



2018/0243(COD)

17.10.2018

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Culture and Education

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Development

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council
establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation
Instrument
(COM(2018)0460 – C8-0275/2018 – 2018/0243(COD))

Rapporteur for opinion: María Teresa Giménez Barbat

PA_Legam

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The European Commission proposal establishing the '**Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI)**' (2021-2027) would integrate several EU's external action instruments from the current MFF, most of which will expire on 31 December 2020:

- the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI),
- the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI),
- the Partnership Instrument for Cooperation with Third Countries (PI),
- the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR),
- the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP),
- Guarantee Fund for External Action,
- The NDICI will also integrate the current extra-budgetary European Development Fund (EDF), including the EDF's ACP investment facility.

Promoting fundamental values and human rights is at the core of those instruments.

With an increased budget of €89.2 billion, the NDICI instrument will be the EU's main tool to contribute to poverty eradication and to support democracy and sustainable development in its partner countries.

The proposed regulation encompasses four main components: a geographical, a thematic and a rapid response component.

The **geographic component** (financial envelope EUR 68bn)

With a particular focus on the Neighbourhood area and Sub-Saharan Africa, it will jointly address global challenges such as human development including gender equality, climate change, environmental protection, migration and food security

The **thematic component** (proposed financial envelope EUR 7bn)

Will complement the geographic one through worldwide coverage support for human rights and democracy, civil society, stability and peace and global challenges covering matters such as health, education and training, women and children, decent work and social protection, culture, migration, environment and climate change, sustainable energy, sustainable and inclusive growth, private sector and local authorities.

The **rapid response component** (proposed financial envelope EUR 4bn)

Will allow the EU to intervene rapidly and effectively for conflict prevention and to respond to situations of crisis or instability. It will help increase partner countries' resilience as well as take early action to address the EU's foreign policy needs and priorities. This component also

has worldwide coverage. Under this component, no programming is needed. Implementation takes the form of direct adoption of exceptional assistance measures, action plans and individual measures.

Emerging challenges and priorities cushion of unallocated funds (proposed financial envelope EUR 10,2 bn)

Will ensure appropriate response to urgent priorities, particularly in the areas of migration and stability.

Your Rapporteur does acknowledge that the architecture of the current instruments has proven to be inefficient, in part due to its lack of flexibility, to swiftly respond to emerging challenges. For this reason, she deems appropriate a new revision to reinforce EU's capacity response action and to maximise the impact of combined interventions.

However, she believes that the new architecture should not affect the European Parliament's role and involvement in the programming and implementation of the new instrument and the scrutiny process.

Although the Regulation will financially support actions related to learning mobility with third countries under the Erasmus programme, as well as cooperation and policy dialogue between the EU and those countries in education and in culture, your Rapporteur believes that the objectives set for those areas should be much more ambitious.

Furthermore, she considers that a more prominent place in the draft Regulation should be given to education and culture, ensuring access to inclusive and equitable quality education to all and to fostering international cultural relations through cultural diplomacy.

The importance of education as one of the key components of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is reflected in SDG 4 ("Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all"). Better education is indeed a pre-condition for poverty eradication, human development, social inclusiveness and gender equality.

As regards culture, the importance of fostering cultural cooperation, including cultural diplomacy, is increasingly recognised as a means to promote mutual understanding, respect for human rights and common values.

Therefore, your rapporteur believes that an indicative amount of 15% of the proposed budget should be devoted to education and culture actions.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Culture and Education calls on the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Development, as the committees responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) In accordance with Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union, the Union shall pursue consistency between the different areas of its external action and between these and its other policies, as well as it shall work for a high degree of cooperation in all fields of international relations. The wide array of actions enabled by this Regulation should contribute to the objectives set out in that Article of the Treaty.

Amendment

(2) In accordance with Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union, the Union shall pursue consistency between the different areas of its external action and between these and its other policies, as well as it shall work for a high degree of cooperation in all fields of international relations, ***including its cultural dimension.*** The wide array of actions enabled by this Regulation should contribute to the objectives set out in that Article of the Treaty.

Or. en

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) The primary objective of Union's development cooperation policy, as laid down in Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union is the reduction and, in the long term, the eradication of poverty. The Union's development cooperation policy also contributes to the objectives of the Union's external action, in particular to foster the sustainable economic, social and environmental development of developing countries, with the primary aim of eradicating poverty, as set out in Article

Amendment

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Amendment 3**Proposal for a regulation****Recital 7***Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) The global context for action is the pursuit of a rules-based global order, with multilateralism as its key principle and the United Nations at its core. The 2030 Agenda, together with the Paris Agreement on Climate Change⁵⁷ and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda⁵⁸ is the international community's response to global challenges and trends in relation to sustainable development. With the Sustainable Development Goals at its core, the 2030 Agenda is a transformative framework to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development globally. It is universal in scope, providing a comprehensive shared framework for action that applies to the Union, to its Member States and to its partners. It balances the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, recognising the essential interlinkages between its goals and targets. The 2030 Agenda aims to leave no one behind. The implementation of the 2030 Agenda will be closely coordinated with the Union's other relevant international commitments. Actions undertaken by this Regulation should pay particular attention to interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goals and to integrated actions that can create co-benefits and meet multiple objectives in a coherent way.

⁵⁷ Signed in New York on 22 April 2016.

⁵⁸ "Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the

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⁵⁷ Signed in New York on 22 April 2016.

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Third International Conference on Financing for Development", adopted on 16 June 2015 and endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly on 27 July 2015 (A/RES/69/313).

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Or. en

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) The implementation of this Regulation should be guided by the five priorities established in the Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy (the 'Global Strategy')⁵⁹, presented on 19 June 2016, which represents the Union's vision and the framework for united and responsible external engagement in partnership with others, to advance its values and interests. The Union should enhance partnerships, promote policy dialogue and collective responses to challenges of global concern. Its action should support the Union's interests and values in all its aspects, including preserving peace, preventing conflicts, strengthening international security, fighting root causes of irregular migration and assisting populations, countries and regions confronting natural or man-made disasters, supporting trade policy, economic diplomacy and economic cooperation, promoting digital solutions and technologies, and fostering the international dimension of Union's policies. In promoting its interests, the Union should comply with, and promote, the principles of respect for high social and environmental standards, for the rule of law, for international law and for human rights.

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rights.

⁵⁹ "Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe. A global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy", June 2016.

⁵⁹ "Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe. A global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy", June 2016.

Or. en

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation Recital 13

Text proposed by the Commission

(13) Pursuant to the Sustainable Development Goals, this Regulation should contribute to reinforced monitoring and reporting with a focus on results, covering outputs, outcomes and impacts in partner countries benefiting from the Union's external financial assistance. In particular, as agreed in the Consensus, actions under this Regulation are expected to contribute 20% of the Official Development Assistance funded under this Regulation to social inclusion and human development, including gender equality **and women's** empowerment.

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Or. en

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission

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Or. en

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation Recital 19

Text proposed by the Commission

(19) The European Neighbourhood Policy, as reviewed in 2015⁶², aims at the stabilisation of neighbouring countries and strengthening resilience, particularly by boosting economic development, as the Union's main political priorities. In order to attain its objective, the reviewed European Neighbourhood Policy has been focusing on four priority areas: good governance, democracy, the rule of law and human rights, with a particular focus in engaging further with civil society; economic development; security; migration and mobility, including tackling the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement. Differentiation and enhanced mutual ownership are the hallmark of the European Neighbourhood Policy, recognising different levels of engagement, and reflecting the interests of each country concerning the nature and focus of its partnership with the Union.

⁶² Joint communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, "Review of the European Neighbourhood policy", 18

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⁶² Joint communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, "Review of the European Neighbourhood policy", 18

November 2015.

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Or. en

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation Recital 22 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(22 a) Funding under this Regulation should also be used to finance actions under the international dimension of Creative Europe Programme, the implementation of which should be done according to the Creative Europe Regulation.

Or. en

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation Recital 28 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(28 a) Considering the relevance of addressing education and culture in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the EU strategy for international cultural relations, this Regulation should contribute to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, promote life-long learning opportunities for all and foster international cultural relations in view of the EU's role as a global actor.

Or. en

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 34

Text proposed by the Commission

(34) The EFSD+ should aim at supporting investments as a means of contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by fostering sustainable and inclusive economic and social development and promoting the socio-economic resilience in partner countries with a particular focus on the eradication of poverty, sustainable and inclusive growth, the creation of decent jobs, economic opportunities, skills and entrepreneurship, socioeconomic sectors, micro, small and medium-sized enterprises as well as addressing specific socioeconomic root causes of irregular migration, in accordance with the relevant indicative programming documents. Special attention should be given to countries identified as experiencing fragility or conflict, Least Developed Countries and heavily indebted poor countries.

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Or. en

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c a) to foster quality and inclusive education as key enabler for development and international cooperation goals, by reducing inequalities and poverty, empowering people to live more healthy and sustainable lives and fostering tolerance and knowledge in order to build

more peaceful societies;

Or. en

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4 a. In order to promote the international dimension of education and culture, an indicative amount corresponding to at least 15% of the financial envelope referred to in paragraph 1 shall be allocated to actions in respect of cooperation and policy dialogue on culture and education with third countries;

Or. en

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. A rights-based approach encompassing all human rights, whether civil and political or economic, social and cultural shall be applied in order to integrate human rights principles, to support the right holders in claiming their rights with a focus on poorer and more vulnerable groups and to assist partner countries in implementing their international human rights obligations. This Regulation shall promote gender equality and **women's** empowerment.

2. A rights-based approach encompassing all human rights, whether civil and political or economic, social and cultural shall be applied in order to integrate human rights principles, to support the right holders in claiming their rights with a focus on poorer and more vulnerable groups and to assist partner countries in implementing their international human rights obligations. ***In particular, the Union shall support education as a tool to foster development, contribute to the eradication of poverty, as well as to promote peace-building, social inclusion and active citizenship, and***

ensure access to culture. This Regulation shall promote gender equality and empowerment ***of women and children.***

Or. en

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

6. Programmes and actions under this Regulation shall mainstream climate change, environmental protection and gender equality and shall address interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goals, to promote integrated actions that can create co-benefits and meet multiple objectives in a coherent way. These programmes and actions shall be based on an analysis of risks and vulnerabilities, integrate a resilience approach and be conflict sensitive. They shall be guided by the principle of leaving no one behind.

Amendment

6. Programmes and actions under this Regulation shall mainstream climate change, environmental protection, ***education and culture,*** and gender equality and shall address interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goals, to promote integrated actions that can create co-benefits and meet multiple objectives in a coherent way. These programmes and actions shall be based on an analysis of risks and vulnerabilities, integrate a resilience approach and be conflict sensitive. They shall be guided by the principle of leaving no one behind.

Or. en

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

7 a. This Regulation shall contribute to actions established under Regulation (EU) No. .../... (Creative Europe). A single programming document shall be drawn up from this Regulation for seven years, including funds from Regulation (EU) No. .../... (IPA III). Regulation (EU) No. .../... (Creative Europe) shall apply to the

use of these funds

Or. en