### **European Parliament**

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Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

2015/2052(INI)

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## COMPROMISE AMENDMENTS A - F

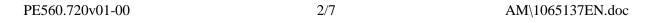
**Draft opinion Javi López**(PE557.113v01-00)

on the European Structural and Investment Funds and sound economic governance: guidelines for the implementation of Article 23 of the Common Provisions Regulation

(2015/2052(INI))

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#### Amendment A

EPP, S&D, ALDE, Greens/EFA, EFDD Compromise amendment replacing Amendments 1, 3, 6, 28

# Draft opinion Paragraph 1

#### Draft opinion

1. Welcomes the Commission's criteria, highlighting the fact that *multiannual programmes and the long-term nature of the challenges facing Member States* require certainty and permanence, and that frequent reprogramming should therefore be avoided and stability preferred in order to reinforce the predictability and credibility of ESI fund programmes;

#### Amendment

1. Welcomes the Commission's criteria, highlighting the fact that the challenges Member States face are of long term nature and that the multiannual programmes financed by ESI Funds (European Structural and Investment Funds), meant address these challenges, require certainty and that frequent permanence, and reprogramming should therefore avoided and stability preferred in order to reinforce the predictability and credibility of ESI Fund Programmes; given the long term and result oriented nature of the ESI Funds and the annual cycle of the European Semester, believes that the shorter term focus of the CSRs should not jeopardise the long term goals of ESI Funds; trusts that the European Commission and the Council would be very cautious when requesting reprogramming of the funds or the suspension of payments for programmes, following the principle of EU solidarity, which is partly expressed through the mechanism of the share out of EU funding, should remain a central tenet of EU policy;

Or. en

#### Amendment B

EPP, S&D, ALDE, EFDD Compromise amendment replacing Amendments 7, 8, 9

Draft opinion Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

Highlights that, in order to maximise thier impact on growth, development, cohesion and jobs creation and to address new social and economic challenges when they emerge, investment supported by ESI Funds should take place in a sound framework; macroeconomic recalls. however, that the allocations under the ESI Funds are based on specific eligibility criteria linked to the level of development of EU regions, therefore decisions to either reprogramme or suspend based on other criteria may be inconsistent with the rationale behind these Funds;

Or. en

#### Amendment C

EPP, S&D, Greens/EFA, EFDD Compromise amendment replacing Amendments 10, 11, 13, 27

**Draft opinion Paragraph 2** 

Draft opinion

2. Highlights the fact that
reprogramming or suspension as
regulated in Article 23 of the Common
Provisions Regulation (CPR) could
undermine social and economic
convergence between regions and
jeopardise goals pursued by ESI
funds, especially in countries with
deep macroeconomic and social

Amendment

2. Points out that in certain cases reprogramming or suspension as regulated in Article 23 of the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR) could jeopardise the achievement of the ESI Fund objectives in all Member States, and especially in those that face deep macroeconomic and social imbalances; calls on the Commission

imbalances; asks the Commission to use the mechanism only when Member States have persistently failed to take effective action to address its requests to reprogramme funding and giving due consideration to the unemployment rate or the impact on the economies of the Member States concerned:

to use the mechanism only when Member States have persistently failed to take effective action to address its requests to reprogram, and where there is strong evidence that reprogramming could have considerable direct impact on the potential of job creation of programmes; highlights that Commission should demonstrate that the modifications don't have negative effects on targets of employment and social affairs foreseen by Member States; calls on the Commission therefore to carry out an assessment of the impact on the unemployment rate and economic development in the countries concerned; highlights that every programme with long-term positive effects linked to social investment should remain untouched:

Or. en

#### Amendment D

EPP, S&D, ALDE, EFDD Compromise amendment replacing Amendments 20, 25

# Draft opinion Paragraph 3

#### Draft opinion

3. Calls on the Commission to be *extremely* cautious in applying the first strand of Article 23 of the CPR to all programmes coming under any of the thematic objectives of the ESI Funds, in particular thematic objectives (8), (9) or (10), or the employment and social targets of the Europe 2020 Strategy, *to ensure that social cohesion is not undermined;* asks the Commission to be strictly committed to applying the ESF minimum share provided for in

### Amendment

3. Considers it counterproductive that ESI Funds supporting education, training and employment creation might be suspended if such funds are achieving their objectives; calls therefore on the Commission to be cautious in applying the first strand of Article 23 of the CPR to all programmes coming under any of the thematic objectives of the ESI Funds, in particular thematic objectives (8), (9) or (10), or the employment and social

Article 92(4) of the CPR;

targets of the Europe 2020 Strategy and to accompany any modifications to ESI Programmes with the appropriate guarantees that social cohesion objectives are respected; asks the Commission to be strictly committed to applying the ESF minimum share provided for in Article 92(4) of the CPR;

Or. en

#### Amendment E

S&D, ALDE, Greens/EFA, EFDD Compromise amendment replacing Amendment 31, 32

### Draft opinion Paragraph 4

### Draft opinion

4. Calls on the Commission to avoid any suspension of commitments or payments provided for in the second strand of Article 23 of the CPR where Member States are involved in any of the situations described in subparagraphs (a) to (e) of paragraph 1 of Annex III to the CPR;

#### Amendment

4. Calls on the Commission *to take* proportionate measures and consider the economic and social circumstances of the Member States in order to avoid any suspension of commitments or payments provided for in the second strand of Article 23 of the CPR where Member States are involved in any of the situations described in sub-paragraphs (a) to (e) of paragraph 1 of Annex III to the CPR; calls on the Commission to each time assess the impact of suspension on unemployment and to try to alleviate possible undesirable effects for the affected population;

Or. en

#### Amendment F

EPP, S&D, ALDE, EFDD Compromise amendment replacing Amendments 36, 37, 38, 40

# Draft opinion Paragraph 5

#### Draft opinion

5. Asks the Commission to avoid arbitrariness in applying Article 23 of the CPR, to devise a transparent and democratic decision-making process, in line with Article 23(15) of the CPR, and to allow Parliament, on the basis of a formalised process, to be informed at all stages of the adoption of reprogramming requests or of any proposals and decisions on suspension of commitments or payments.

#### Amendment

Calls on the Commission in applying Article 23 of the CPR, to devise a effective and democratic transparent, decision-making process that is applied in a consistent manner, in line with Article 23(15) of the CPR, which would include introducing an early warning approach to inform the country concerned about the of possibility launching reprogramming procedure immediately after the publication of the country specific recommendations, and to allow Parliament, on the basis of a formalised process, to be informed at all stages of the adoption of reprogramming requests or of any proposals and decisions on suspension of commitments or payments;

Or. en