



**2018/0196(COD)**

12.10.2018

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

for the Committee on Regional Development

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum and Migration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Border Management and Visa Instrument  
(COM(2018)0375 – C8-0230/2018 – 2018/0196(COD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Adina-Ioana Vălean

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## AMENDMENTS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Regional Development, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

### Amendment 1

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Recital 9

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(9) Reflecting the importance of tackling climate change ***in line with*** the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the Funds will contribute to mainstream climate actions and to the achievement of an overall target of **25 %** of the EU budget expenditure supporting climate objectives.

###### *Amendment*

(9) Reflecting the importance of tackling climate change ***and in order to contribute to the financing of necessary actions to be taken at Union, national and local level to fulfil*** the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the Funds will contribute to mainstream climate actions and to the achievement of an overall target of ***at least 30 %*** of the EU budget expenditure supporting climate objectives.

### Amendment 2

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Recital 12

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(12) At Union level, the European Semester of economic policy coordination is the framework to identify national reform priorities and monitor their implementation. Member States develop their own national multiannual investment strategies in support of these reform priorities. These strategies should be presented alongside the yearly National Reform Programmes as a way to outline and coordinate priority investment projects to be supported by national and Union funding. They should also serve to use

###### *Amendment*

(12) At Union level, the European Semester of economic policy coordination is the framework to identify national reform priorities and monitor their implementation. Member States develop their own national multiannual investment strategies in support of these reform priorities. These strategies should be presented alongside the yearly National Reform Programmes as a way to outline and coordinate priority investment projects to be supported by national and Union funding, ***and to avoid any contradiction***

Union funding in a coherent manner and to maximise the added value of the financial support to be received notably from the Funds, the European Investment Stabilisation Function and InvestEU.

*with the priorities of the Union, including the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement.* They should also serve to use Union funding in a coherent manner, *to phase-out environmentally harmful subsidies* and to maximise the added value of the financial support to be received notably from the Funds, the European Investment Stabilisation Function and InvestEU.

### Amendment 3

#### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 14

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(14) Member States should ***take account of*** the contents of their ***draft National Energy and Climate Plan***, to be developed under the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union<sup>14</sup>, and the outcome of the process resulting in Union recommendations regarding these plans, ***for*** their programmes, ***as well as for*** the financial needs allocated for low-carbon investments.

##### *Amendment*

(14) Member States should ***demonstrate how*** the contents of their ***integrated national energy and climate plan***, to be developed under the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union<sup>14</sup>, and the outcome of the process resulting in Union recommendations regarding these plans, ***are taken into account in*** their programmes, ***in particular with regards to*** the financial needs allocated for low-carbon investments ***needed to achieve the Paris Agreement objectives. During the 2021-2027 programming period, Member States should regularly present to the monitoring committee and to the Commission the progress in implementing the programmes in relation to their integrated national energy and climate plans. During a mid-term review, Member States should, among other elements, consider the need for programme modifications to address eventual delivery gaps and increase the contribution of the Funds towards the implementation of policies and measures set out in their integrated national energy and climate plans.***

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<sup>14</sup> [Regulation on the Governance of the

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Energy Union, amending Directive 94/22/EC, Directive 98/70/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC, Regulation (EC) No 663/2009, Regulation (EC) No 715/2009, Directive 2009/73/EC, Council Directive 2009/119/EC, Directive 2010/31/EU, Directive 2012/27/EU, Directive 2013/30/EU and Council Directive (EU) 2015/652 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 (COM/2016/0759 final/2 - 2016/0375 (COD)].

Energy Union, amending Directive 94/22/EC, Directive 98/70/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC, Regulation (EC) No 663/2009, Regulation (EC) No 715/2009, Directive 2009/73/EC, Council Directive 2009/119/EC, Directive 2010/31/EU, Directive 2012/27/EU, Directive 2013/30/EU and Council Directive (EU) 2015/652 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 (COM/2016/0759 final/2 - 2016/0375 (COD)].

#### **Amendment 4**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 19**

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(19) The Member State should carry out a mid-term review of each programme supported by the ERDF, the ESF+ and the Cohesion Fund. That review should provide a fully-fledged adjustment of programmes based on programme performance, while also providing an opportunity to take account of new challenges and relevant CSRs issued in 2024. In parallel, in 2024 the Commission should, together with the technical adjustment for the year 2025, review all Member States' total allocations under the Investment for jobs and growth goal of cohesion policy for the years 2025, 2026 and 2027, applying the allocation method set out in the relevant basic act. That review together with the outcome of the mid-term review should result in programme amendments modifying the financial allocations for the years 2025, 2026 and 2027.

