



**2017/2053(INI)**

22.1.2018

# **OPINION**

of the Committee on International Trade

for the Committee on Budgets

on reform of the European Union's system of own resources  
(2017/2053(INI))

Rapporteur: Wim van de Camp

PA\_NonLeg

## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on International Trade calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Calls for own resources reforms that focus on modern priorities, offer value for money and efficient financial management, and establish a predictable and stable basis for the EU budget which is independent, transparent and balanced, and will address the existing and increasing pressure on the EU budget and simplify the current complex and opaque rebate arrangements with a view to their abolition, in order to provide the financial means that are needed to meet the demands of our citizens;
2. Calls for a reduction in the EU's dependency on the national contributions based on VAT and GNI, taking into consideration a system in which VAT-based own resources are replaced by the transfer of a share of VAT levied at national level;
3. Welcomes the initiatives for a comprehensive reform of EU own resources, with a view to increasing support on the part of the Member States and the citizens for a genuinely credible and independent EU budget, fostering the EU's sustainable economy and generating EU added value;
4. Points out that the customs union is a basic pillar of the EU and is essential in the EU's negotiation of trade agreements as one of the largest trading blocs in the world; points out that the EU's international trade is directly related to its traditional own resources, which also include customs duties on imports from outside the EU and sugar levies and in 2015 represented 12.8 % of the total revenue of the EU;
5. Underlines the need to analyse the impact on the traditional own resources of the conclusion of (free) trade agreements by the EU and to allocate sources of income in order to compensate for a possible decrease in those resources and the consequent potential instability;
6. Calls for a thorough legal assessment and a feasibility check of the possibilities of creating sustainability- and emissions- based customs duties and levies on trade in goods and services, and for the possible incorporation of such measures into the EU's international trade policies and agreements, with a view to incentivising trade partners to produce in climate-friendly ways, but also as constituting a source for own resources; stresses in this connection that such measures should only be introduced if they are indisputably compatible with WTO rules and safeguard an international level playing field and the competitiveness of EU business, of which SMEs are an important component;
7. Recalls its previous calls for an approach towards EU customs rules and procedures that is more modern, effective, efficient and unambiguous and less divergent, striving for optimisation and enforcement of the current EU customs system, and stimulating cooperation with the clear goal of tackling and addressing tax evasion and all forms of unfair competition in order to effectively collect duties and levies to be attributed to the EU's own resources;
8. Notes that trade defence instruments (TDIs) are a source for EU own resources, but that

owing to their nature they cannot and must not be used as a predictable and stable basis for a consistent contribution to the EU's own resources; stresses that TDIs should not primarily be used as a EU own resources source, as they should only be established appropriately and proportionately, in line with the applicable rules.

## INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Date adopted</b>	23.1.2018
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 25 -: 6 0: 4
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	William (The Earl of) Dartmouth, Laima Liucija Andrikienė, Maria Arena, Tiziana Beghin, David Borrelli, David Campbell Bannerman, Daniel Caspary, Salvatore Cicu, Eleonora Forenza, Karoline Graswander-Hainz, Nadja Hirsch, Yannick Jadot, France Jamet, Bernd Lange, David Martin, Emma McClarkin, Anne-Marie Mineur, Sorin Moisă, Alessia Maria Mosca, Franz Obermayr, Artis Pabriks, Inmaculada Rodríguez-Piñero Fernández, Tokia Saïfi, Joachim Schuster, Joachim Starbatty, Adam Szejnfeld, Hannu Takkula, Iuliu Winkler
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Reimer Böge, Seán Kelly, Sander Loones, Fernando Ruas, Lola Sánchez Caldentey, Jarosław Wałęsa
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Virginie Rozière

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

25	+
ALDE	Nadja Hirsch, Hannu Takkula
EFDD	Tiziana Beghin, David Borrelli
PPE	Laima Liucija Andrikienė, Reimer Böge, Daniel Caspary, Salvatore Cicu, Seán Kelly, Sorin Moisă, Artis Pabriks, Fernando Ruas, Tokia Saïfi, Adam Szejnfeld, Jarosław Wałęsa, Iuliu Winkler
S&D	Maria Arena, Karoline Graswander-Hainz, Bernd Lange, David Martin, Alessia Maria Mosca, Inmaculada Rodríguez-Piñero Fernández, Virginie Rozière, Joachim Schuster
VERTS/ALE	Yannick Jadot

6	-
ECR	David Campbell Bannerman, Sander Loones, Emma McClarkin, Joachim Starbatty
ENF	France Jamet, Franz Obermayr

4	0
EFDD	William (The Earl of) Dartmouth
GUE/NGL	Eleonora Forenza, Anne-Marie Mineur, Lola Sánchez Caldentey

**Key to symbols:**

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention