

2014 - 2019

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

2014/2040(BUD)

31.7.2014

# AMENDMENTS 1 - 42

Draft opinion Nils Torvalds (PE536.152v02-00)

on the General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015 - all sections (2014/2040(BUD))

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Amendment 1 Olle Ludvigsson

Draft opinion Paragraph -1 (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

-1. Welcomes the preference of the Commission to put strong emphasis on innovation, competitiveness, growth and jobs by making subheading 1.1 – which covers key policies to promote positive developments in those fields – highly prioritised in its draft budget;

Or. en

#### Amendment 2 Miguel Viegas, Paloma López, Rina Ronja Kari

Draft opinion Paragraph -1 (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

-1. Maintains that the 2015 budget, as regards the matters falling within the terms of reference of this committee, is cast in the same ideological mould as the EU now being built along federalist, neoliberal lines, which is seeking to impose one governance model on all Member States, regardless of their specific nature and their level of development;

Or. pt

Amendment 3 Miguel Viegas, Rina Ronja Kari

Draft opinion Paragraph -1 (new)

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Amendment

-1. Notes that, accordingly, greater amounts are being allocated for analysis and control of the policies that the EU is imposing on its Member States;

Or. pt

#### Amendment 4 Miguel Viegas, Rina Ronja Kari

Draft opinion Paragraph -1 (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

-1. Deplores the fact that the EU as such and coordination, supervision, and communication related to EMU in particular are accounting for a growing volume of expenditure, which is thus fuelling the propaganda machine – covering the European area and extending into non-EU countries – whose purpose is to disseminate the values of the current European model, even though these have already been rejected several times by referendum;

Or. pt

Amendment 5 Miguel Viegas

Draft opinion Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Recalls that the European Parliament has strongly supported the creation of the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) Amendment

1. Recalls that the European Parliament has strongly supported the creation of the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs)

and believes that the Union needs to further improve the supervision at Union level; believes that, besides the ECB, the ESAs are a cornerstone of fully functioning financial markets in the Union and are essential for the economic recovery and the creation of jobs and growth in Europe, as well as for the prevention of future crises in the financial sector; and believes that the Union needs to further improve the supervision at Union level;

Or. pt

# Amendment 6 Kay Swinburne

# Draft opinion Paragraph 1

# Draft opinion

1. Recalls that the European Parliament has strongly supported the creation of the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) and believes that the Union needs to further improve the supervision *at* Union *level*; believes that, besides the ECB, the ESAs are a cornerstone of fully functioning financial markets in the Union and are essential for the economic recovery and the creation of jobs and growth in Europe, as well as for the prevention of future crises in the financial sector.

#### Amendment

1. Recalls that the European Parliament has strongly supported the creation of the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) and believes that the Union needs to further improve the *quality of* supervision *across the* Union; believes that, besides the ECB, the ESAs are a cornerstone of fully functioning financial markets in the Union and are essential for the economic recovery and the creation of jobs and growth in Europe, as well as for the prevention *and handling* of future crises in the financial sector.

Or. en

Amendment 7 Olle Ludvigsson

Draft opinion Paragraph 1

1. Recalls that the European Parliament has strongly supported the creation of the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) and believes that the Union needs to further improve the supervision at Union level; believes that, besides the ECB, the ESAs are a cornerstone of fully functioning financial markets in the Union and are essential for the economic recovery and the creation of jobs and growth in Europe, as well as for the prevention of future crises in the financial sector.

#### Amendment

1. Recalls that the European Parliament has strongly supported *and very actively contributed to* the creation of the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) and believes that the Union needs to further improve the supervision at Union level; believes that, besides the ECB, the ESAs are a cornerstone of fully functioning financial markets in the Union and are essential for the economic recovery and the creation of jobs and growth in Europe, as well as for the prevention of future crises in the financial sector.

