



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

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

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**2014/2059(INI)**

10.9.2014

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 41**

**Draft opinion**  
**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy**  
(PE537.266v01-00)

European Semester for economic policy coordination: implementation of 2014 priorities  
(2014/2059(INI))

AM\_Com\_NonLegOpinion

**Amendment 1**  
**Julie Girling**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Underlines *the fact that the* greening of EU economies *contributes to* long-term and crisis-resilient growth, *increases* competitiveness and *creates* jobs, while improving the Union's energy security and energy independence;

*Amendment*

1. Underlines *that the market-led* greening of EU economies *has the potential to contribute to* long-term and crisis-resilient growth, *increase* competitiveness and *create* jobs, while improving the Union's energy security and energy independence;

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Davor Škrlec**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Underlines the fact that the greening of EU economies *contributes to* long-term and crisis-resilient *growth*, increases competitiveness and creates jobs, while improving the Union's energy security and energy independence;

*Amendment*

1. Underlines the fact that the greening of EU economies *contributes to* long-term and crisis-resilient *sustainable development*, increases competitiveness and creates jobs, while improving the Union's energy security and energy independence;

Or. en

**Amendment 3**  
**Kateřina Konečná**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Underlines the fact that the greening of EU economies contributes to long-term and crisis-resilient growth, increases competitiveness **and** creates jobs, **while** improving the Union's energy security and energy independence;

*Amendment*

1. Underlines the fact that the greening of EU economies **and putting at equal stand the Europe 2020 targets** contributes to long-term and crisis-resilient growth, increases competitiveness, creates jobs, improving the Union's energy security and energy independence **while enhancing sustainable development**;

Or. en

**Amendment 4**

**Robert Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Underlines the fact that the greening of EU economies contributes to long-term and crisis-resilient growth, increases competitiveness and creates jobs, while improving the Union's energy security and energy independence;

*Amendment*

1. Underlines the fact that the greening of EU economies contributes to long-term and crisis-resilient growth, increases competitiveness and creates jobs, while improving the Union's energy security and energy independence; **underlines the fact that shale gas might be the answer for Europe's problems with energy dependence from Russia**;

Or. en

**Amendment 5**

**Nuno Melo**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Underlines the fact that the greening of EU economies contributes to long-term and

*Amendment*

1. Underlines the fact that the greening of EU economies contributes to long-term and

crisis-resilient growth, increases competitiveness and creates jobs, while improving the Union's energy security and energy independence;

crisis-resilient growth, increases competitiveness and creates jobs, while improving the Union's energy security and energy independence; ***the green economy should be seen as a major driver for the development of the economy;***

Or. en

## **Amendment 6**

**Kateřina Konečná**

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 a. Reiterates that the sustainable development indicators measured by Eurostat include, amongst others, climate change and energy, natural resources and public health;***

Or. en

## **Amendment 7**

**Kateřina Konečná**

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 b. Underlines the fact that ensuring equal access to health care contributes to social cohesion, social justice, to tackling social exclusion and it contributes to a sustainable development as it adds to intergenerational solidarity and can correct negative population health externalities;***

**Amendment 8**  
**Kateřina Konečná**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1 c. Stresses the importance of the sustainability of the healthcare sector which plays an important role in the overall economy as it accounts for 8% of the total European workforce and for 10% of GDP in the European Union; for being able to provide equal access to healthcare services for the citizens, as health is an essential factor of stability, sustainability and further development of Member States and their economy;*

Or. en

**Amendment 9**  
**Robert Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2. Calls on the Commission to include fully the greening of EU economies in the priorities of the Annual Growth Survey 2015, the European Semester and the review of the Europe 2020 strategy, in order to support the transition to resource-efficient and low-carbon economies in the EU;*

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 10**  
**Julie Girling**

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

*Draft opinion*

2. Calls on the Commission to include *fully* the greening of EU economies in the priorities of the Annual Growth Survey 2015, *the European Semester* and the review of the Europe 2020 strategy, in order to support the transition to resource-efficient and low-carbon economies in the EU;

*Amendment*

2. Calls on the Commission to include the greening of EU economies in the priorities of the Annual Growth Survey 2015 and the review of the Europe 2020 strategy, in order to support the transition to resource-efficient and low-carbon economies in the EU;

Or. en

**Amendment 11**  
**Nicola Caputo**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2a. Calls on the Member States to fully respect the national energy efficiency targets as part of the National Reform Programmes, in the light of the headline targets under the Europe 2020 Strategy;***

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Kateřina Konečná**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2 b. Emphasises that in order for the Member States to boost their employment by exploiting the employment potential of the green economy, action is required on three main fronts: boosting labour demand in eco-industries through adequate levels of investments, anticipating and managing skills needs in both green and greening sectors, and ensuring job quality for high-, medium-, and low-skill occupations; from the point of view of the labour market policy, increased attention should be given to devising adequate training programmes as to address specific skill shortages, and to consider the dynamic interaction between skills supply and age structure of the workforce in green and traditional industries;***

Or. en

**Amendment 13**  
**Giorgos Grammatikakis**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2 c. Calls on the Commission to assess the potential of green jobs creation within the framework of EU's climate and environment policies and set indicative employment targets for each Member State;***

Or. en

**Amendment 14**  
**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy**



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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2 d. Stresses that improving resource and energy efficiency helps European businesses, especially SMEs, to create savings, capture growing markets, and reduce raw materials;***

Or. en

**Amendment 15**  
**Julie Girling**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3. Reiterates the need to phase out environmentally harmful subsidies by 2020 and to shift taxes away from labour to more growth-friendly bases, such as environmental taxation;***

***3. Acknowledges the Commission's country-specific recommendations in the field of environmental taxation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Nuno Melo**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3. Reiterates the need to phase out environmentally harmful subsidies by 2020 and to shift taxes away from labour to more growth-friendly bases, such as environmental taxation;***

***3. Stresses the importance of the impact on the European economy resulting from a taxation system more favorable to the investment and growth, through the change of the tax incidence on labour to resource use and consumption, as well the***

*elimination of the existing incentives harmful to the environment.*

Or. en

**Amendment 17**  
**Davor Škrlec**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. Reiterates the need to phase out environmentally harmful subsidies by 2020 and to shift taxes away from labour to **more growth-friendly bases, such as** environmental taxation;

*Amendment*

3. Reiterates the need to phase out environmentally harmful subsidies by 2020 and to shift taxes away from labour to environmental taxation;

Or. en

**Amendment 18**  
**Giorgos Grammatikakis**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. Reiterates the need to phase out environmentally harmful subsidies by 2020 and to shift taxes away from labour to more growth-friendly bases, such as environmental taxation;

*Amendment*

3. Reiterates the need to phase out environmentally harmful subsidies by 2020 and to shift taxes away from labour to more growth-friendly bases, such as environmental taxation; ***stresses that the shift to growth-friendly taxation will be the most effective if implemented in a coordinated way across Member States; points out that the European Semester is an appropriate tool for the coordination of such policies;***

Or. en

## **Amendment 19**

**Kateřina Konečná**

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3 a. Calls both Member States and the European Commission, in this period of economic crisis, to avoid most damaging measures like short-term savings which will lead to high costs in the mid to long-term and instead to concentrate on further development of high-quality and high-efficiency health care systems;***

Or. en

## **Amendment 20**

**Julie Girling**

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

4. Stresses ***the fact*** that improving resource efficiency is crucial, as it increases competitiveness by creating savings and reducing dependency on raw materials and energy; reiterates, therefore, its call to integrate ***comprehensively*** the resource efficiency agenda into the European Semester;

4. Stresses that improving resource efficiency is crucial, as it increases competitiveness by creating savings and reducing dependency on raw materials and energy; reiterates, therefore, its call to integrate the resource efficiency agenda into the European Semester;

Or. en

## **Amendment 21**

**Julie Girling**

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 5**

*Draft opinion*

5. Considers that measurement and benchmarking methodologies for resource efficiency, and a lead indicator and target should be included in both the European Semester and the review of the Europe 2020 strategy;

*Amendment*

5. Considers that measurement and benchmarking methodologies for resource efficiency, and a ***non-binding*** lead indicator and target, should be included in both the European Semester and the review of the Europe 2020 strategy;

Or. en

**Amendment 22**  
**Davor Škrlec**

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Considers that measurement and benchmarking methodologies for resource efficiency, and a lead indicator and target should be included in both the European Semester and the review of the Europe 2020 strategy;

*Amendment*

5. Considers that measurement and benchmarking methodologies for resource efficiency, and a lead indicator and target should be included in both the European Semester ***in the framework of the scoreboard for macroeconomic imbalances*** and the review of the Europe 2020 strategy;

Or. en

**Amendment 23**  
**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5 a. Reiterates its call to foster eco-innovation through specific recommendations in the European Semester as it presents clear prospects for new businesses and revitalisation of***

*traditional sectors with greener jobs;*

Or. en

**Amendment 24**  
**Davor Škrlec**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5 b. Considers that European Semester should also incorporate reporting on renewable energy and energy efficiency on the basis of legally binding targets set in Union legislation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 25**  
**Nicola Caputo**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5 c. Deplores that recent Commission estimates suggest that the EU is on course to achieve only half of the 20 % objective and that current plans by Member States risk falling far short of the overall 20 % energy efficiency target set in the Europe 2020 strategy, which would lead to lost opportunities for growth across many sectors and regions and loss of employment-creation possibilities and hence negatively impact productivity, competitiveness and social cohesion of the EU;***

Or. en

**Amendment 26**  
**Julie Girling**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Draft opinion*

6. ***Stresses the fact*** that divergences between Member States, as identified in the Annual Growth Survey 2014, are curbing the growth potential of the green economy; underlines, therefore, the urgent need to implement ***fully*** the EU waste acquis, including minimum targets, and through national waste prevention and management strategies, and to implement EU energy efficiency requirements.

*Amendment*

6. ***Notes*** that divergences between Member States, as identified in the Annual Growth Survey 2014, are curbing the growth potential of the green economy; underlines, therefore, the urgent need to implement ***in full*** the EU waste acquis, including minimum targets, and through national waste prevention and management strategies, and to implement EU energy efficiency requirements.

Or. en

**Amendment 27**  
**Piernicola Pedicini**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6 a. Invites the Council to formulate final country-specific recommendations that:***  
***a) encourage Member States not to include into their own budgetary laws those revenues generated by the extraction of fossil fuels; b) adopt structural reforms in respect of the subsidiarity and proportionality principle, recognising the pivotal role of regional and local authorities in the choice of economic and energy strategies affecting their territory such as the extraction of oil.***

Or. en

**Amendment 28**  
**Davor Škrlec**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6 b. Stresses the need for an assessment of climate, environmental and social impacts of country specific recommendations as well as economic and structural reform plans, also to achieve more efficient coordination across policies;***

Or. en

**Amendment 29**  
**Davor Škrlec**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6 c. Underlines the need for increased involvement of EU Environment ministers in the European Semester process at Council level;***

Or. en

**Amendment 30**  
**Davor Škrlec**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6 d. Calls for increased and structured involvement of civil society and***

*environmental organisations so as to safeguard the legitimacy and improve the effectiveness of the European semester process;*

Or. en

**Amendment 31**  
**Nicola Caputo**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6 e. Notes that the EU still generates about five tonnes of waste per person per year on average, and little more than a third of that is effectively recycled; Stresses that Europe should make more progress in turning waste into a resource and promoting sustainable ways of waste management such as recycling; Calls on the Member States to fully implement the European waste legislation at national level in order to reduce the current disparities and move towards a more circular economy;*

Or. en

**Amendment 32**  
**Peter Liese, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Nuno Melo**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 f (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6 f. Stresses the importance of an effective and sustainable healthcare system for the patients and for the economy in general and ask to include specific knowledge on health policy in the process of the*



**Amendment 33**  
**Nuno Melo**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 g (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6 g. Stresses that investment in health is an essential element of the package of social investment (Towards Social Investment for Growth and Cohesion - including implementing the European Social Fund 2014-2020) adopted on 20th February 2013 by the European Commission; this approach results from the annual Growth Survey 2013, which recognizes the contribution of health to an economic recovery that leads to job creation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 34**  
**Nicola Caputo**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 h (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6 h. Calls on the European Commission to place greater emphasis in its package of country-specific recommendations to reforms needed to support the sustainability, efficiency and quality of the national healthcare systems; stresses the fact that reforms of healthcare systems should be undertaken not only to ensure its cost-effectiveness and more***

*efficient use of public resources, but also to improve access and availability of high quality healthcare to general public across Europe in order to improve the overall health status of the population; calls also on the European Commission to develop more reliable methods of measuring equitable access to quality healthcare;*

Or. en

**Amendment 35**  
**Françoise Grossetête**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 i (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6 i. Considers that public health must be seen as a long term investment. Reminds that reforms of social security systems in Member States are necessary but shall not be done at the expense of patients' access to medical innovation, a population in good health being a prior condition for social and economic growth.*

Or. en

**Amendment 36**  
**Andrey Kovatchev**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 j (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6 j. recalls the overarching values of universality, access to good quality care, equity and solidarity, as recognized by the Council in its 2006 Conclusions on Common values and principles in*

*European Union Health Systems;  
underlines that health systems in Europe  
contribute to economic growth and will  
generate significant job opportunities in  
the year to come, as identified in the  
Annual Growth Survey 2014.*

Or. en

**Amendment 37**  
**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 k (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6 k. Notes the recommendations for more  
cost-efficient healthcare; stresses the need  
to provide quality healthcare services and  
in particular assure access for the most  
vulnerable;*

Or. en

**Amendment 38**  
**Andrey Kovatchev**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 l (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6 l. stresses that whilst strengthening the  
efficiency and financial sustainability of  
health systems is important, this needs to  
be accompanied by specific commitments  
to ensure access to high-quality  
healthcare for all;*

Or. en

**Amendment 39**  
**Nuno Melo**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 m (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6 m. Strengthens the effective investment in health is an essential condition for economic prosperity and promoting growth, with results in terms of productivity, labour supply, human capital and public spending;***

Or. en

**Amendment 40**  
**Andrey Kovatchev**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 n (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6 n. calls on the Commission to improve measurement of accessibility of healthcare and performance of health systems so as to help reducing divergences and health inequalities between and within Member States;***

Or. en

**Amendment 41**  
**Nuno Melo**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 o (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6 o. Stresses the need to develop common tools and mechanisms at European level***

*to tackle the shortage of human and financial resources and facilitate the adoption of innovation in health care, in order to contribute to the innovative and sustainable health systems.*

Or. en