###### *Amendment*

(19) The Member State should carry out a mid-term review of each programme supported by the ERDF, the ESF+ and the Cohesion Fund. That review should provide a fully-fledged adjustment of programmes based on programme performance, while also providing an opportunity to take account of new challenges and relevant CSRs issued in 2024, ***including the 2024 State of the Energy Union report***. In parallel, in 2024 the Commission should, together with the technical adjustment for the year 2025, review all Member States' total allocations under the Investment for jobs and growth goal of cohesion policy for the years 2025, 2026 and 2027, applying the allocation method set out in the relevant basic act. That review together with the outcome of the mid-term review should result in programme amendments modifying the financial allocations for the years 2025, 2026 and 2027.

#### **Amendment 5**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 36**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(36) In order to optimise the uptake of co-financed environmental investments, synergies should be ensured with the LIFE programme for Environmental and Climate Action, in particular through LIFE strategic integrated projects and strategic nature projects.

*Amendment*

(36) In order to optimise the uptake of co-financed environmental investments, synergies should be ensured with the LIFE programme for Environmental and Climate Action, in particular through LIFE strategic integrated projects and strategic nature projects. ***The Union should ensure that support from the LIFE programme is consistent with the policies and priorities of the Union and complementary to other financial instruments of the Union, while also ensuring that simplification measures are implemented.***

**Amendment 6**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Recital 36 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(36a) The success of strategic integrated projects is dependent on close cooperation between national, regional and local authorities and the non-state actors concerned. The principles of transparency and disclosure of decisions concerning the development, implementation, assessment and monitoring of projects should therefore be applied.***

**Amendment 7**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 37**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(37) 'climate proofing' means a process to ensure that infrastructure is resilient to the adverse impacts of the climate in accordance with national rules and guidance, where available, or

(37) 'climate proofing' means a process to ensure that infrastructure is resilient to the adverse impacts of the climate in accordance with national rules and guidance, where available, or internationally recognised standards, ***and***

internationally recognised standards.

*that investments in infrastructure apply the “energy efficiency first principle”, as referred to in Article 1(1) of Directive 2012/27/EU;*

## **Amendment 8**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 37 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(37a) 'environment and biodiversity proofing' means a structured process of ensuring the effective application of tools to avoid harmful impacts of Union spending and to maximise its benefits on the state of the Union's environment and biodiversity, based on the Commission's "Common Framework for Biodiversity Proofing of the EU Budget", and in accordance with national rules and guidance, where available, or with internationally recognised standards.*

## **Amendment 9**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(c) a more connected Europe by enhancing mobility and regional ICT connectivity;

(c) a more connected Europe by enhancing **zero-emission** mobility and regional ICT connectivity;

## **Amendment 10**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 4 – paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**2a. Carbon-dependent regions affected by the transition of jobs due to the necessary structural transition to a**

*low-carbon economy shall have access to additional support for the PO2 objectives in order to facilitate a just transition. The aim is to support such regions, in particular those which are not already qualified for support under the Modernisation Fund under Directive 2003/87/EC, by promoting the redeployment, re-skilling and up-skilling of workers, education, job-seeking initiatives as well as development of new jobs, for example through start-ups, in close dialogue and coordination with the social partners. To finance this, the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) shall transfer 25 % of its budget to the Structural Funds.*

## **Amendment 11**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. Member States shall provide information on the support for environment and climate objectives using a methodology based on types of intervention for each of the Funds. That methodology shall consist of assigning a specific weighting to the support provided at a level which reflects the extent to which such support makes a contribution to environmental objectives and to climate objectives. In the case of the ERDF, the ESF+ and the Cohesion Fund weightings shall be attached to dimensions and codes for the types of intervention established in Annex I.

*Amendment*

3. Member States ***shall ensure climate, environmental and biodiversity proofing of their operations through all planning and implementation processes.*** ***They*** shall provide information on the support for environment and climate objectives using a methodology based on types of intervention for each of the Funds. That methodology shall consist of assigning a specific weighting to the support provided at a level which reflects the extent to which such support makes a contribution to environmental objectives and to climate objectives. In the case of the ERDF, the ESF+ and the Cohesion Fund weightings shall be attached to dimensions and codes for the types of intervention established in Annex I.

## **Amendment 12**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

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## Article 8 – paragraph 1 – point b – point iii a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(iiia) an explanation of how the Funds are aligned and contribute to the achievement of the targets, policies and measures contained in their integrated national energy and climate plans under the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union;***

## Amendment 13

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 14 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(a) the allocations of the financial resources by priority including the amounts for the years 2026 and 2027;

(a) the allocations of the financial resources by priority including the amounts for the years 2026 and 2027, ***in particular taking into account the update of integrated national energy and climate plans under Article 14 of the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union;***

## Amendment 14

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 18 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

1. The Commission shall assess the programme and its compliance with this Regulation and with the Fund-specific Regulations, as well as its consistency with the Partnership Agreement. In its assessment, the Commission shall, in particular, ***take into account*** relevant country-specific recommendations.