Or. en

Amendment 8 Ivana Maletić

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

1a. Bearing in mind the Europe 2020 targets and the aims of stimulating economic growth and development and resolving the problem of unemployment, especially among young people, calls on the Commission to lay emphasis in the partnership agreements with Member States and in operational programmes upon development projects and drivers of growth, one such measure being to open up sources of financing to small and medium-sized enterprises, thereby channelling budget resources with a view to bringing about an innovative, creative, and competitive Europe;

Or. hr

Amendment 9 Ivana Maletić

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 b (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

1b. Given that the European Semester was established for the purpose of coordinating the Member States' economic policies at EU level and that, to that end, the Commission produces a detailed analysis of their economic and structural reform programmes and issues recommendations agreed with them, believes that, as the European Semester proceeds, Member States can learn from each other's experiences, enabling them to reach the targets more quickly and to more successful effect; considers it important, therefore, that the EU budget be used to promote human capacitybuilding programmes through which to exchange knowledge and experience related to public finances, the financial system, structural reforms, employment, and social policy; calls on the Commission, together with the Member States, to encourage investment in analysis and scientific research and innovation in the above areas and the exchange of knowledge and experience through projects financed under European structural and investment funds;

Or. hr

Amendment 10 Ivana Maletić

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 c (new)

#### Amendment

1c. Given that sound financial management is central to the implementation of the EU budget as well as of national budgets, since it increases the effectiveness of expenditure, reduces the possibility of error and fraud, and enhances budget transparency, considers it important that the EU budget be used to promote programmes aimed at developing the Member States' statistical, reporting, and accounting systems, auditing and supervisory procedures, and the enforcement of financial management and control systems; calls on the Commission, therefore, to make rapid and effective use of the Anti-Fraud Information System (AFIS) and the European statistical programme (ESP) and, in cooperation with the Member States, to channel European structural and investment funding towards capacity building and the exchange of knowledge and experience among Member States in the field of financial management and reporting;

Or. hr

Amendment 11 Ivana Maletić

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1d. Bearing in mind that recommendations to Member States for the purposes of the European Semester relate most often to strengthening of the tax collection system, the prevention of tax evasion, sound revenue management,

and the calculation of tax expenditures, the main object being to enhance competitiveness, which implies a need for a stable, predictable tax system and for better management and greater efficiency in the existing tax system, considers it essential for Member States to exchange knowledge and experience in the field of tax administration; calls on the Commission, therefore, to make rapid and effective use of the Fiscalis and Hercules III programmes and, in cooperation with the Member States, to channel European structural and investment funding towards capacity building and the exchange of knowledge and experience among Member States with a view to achieving a high standard of tax policy implementation;

Or. hr

Amendment 12 Miguel Viegas, Paloma López, Rina Ronja Kari

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Condemns the fact that greater amounts are being earmarked for international economic and financial affairs, or what is termed financial assistance, which follows the EU approach of encroaching on the sovereignty of nation-states, but is serving merely to impose structural reforms and open the door to multinationals;

Or. pt

# Amendment 13 Miguel Viegas, Rina Ronja Kari

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# Draft opinion Paragraph 1 b (new)

#### Draft opinion

#### Amendment

1b. Notes that, faced with the financial crisis in the banking sector brought about by serious flaws in the workings of the market, the EU is responding with supervision by various agencies, in the hope that it can, by that shift, resolve inconsistencies inherent in the system;

Or. pt

#### Amendment 14 Olle Ludvigsson

# Draft opinion Paragraph 2

#### Draft opinion

2. Stresses that the additional tasks entrusted to the ESAs, in particular the monitoring of proper implementation of EU law and compliance with legal acts, the new mandates stemming from the banking union legislation, as well as future tasks envisaged in *planned* legislative proposals, will require appropriate budgetary means in order to fulfil their supervisory and regulatory role as provided for in the ESA regulations;

#### Amendment

2. Stresses that the additional tasks entrusted to the ESAs, in particular the monitoring of proper implementation of *new* EU law and compliance with *new* legal acts *and* the new mandates stemming *inter alia* from the banking union legislation, as well as future tasks envisaged in *tabled* legislative proposals, will require appropriate budgetary means in order to fulfil their supervisory and regulatory role as provided for in the ESA regulations;

Or. en

Amendment 15 Kay Swinburne

Draft opinion Paragraph 2 a (new)

Amendment

2a. Notes that all ESAs are currently operating significantly below the 2014 professional staffing numbers authorised under the Union budget and therefore supports the Commission proposal to utilise the same staffing targets for 2015;

Or. en

# Amendment 16 Kay Swinburne

Draft opinion Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3 *Expresses therefore its concerns with respect to* the Commission proposal for a considerable decrease in payment appropriations for the three ESAs, in comparison to their respective budgets for 2014 as well as the Commission proposal to keep the number of establishment plan posts of the ESAs stable at the level of 2014 in 2015; Amendment

3 Accepts that there are considerable pressures upon public finances following the economic downturn and therefore expresses support for the Commission proposal for a considerable decrease in payment appropriations for the three ESAs, in comparison to their respective budgets for 2014 as well as the Commission proposal to keep the number of establishment plan posts of the ESAs stable at the level of 2014 in 2015;

Or. en

Amendment 17 Marco Valli, Marco Zanni

Draft opinion Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. *Expresses therefore its concerns with respect to* the Commission proposal for a

Amendment

3. *Intends to assess* the Commission proposal for a decrease in payment

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*considerable* decrease in payment appropriations for the three ESAs, in comparison to their respective budgets for 2014 as well as the Commission proposal to keep the number of establishment plan posts of the ESAs stable at the level of 2014 in 2015; appropriations for the three ESAs, in comparison to their respective budgets for 2014, as well as the Commission proposal to keep the number of establishment plan posts of the ESAs stable at the level of 2014 in 2015;

Or. it

#### Amendment 18 Miguel Viegas

#### Draft opinion Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. *Expresses therefore its concerns with respect to* the Commission *proposal for a considerable* decrease in payment appropriations for the three ESAs, in comparison to their respective budgets for 2014, *as well as the Commission proposal to* keep the number of establishment plan posts of the ESAs stable at the level of 2014 in 2015;

# Amendment

*Notes, however, that* the Commission *proposals considerably* decrease payment appropriations for the three ESAs, in comparison to their respective budgets for 2014, *and* keep the number of establishment plan posts of the ESAs stable at the level of 2014 in 2015;

Or. pt

Amendment 19 Olle Ludvigsson

Draft opinion Paragraph 3

#### Draft opinion

3 Expresses therefore its concerns with respect to the Commission proposal for a considerable decrease in *payment* appropriations for the three ESAs, in comparison to their respective budgets for 2014 as well as the Commission proposal

# Amendment

3 Expresses therefore its concerns with respect to the Commission proposal for a considerable decrease in appropriations for the three ESAs, in comparison to their respective budgets for 2014 as well as the Commission proposal to keep the number

to keep the number of establishment plan posts of the ESAs stable at the level of 2014 in 2015; of establishment plan posts of the ESAs stable at the level of 2014 in 2015; cannot see any reasonable logic in the Commission's approach in this case of reducing the budgets of authorities placed in the "new tasks" category;

Or. en

Amendment 20 Olle Ludvigsson

Draft opinion Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Regrets that the Council has chosen the same overly restrictive line as the Commission regarding the appropriations for the ESAs;

Or. en

Amendment 21 Marco Valli, Marco Zanni

Draft opinion Paragraph 4

#### Draft opinion

4. Stresses that the ESAs need the appropriate human resources in order to fulfil their supervisory and regulatory role in a satisfactory manner; *suggests that eventual increases in human resources should be preceded or accompanied by rationalisation efforts such as reallocation to achieve efficiency gains; points out that the ESAs stated having difficulties in employing staff members of a certain seniority and are limited in fulfilling their mandate by a lack of* 

#### Amendment

4. Stresses that the ESAs need the appropriate human resources in order to fulfil their supervisory and regulatory role in a satisfactory manner; *notes, however, that the grading of staff is manifestly topheavy, with a very high number of administrators (AD) compared with the number of assistants (AST); suggests, therefore, that staffing be rationalised and reorganised so as to restore balance to inhouse* resources; *points out in addition that any increases in human resources* 

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resources, staff and available resources do not reflect the tasks required to be carried out, in particular the highly resource intensive and time-constrained work of delivering the single rulebook; would have to allow for the criteria referred to above;

Or. it

# Amendment 22 Ivana Maletić

#### Draft opinion Paragraph 4

#### Draft opinion

4. Stresses that the ESAs need the appropriate human resources in order to fulfil their supervisory and regulatory role in a satisfactory manner; suggests that eventual increases in human resources should be preceded or accompanied by rationalisation efforts such as reallocation to achieve efficiency gains; points out that the ESAs stated having difficulties in employing staff members of a certain seniority and are limited in fulfilling their mandate by a lack of resources, staff and available resources do not reflect the tasks required to be carried out, in particular the highly resource-intensive and timeconstrained work of delivering the single rulebook;

#### Amendment

4. Stresses that the ESAs need the appropriate human resources in order to fulfil their supervisory and regulatory role in a satisfactory manner; suggests that eventual increases in human resources should be preceded or accompanied by rationalisation efforts such as reallocation to achieve efficiency gains; points out that such rationalisation must not affect cooperation with scientific institutions, the conduct of research and analysis, or education and training and that, on the contrary, investment and the number of activities in these areas need to be increased; points out that the ESAs stated having difficulties in employing staff members of a certain seniority and are limited in fulfilling their mandate by a lack of resources, staff and available resources do not reflect the tasks required to be carried out, in particular the highly resource-intensive and time-constrained work of delivering the single rulebook;

Or. hr

Amendment 23 Olle Ludvigsson

# Draft opinion Paragraph 4

#### Draft opinion

4. Stresses that the ESAs need the appropriate human resources in order to fulfil their supervisory and regulatory role in a satisfactory manner; suggests that eventual increases in human resources should be preceded or accompanied by rationalisation efforts such as reallocation to achieve efficiency gains; points out that the ESAs stated having difficulties in employing staff members of a certain seniority and are *limited in* fulfilling their mandate by a lack of resources, staff and available resources do not reflect the tasks required to be carried out, in particular the highly resource intensive and timeconstrained work of delivering the single rulebook.

#### Amendment

4. Stresses that the ESAs need the appropriate human resources in order to fulfil their supervisory and regulatory role in a satisfactory manner; underlines that increases in human resources should always be preceded and/or accompanied by rationalisation efforts such as reallocation to achieve efficiency gains; points out that the ESAs have difficulties in employing staff members of a certain seniority and are *restrained from* fulfilling their mandates by the fact that staff and other available resources do not reflect the tasks required to be carried out, in particular the highly resource intensive and time-constrained work of delivering the single rulebook.

Or. en

Amendment 24 Ivana Maletić

Draft opinion Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Maintains that, in the short term, the three ESAs can and must substantially boost their human capacity, quantitatively and qualitatively, so as to ensure that they perform all the tasks assigned to them under the regulations; notes that care must be taken to ensure that the fact of having a large intake of newcomers does not interfere with the day-to-day running of affairs, and therefore points to the importance of fast recruitment procedures and a compulsory entering programme for newcomers, along with good training

Or. hr

Amendment 25 Kay Swinburne

Draft opinion Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Stresses that inflexibility in the ability to second national experts from the supervisory bodies of Member states, as well as strict adherence to language requirements and the Commission Staffing code has been a contributing factor to difficulties faced by the ESAs in attracting high quality staff for short periods of high need;

Or. en

Amendment 26 Fabio De Masi, Miguel Viegas, Rina Ronja Kari, Paloma López

Draft opinion Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Notes, however, that the response to the financial crisis in the banking sector, brought about by serious flaws in the workings of the market, is taking the form of supervision by various agencies, but the 2015 budget is completely overturning that approach by cutting the amounts earmarked for supervision, thus limiting the technical and human resources available to perform that task and creating an undoubted contradiction that is bound to cause confusion among the

Or. pt

#### Amendment 27 Kay Swinburne

# Draft opinion Paragraph 5

#### Draft opinion

5. Notes that the Chair, Executive Director and the members of the Board of Supervisors and Management Boards should be in a position to act independently and only in the interest of the Union; considers that compulsory contributions of Member States conflict with the independence of the ESAs; believes that the current financing arrangements of the ESAs based on a mixed financing system are inflexible, create administrative burdens and might pose a threat to their independence.

#### Amendment

5. Notes that the Chair, Executive Director and the members of the Board of Supervisors and Management Boards should be in a position to act independently and only in the interest of the Union; believes that the current financing arrangements of the ESAs have not been fully utilised and do not allow enough flexibility for periods of high short term need that will not be necessary on an ongoing basis which would be best filled by seconded national experts;

Or. en

Amendment 28 Olle Ludvigsson

#### Draft opinion Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Notes that the Chair, Executive Director and the members of the Board of Supervisors and Management Boards should be in a position to act independently and *only* in the interest of the Union; considers that compulsory contributions of Member States conflict with the independence of the ESAs; believes that

#### Amendment

5. Notes that the Chair, Executive Director and the members of the Board of Supervisors and Management Boards should be in a position to act independently, *objectively* and in the interest of the Union *as a whole*; considers that compulsory contributions of *the competent authorities of the* Member

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the current financing arrangements of the ESAs based on a mixed financing system are inflexible, create administrative burdens and might pose a threat to their independence. States *could* conflict with the independence of the ESAs; believes that the current financing arrangements of the ESAs based on a mixed *and nationally oriented* financing system are inflexible, create administrative burdens and might pose a threat to their independence.

Or. en

#### Amendment 29 Kay Swinburne

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls therefore on the Commission to propose a financing system by 2017 that is solely based on the introduction of fees by market participants.

Amendment 30 Miguel Viegas

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls therefore on the Commission to propose a financing system by 2017 that is solely based on the introduction of fees by market participants.

Amendment

deleted

deleted

Or. en

Amendment

Or. pt

# Amendment 31 Olle Ludvigsson

# Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls therefore on the Commission to propose a financing system by 2017 that is solely based on the introduction of fees by market participants.

#### Amendment

6. Calls therefore on the Commission to propose a financing system by 2017 that:

- is solely based on the introduction of fees by market participants, *or* 

- combines fees by market participants with basic funding from the EU budget;

Or. en

Amendment 32 Sven Giegold on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls therefore on the Commission to propose a financing system by 2017 that is solely based on the introduction of fees by market participants.

#### Amendment

6. Calls therefore on the Commission to propose a financing system by 2017 that is solely based on the introduction of fees by market participants, *or failing that, move to a separate budget line and 100% community funding*.

Or. en

Amendment 33 Ivana Maletić

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

6. Calls therefore on the Commission to propose a financing system by 2017 that is solely based on the introduction of fees by market participants.

#### Amendment

6. Calls therefore on the Commission to *bring analysis and scrutiny to bear and, should this be shown to be acceptable,* propose a financing system by 2017 that is solely based on the introduction of fees by market participants, *and/or to propose that separate headings be laid down in the general budget.* 

Or. hr

Amendment 34 Olle Ludvigsson

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Stresses, in this context, that such a new financing system must be designed in a way which fully safeguards the integrity of the ESAs vis-à-vis the actors in the financial sector;

Or. en

Amendment 35 Olle Ludvigsson

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6b. Underlines that it is crucial, not least for the enhancement of the coordinated fight against tax fraud and evasion, that the Fiscalis 2020 programme gets off to a good start; notes that the relatively modest appropriations proposed by the

Commission in this area could be seen as acceptable; stresses, however, that the reductions from the Commission level suggested by the Council could undermine planned Fiscalis 2020 activities and should therefore not be accepted;

Or. en

#### Amendment 36 Olle Ludvigsson

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 c (new)

Draft opinion

#### Amendment

6c. Emphasizes that the resources allocated to statistics must continuously reflect the heavy workload and high quality demands in this policy area, not least when it comes to the delivery of crucial economic and financial data; stresses that the relevant appropriations in the 2015 budget must not be any smaller than what has now been proposed by the Commission; disagrees, therefore, with the Council line of taking key appropriations down from the Commission level;

Or. en

Amendment 37 Kay Swinburne

Draft opinion Paragraph 6a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Calls therefore upon the Commission to consider within the course of the wider

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review of the ESAs, how to allow more flexible employment conditions within the ESAs that are best able to include the considerable expertise of supervisors within Member States on a temporary basis, as well as encourage recruitment of high quality staff on a permanent basis.

Or. en

Amendment 38 Sven Giegold on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Recalls the need to further ensure funding for capacity building of civil society in the field of financial services.

Or. en

Amendment 39 Sven Giegold on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6b. Calls on the Commission to speed up and render concrete the reform of the EMU communication strategy.

Or. en

Amendment 40 Sven Giegold

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6. Welcomes the first steps towards the reform of EFRAG, but highlights the need to fully implement the Maystadt recommendations, including the demand to limit its work to IFRS standards and to phase out its work on small and medium size enterprises and on tax matters.

Or. en

Amendment 41 Sven Giegold on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6d. Considers it vital to maintain the funding of Eurostat at the level proposed by the Commission

Or. en

Amendment 42 Miguel Viegas, Fabio De Masi, Paloma López, Rina Ronja Kari

Draft opinion Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Objects to this budget, therefore, as it will not help to resolve any of the serious problems affecting the EU and its Member States and, indeed, constitutes a further stage in a policy that is causing

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the present economic stagnation, unemployment, and social inequalities.

Or. pt