and compensating for decreasing investment levels;*

Or. en

**Amendment 27**  
**Nikolaos Chountis**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2b. Expresses its concern at the process of suspending the funding which is about to be activated for the first time in Spain and Portugal; considers that funding for European regions should not depend on compliance with macroeconomic conditions imposed by EU economic policies; believes that penalising Member States will not improve the effectiveness of cohesion policy and that suspending payments will be a severe blow to Member States facing difficulties and would only worsen unemployment and poverty and weaken the vulnerable sectors of education and culture;*

Or. el

**Amendment 28**  
**Jill Evans**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2 b. Recognises the increasing importance of micro-enterprises and SMEs in the cultural and creative sector*

*for investment, growth, innovation and employment, but also in their key role, together with cultural NGOs, networks and platforms, in preserving and promoting cultural and linguistic diversity and a wide range of traditional arts and crafts; recognises that culture and innovation are crucial factors in helping regions to attract investment, support creative talent, and foster social cohesion, and thereby contribute to local development which local and regional authorities are well-placed to support;*

Or. en

**Amendment 29**

**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2 b. Calls for more investment in the area of education and social inclusion, vocational training and life-long learning to improve both the relevance of education and training systems and the transition from education to work and life-long learning; stresses the need for concentrated funding to prevent early school leaving and for equal access to quality education;*

Or. en

**Amendment 30**

**Damian Drăghici**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2 b. Encourages the Member States to*

*make best use of the enhanced flexibility under the current cohesion policy in order to better respond to local and regional needs and specificities, also in the fields of education, culture and sport;*

Or. en

**Amendment 31**  
**Nikolaos Chountis**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2c. Stresses the need to adopt measures to make the best possible use of funding under the Structural and Investment Funds by supporting action to promote solidarity, job creation and preservation, education and culture, the provision of high-quality public services, environmental justice and a reduction in poverty and social exclusion; calls on Parliament to submit a proposal to review the application of Article 23 of the Regulation laying down common provisions on macroeconomic conditionality, in accordance with paragraph 17 thereof;*

Or. el

**Amendment 32**  
**Jill Evans**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2 c. Reiterates that investments in education and culture reinforce employability and contribute to sustainable growth and job creation in the EU; regrets that austerity policies pushed*

*by the European Semester did trigger heavy cuts in education and culture in those countries where education and lifelong learning are key to exit the crisis; underlines the need for structural reforms of the education and training systems in the Member States and the need to foster better interaction between the EU and the Member States and to facilitate the exchange of best practices among the Member States;*

Or. en

**Amendment 33**  
**Damian Drăghici**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2 c. Highlights the importance of a wider holistic approach to culture that takes into account its significant contribution to education and training, innovative social and economic development and social inclusion; therefore calls on the Commission and the Member States to increase awareness of culture's potential to foster smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and to encourage cultural projects in this regard, including cross-border projects that can contribute to strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion;*

Or. en

**Amendment 34**  
**Dominique Bilde, Steeve Briois**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its performance; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to promote the creation of new **high-quality** jobs and decent social protection for young people;

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; ***points out that, in some cases, this initiative has only superficially addressed the problem of young people, such as in France where 'future-oriented jobs' have led to training only in a third of cases, with preference having been given to contracts in the non-profit sector; calls for all youth initiatives not to lead in reality to insecure jobs for young people, which only bring about a fictitious, short-term fall in unemployment;*** calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its performance; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to promote the creation of new **high-quality** jobs and decent social protection for young people;

Or. fr

**Amendment 35**  
**Momchil Nekov**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its performance; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to promote the creation of new high-quality jobs and decent social protection for young people;

*Amendment*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its performance; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to promote the creation of new high-quality jobs and decent social protection for young people; ***urges the Member States to implement fully the Youth Guarantee, based on a strong cooperation between***

### **Amendment 36**

**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor**

#### **Draft opinion**

##### **Paragraph 3**

###### *Draft opinion*

3. Notes *that* the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) *has failed to date to* address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; *calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its performance*; asks the Commission to *take all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to promote the creation of new high-quality jobs and decent social protection for young people*;

###### *Amendment*

3. Notes *the importance of* the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) *that can* address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; asks the Commission to *promote infrastructures that create new quality jobs and social protection for young people within the framework of the European Structural and Investment Fund*;

### **Amendment 37**

**Notis Marias**

#### **Draft opinion**

##### **Paragraph 3**

###### *Draft opinion*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; calls for *an evaluation* of the YEI *following a fully fledged assessment of its performance*; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions *to ensure its*

###### *Amendment*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; calls for *a revision* of the YEI; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions to promote the creation of new high-quality jobs and decent social

*continuation and its revision in order* to promote the creation of new high-quality jobs and decent social protection for young people;

protection for young people;

Or. el

### **Amendment 38**

**Andrew Lewer, Angel Dzhambazki, Emma McClarkin**

#### **Draft opinion**

##### **Paragraph 3**

###### *Draft opinion*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its performance; asks the Commission to take *all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to promote the creation of new high-quality jobs and decent social protection for young people*;

###### *Amendment*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its performance; asks the Commission to take *note of the results of said evaluation and to ensure that further steps are taken to support the aim of reducing youth unemployment, including through encouraging exchange of best practice across Member States*;

Or. en

### **Amendment 39**

**Eleftherios Synadinos**

#### **Draft opinion**

##### **Paragraph 3**

###### *Draft opinion*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its

###### *Amendment*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %, *particularly in the south of Europe*; calls for an evaluation of the YEI following

performance; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to promote the creation of new high-quality jobs and decent social protection for young people;

a fully fledged assessment of its performance; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to promote the creation of new high-quality jobs and decent social protection for young people;

Or. el

**Amendment 40**  
**Ivan Jakovčić**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its performance; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to **promote** the creation of new **high-quality** jobs and decent social protection for young people;

*Amendment*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to date to **systematically** address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its performance; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to **support** the creation of new **high-quality** jobs and decent social protection for young people;

Or. hr

**Amendment 41**  
**Isabella Adinolfi**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to **date to** address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40

*Amendment*

3. Notes that the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) has failed to address the persisting problem of high levels of youth unemployment, which in several Member States remains at over 40 %; **asks the**

*%; calls for an evaluation of the YEI following a fully fledged assessment of its performance; asks the Commission to take all necessary actions to ensure its continuation and its revision in order to promote the creation of new high-quality jobs and decent social protection for young people;*

*Commission to warn Member States that no single isolated initiative will change the situation unless deep social, economic and political reforms are launched in order to stop first and then reverse the current trend of employment destruction and decent social protection for young people;*

Or. en

**Amendment 42**  
**Hugues Bayet**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3a. Calls for debt and deficit calculations not to factor in public investment carried out by Member States' public operators, particularly in view of the impact of the new ESA 2010 system of accounts, which is preventing Member States from putting up co-financing for projects eligible for structural funding (in particular under the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Youth Employment Initiative) and thus from using this important source of funding to help find a way out of the economic crisis and kick-start growth and employment;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 43**  
**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Aixelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3 a. Notes that there appear to be*

*increased difficulties in filling vacancies due to skills mismatch in the labour market, stresses that the problems of mismatched skills, limited geographic mobility and precarious practices of work need to be addressed through ESIF and calls for a closer cooperation between higher education institutions, training bodies and SMEs in the field of access to ESIF;*

Or. en

**Amendment 44**

**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3 b. Calls on the Commission to ensure that Member States comply with the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities when implementing projects supported by the ESIF;*

Or. en

**Amendment 45**

**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3 c. Positively notes that the objectives of the European Structural and Investment Fund legislative package for 2014-2020 includes the aim to foster a shift from institutional to community living for persons with disabilities and calls on the Commission to ensure that Member States respect the provisions of*

*the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities when implementing the ESIF in this regard;*

Or. en

**Amendment 46**

**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Aixelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3 d. *Underlines the importance of the Smart Specialisation Strategies that are helping the shift from a classic ICT sector approach to a comprehensive one, empowering regions to identify ICT investment priorities relevant for their territory; calls on the Commission to ensure that Member States and regions develop the necessary infrastructures and strategies before making any digital investments using ESIF, in order to optimise their impact;***

Or. en

**Amendment 47**

**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Aixelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3 e. *Recalls, that EUR 2.2 billion from the European Social Fund (ESF) will be accessible to support human capital development in ICT focusing on ICT skills, support for business creation and e-justice, and that this should be supported by funds that improve simplification of procedures and processes as well***

*as transparency;*

Or. en

**Amendment 48**

**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Andrea Bocskor, Milan Zver**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 f (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3 f. Emphasises the need to maintain the traditional trades, including the craft tradition and associated skills, and to establish strategies to foster growth for traditional trade entrepreneurship in order to maintain the cultural identity of the traditional trade sectors; draws attention to the importance of supporting work linked to professional training and the mobility of young craftsmen and women;***

Or. en

**Amendment 49**

**Franz Obermayr**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host countries in order to substantially support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;*** ***deleted***

Or. de

**Amendment 50**  
**Notis Marias**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

**4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host countries in order to substantially support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;**

*Amendment*

*deleted*

Or. el

**Amendment 51**  
**Dominique Bilde, Steeve Briois**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

**4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host countries in order to substantially support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;**

*Amendment*

**4. Recalls that the European Structural Funds are primarily intended to reduce regional disparities between Member States and promote sustainable growth; points out that the costs generated by the admission policies for migrants will cut funding for investments in the real economy, which are of vital importance to Member States' citizens who are bearing the brunt of the current economic crisis; calls on the Commission, therefore, to block any reprogramming of structural funds intended for the admission of illegal migrants;**

Or. fr

**Amendment 52**  
**Momchil Nekov**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host countries in order to substantially support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

*Amendment*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host countries in order to substantially support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems; ***believes that access to lifelong learning, including non-formal and informal learning and professional training, has the potential to be an effective tool for active inclusion of refugees and migrants as well as their integration into the European labour market and societies;***

Or. en

**Amendment 53**  
**Ivan Jakovčić**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host countries in order to ***substantially*** support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

*Amendment*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host countries in order to support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems; ***stresses, in this regard, the important role of local and regional authorities;***

**Amendment 54**  
**Damian Drăghici**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis *poses* many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the *EU institutions to provide, via ESIF* and other Union *programmes, adequate funding to host countries* in order to substantially support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

*Amendment*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis *creates* many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the *Member States to make fully use of the opportunities provided by the ESIFs* and other Union *Funds and programmes* in order to substantially support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems, *labour market and society*;

Or. en

**Amendment 55**  
**Eleftherios Synadinos**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host countries in order to substantially support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

*Amendment*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host countries in order to substantially support the *legal and potential* integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

Or. el

**Amendment 56**  
**Andrew Lewer, Angel Dzhambazki, Emma McClarkin**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, *via* ESIF and other Union programmes, ***adequate funding to host countries in order to substantially*** support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

*Amendment*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide ***Member States with the flexibility necessary, through the*** ESIF and other Union programmes, ***to use existing funds to*** support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

Or. en

**Amendment 57**  
**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Stresses that ***the current*** migration ***crisis*** poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of ***the host*** Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, *via* ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding ***to host countries in order to substantially support*** the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

*Amendment*

4. Stresses that migration poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, *via* ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding ***for projects that facilitate*** the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

Or. en

**Amendment 58**  
**Isabella Adinolfi**

**Draft opinion**

## Paragraph 4

### *Draft opinion*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host *countries* in order to substantially support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

### *Amendment*

4. Stresses that the current migration crisis poses many challenges for the educational and training systems of the host Member States; calls on the EU institutions to provide, via ESIF and other Union programmes, adequate funding to host *Member States* in order to substantially support the integration of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers into education and training systems;

Or. en

## Amendment 59 Nikolaos Chountis

### Draft opinion Paragraph 4 a (new)

### *Draft opinion*

### *Amendment*

***4a. Stresses that Member States are committed to providing better access to high-quality broadband, which is of vital importance for rural and sparsely populated areas; calls for the promotion of public wi-fi networks in the interests of sociocultural development, and of modern education systems and computer systems;***

Or. el

## Amendment 60 Jill Evans

### Draft opinion Paragraph 4 a (new)

### *Draft opinion*

### *Amendment*

***4 a. Emphasises the need to improve the EU's overall capacity to create and sustain quality jobs and to tackle high***

*unemployment; also recognises the need to take migration into account in terms of integration into the education system and labour market in order to find the best solution for all of society;*

Or. en

**Amendment 61**  
**Hugues Bayet**

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Underlines the need to enhance coordination and to enable and optimise synergies between ESIF and other Union programmes in order to achieve greater impact and efficiency.

*Amendment*

5. Underlines the need to enhance coordination and to enable and optimise synergies between ESIF and other Union programmes in order to achieve greater impact and efficiency; *calls for continued structural fund investment in transition regions so as not to undermine what has been achieved by the resources and efforts already deployed;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 62**  
**Therese Comodini Cachia, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Marc Joulaud, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Milan Zver, Andrea Bocskor**

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Underlines the need to enhance coordination and to enable and optimise synergies between ESIF and other Union programmes in order to achieve greater impact and efficiency.

*Amendment*

5. Underlines the need to enhance coordination and to enable and optimise synergies between ESIF and other Union programmes in order to achieve greater impact and efficiency *and to boost growth and jobs in the EU;*

Or. en

**Amendment 63**  
**Ivan Jakovčić**

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Underlines the need to enhance coordination **and to enable and optimise synergies** between ESIF and other Union programmes in order to achieve greater impact and efficiency.

*Amendment*

5. Underlines the need to enhance coordination between ESIF and other Union programmes in order to **enable and optimise synergies and thereby** achieve greater impact and efficiency;

Or. hr

**Amendment 64**  
**Isabella Adinolfi**

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Underlines the need to **enhance coordination and to enable and optimise synergies between** ESIF and other Union programmes in order to **achieve greater impact and efficiency**.

*Amendment*

5. Underlines the need to **put real solidarity among Member States at the heart of** ESIF and **all** other Union programmes in order to **create a viable future for the European Union**;

Or. en

**Amendment 65**  
**Damian Drăghici**

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Underlines the need to enhance coordination and to enable and optimise synergies between **ESIF** and other Union programmes in order to achieve greater impact and efficiency.

*Amendment*

5. Underlines the need to enhance coordination and to enable and optimise synergies between **ESIFs** and other Union **Funds and** programmes in order to achieve greater impact and efficiency;

Or. en

**Amendment 66**

**Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Jadwiga Wiśniewska, Bogdan Andrzej Zdrojewski**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5 a. Highlights that cultural infrastructure has a significant impact on the economic and social development and cohesion at local, regional and national level; calls on the Commission to revise the 5 million euros limit for cultural infrastructure on the occasion of the adoption of the "Omnibus Regulation", including the ERDF Regulation, in order to remove the reference to "small scale" or, as a minimum, raise the maximum cost of cultural projects to EUR 10 million for all projects (not only for UNESCO sites) and to consider the eligible costs of projects, rather than the total costs;**

Or. en

**Amendment 67**

**Franz Obermayr**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5a. Stresses that the amount of future investments should represent a certain percentage of the GDP of the various Member States, in order to take account of rises or falls in the cost of living in the countries concerned and ensure a fair distribution.**

Or. de