1. The Commission shall assess the programme and its compliance with this Regulation and with the Fund-specific Regulations, as well as its consistency with the Partnership Agreement. In its assessment, the Commission shall, in particular, ***review whether*** relevant country-specific recommendations ***are properly addressed***.

## **Amendment 15**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 35 – paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**2a. All decisions and supporting documents of the monitoring committee shall be published on the website referred to in Article 44(1).**

## **Amendment 16**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 35 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### **Article 35a**

##### **One-stop shop for citizens**

**1. Each Member State shall set up a one-stop shop to respond to any questions or requests from Union citizens, including beneficiaries, on the implementation of each programme within three months of the date of notification to the Member State concerned of the decision approving the relevant programme.**

**Member States may set up a single one-stop shop to cover more than one programme.**

**2. The one-stop shop shall provide holistic advice to Union citizens with regards the implementation of each programme, including calls for projects, and handle any complaint about its implementation, in particular with regards to its coherence with other Union policies and requirements, such as environment and climate policies.**

## **Amendment 17**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

## Article 67 – paragraph 3 – point j

### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(j) ensure the climate proofing of investments in infrastructure with an expected lifespan of at least five years.

### *Amendment*

(j) ensure the climate, ***environment and biodiversity*** proofing of investments in infrastructure with an expected lifespan of at least five years.

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	Common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum and Migration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Border Management and Visa Instrument
<b>References</b>	COM(2018)0375 – C8-0230/2018 – 2018/0196(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	REGI 11.6.2018
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	ENVI 11.6.2018
<b>Rapporteur</b> Date appointed	Adina-Ioana Vălean 21.6.2018
<b>Date adopted</b>	10.10.2018
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 53 –: 1 0: 8
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Marco Affronte, Margrete Auken, Pilar Ayuso, Catherine Bearder, Ivo Belet, Biljana Borzan, Lynn Boylan, Paul Brannen, Soledad Cabezón Ruiz, Miriam Dalli, Seb Dance, Angélique Delahaye, Mark Demesmaecker, José Inácio Faria, Karl-Heinz Florenz, Francesc Gambús, Elisabetta Gardini, Arne Gericke, Jens Gieseke, Julie Girling, Sylvie Goddyn, Françoise Grossetête, Andrzej Grzyb, Jytte Guteland, György Hölvényi, Anneli Jäätteenmäki, Karin Kadenbach, Kateřina Konečná, Urszula Krupa, Giovanni La Via, Jo Leinen, Peter Liese, Valentinas Mazuronis, Susanne Melior, Miroslav Mikolášik, Joëlle Mélin, Rory Palmer, Piernicola Pedicini, Bolesław G. Piecha, Pavel Poc, Julia Reid, Frédérique Ries, Michèle Rivasi, Annie Schreijer-Pierik, Renate Sommer, Nils Torvalds, Claudiu Ciprian Tănăsescu, Adina-Ioana Vălean
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Cristian-Silviu Buşoi, Nicola Caputo, Jørn Dohrmann, Christofer Fjellner, Christophe Hansen, Danilo Oscar Lancini, Tilly Metz, Younous Omarjee, Aldo Patriciello, Carolina Punset, Christel Schaldemose, Bart Staes, Carlos Zorrinho
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Kati Piri

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

53	+
ALDE	Catherine Bearder, Anneli Jäätteenmäki, Valentinas Mazuronis, Carolina Punset, Frédérique Ries, Nils Torvalds
EFDD	Piernicola Pedicini
GUE/NGL	Lynn Boylan, Kateřina Konečná, Younous Omarjee
PPE	Pilar Ayuso, Ivo Belet, Cristian-Silviu Buşoi, Angélique Delahaye, José Inácio Faria, Christofer Fjellner, Karl-Heinz Florenz, Francesc Gambús, Elisabetta Gardini, Jens Gieseke, Julie Girling, Françoise Grossetête, Andrzej Grzyb, Christophe Hansen, György Hölvényi, Giovanni La Via, Peter Liese, Miroslav Mikolášik, Aldo Patriciello, Annie Schreijer-Pierik, Renate Sommer Adina-Ioana Vălean
S&D:	Biljana Borzan, Paul Brannen, Soledad Cabezón Ruiz, Nicola Caputo, Miriam Dalli, Seb Dance, Jytte Guteland, Karin Kadenbach, Jo Leinen, Susanne Melior, Rory Palmer, Kati Piri, Pavel Poc, Christel Schaldemose, Claudiu Ciprian Tănăsescu, Carlos Zorrinho
VERTS/ALE	Marco Affronte, Margrete Auken, Tilly Metz, Michèle Rivasi, Bart Staes

1	-
EFDD	Julia Reid

8	0
ECR	Mark Demesmaeker, Jørn Dohrmann, Arne Gericke, Urszula Krupa, Bolesław G. Piecha
ENF	Sylvie Goddyn, Danilo Oscar Lancini Joëlle Mélin

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention