



2015/2284(INI)

30.3.2016

AMENDMENTS

1 - 34

Draft opinion
Agnes Jongerius
(PE577.053v01-00)

the activities, impact and added value of the European Globalisation
Adjustment Fund between 2007 and 2014
(2015/2284(INI))

AM_Com_NonLegOpinion

Amendment 1

Judith Sargentini

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft opinion

Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Calls on the Commission to conduct thorough impact assessments of all trade agreements. Sectors identified as vulnerable should be closely monitored. Social partners and Member States with sectors at high risk should be duly informed and assisted in the process of application;

Amendment

1. Calls on the Commission to conduct thorough impact assessments of all trade agreements ***and relevant legislative initiatives***. Sectors identified as vulnerable should be closely monitored ***also through regular ex-post impact assessments***. Social partners and Member States with sectors at high risk should be duly informed and assisted in the process of application;

Or. en

Amendment 2

Marielle de Sarnez

Draft opinion

Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Calls on the Commission to conduct thorough impact assessments of all trade agreements. Sectors identified as vulnerable should be closely monitored. Social partners and Member States with sectors at high risk should be duly informed and assisted in the process of application;

Amendment

1. Calls on the Commission to conduct thorough impact assessments of all trade agreements ***to anticipate more effectively their impact on the economy and jobs in the EU***. Sectors identified as vulnerable, ***such as agriculture***, should be closely monitored ***and should benefit from safeguard measures, transitional periods and even exclusion from negotiations***. Social partners and Member States with sectors at high risk should be duly informed and assisted in the process of application;

Or. fr

Amendment 3
Iuliu Winkler

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Calls on the Commission to conduct thorough impact assessments of all trade agreements. Sectors identified as vulnerable should be closely monitored. Social partners and Member States with sectors at high risk should be duly informed and assisted in the process of application;

Amendment

1. Calls on the Commission to conduct thorough impact assessments of all trade agreements. ***Sectors identified as vulnerable should be closely monitored. Impact upon Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) should be carefully evaluated.*** Social partners and Member States with sectors at high risk should be duly informed and assisted in the process of application;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Maria Arena

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Calls on the Commission to conduct thorough impact assessments of all trade agreements. ***Sectors identified as vulnerable should be closely monitored. Social partners and Member States with sectors at high risk should be duly informed and assisted in the process of application;***

Amendment

1. Calls on the Commission to conduct thorough impact assessments of all trade agreements. ***These ex ante and ex post analyses should be used to highlight the challenges resulting from such agreements in terms of employment and business competitiveness in the EU;***

Or. fr

Amendment 5
Tokia Saïfi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Calls on the Commission to conduct thorough impact assessments of all trade agreements. Sectors identified as vulnerable should be closely monitored. Social partners and Member States with sectors at high risk should be duly informed and assisted in the process of application;

Amendment

1. Calls on the Commission to conduct thorough *ex ante and ex post* impact assessments of all trade agreements *and stresses the importance of anticipating, in those impact assessments, the social consequences of the agreements*. Sectors identified as vulnerable should be closely monitored *and subject to appropriate specific measures*. Social partners, *enterprises* and Member States with sectors at high risk should be duly informed and assisted in the process of application;

Or. fr

Amendment 6
Stelios Kouloglou

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Notes that EGF is a solidarity tool established to provide support to workers made redundant as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation

Or. en

Amendment 7
Judith Sargentini
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Stresses the urgency of setting up a genuine industrial policy for the EU and the need of strong policy coherence between trade and industrial policies;

Or. en

**Amendment 8
Maria Arena**

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

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Whereas trade agreements are liable to expose European companies to stronger competition and thus have an adverse impact in some sectors and European regions in terms of employment;

Or. fr

**Amendment 9
Maria Arena**

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

Draft opinion

Amendment

1b. Having regard to the Commission's Communication of 29 June 2011 entitled 'A Budget for Europe 2020', in which it recognises the role of the EGF in acting flexibly to support workers who lose their jobs and help them find another job as rapidly as possible;

Or. fr

Amendment 10

Maria Arena

Draft opinion

Paragraph 1 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1c. Having regard to the Commission's Communication of October 2015 entitled 'Trade for all – Towards a more responsible trade and investment policy', in which it recognises that trade agreements can involve disruptive impacts for some regions and workers, if new competition proves too intense, but also that the EGF is an essential tool providing significant support to communities facing job losses, as in the case of factory closures in the EU due to international competition;

Or. fr

Amendment 11

Maria Arena

Draft opinion

Paragraph 1 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1d. Whereas the scope of the Regulation establishing the European globalisation and budgetary adjustment fund tends towards supporting workers made redundant owing to a major change in the structure of world trade resulting both from globalisation and from the financial and economic crises which have affected the single market;

Or. fr

Amendment 12
Maria Arena

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 e (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1e. Whereas, also, the emphasis is on helping young people not in employment, education or training in those regions which are eligible under the Youth Employment Initiative;

Or. fr

Amendment 13
Maria Arena

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 f (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1f. Is disappointed that the EGF only intervenes on a remedial basis in response to the negative effects of globalisation and economic and global crises. It is vital for the EGF also to be able to take preventive action in order to anticipate market changes by supporting action based on sectoral and regional impact assessment carried out alongside trade agreements concluded by the EU;

Or. fr

Amendment 14
Maria Arena

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Member States to prepare, on the basis of these impact assessments and together with the social partners, strategies to anticipate the projected labour market changes. *Applications to the EGF should be based on these strategies;*

Amendment

2. Calls on the Member States to prepare, on the basis of these impact assessments and together with the social partners, strategies to anticipate the projected labour market changes. *Sectors identified as vulnerable should be subject to enhanced and continuous monitoring. It is essential for the Commission, in cooperation with the Member States and the social partners, to provide recommendations to Member States affected by these changes;*

Or. fr

Amendment 15
Tokia Saïfi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Member States to prepare, on the basis of these impact assessments and together with the social partners, strategies to anticipate the projected labour market changes. Applications to the EGF should be based on these strategies;

Amendment

2. Calls on the Member States to prepare, on the basis of these impact assessments and together with the social partners *and enterprises*, strategies to anticipate the projected labour market changes. Applications to the EGF should be based on these strategies. *Welcomes the fact that access to the EGF has been expanded to new sectors;*

Or. fr

Amendment 16
Stelios Kouloglou

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. Calls on the Commission and Member States, to simplify the decision-making process of the EGF in order to have the full potential of this European Fund.

Or. en

Amendment 17

Maria Arena

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. Calls for an extension of the EGF's powers to allow it to provide financial support to Member States' retraining policies in vulnerable sectors. That will require an appropriate increase in the resources available under the EGF;

Or. fr

Amendment 18

Maria Arena

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2b. Regrets the lack of advertising of the scope of the EGF and the eligibility conditions. The EGF must be made more intelligible for its recipients, including the Member States and social partners;

Or. fr

Amendment 19

Maria Arena

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. ***Calls on the Commission to strengthen the Information and Consultation Directive.*** Workers' representatives ***and trade unions*** should be made aware in good time of all plans for restructuring or plant closure arising from the effects of trade, so that negotiations for a suitable social plan can take place in fair conditions with equal access to information. In this way it should be ensured that companies assume their full responsibilities;

Amendment

3. Workers' representatives should be made aware in good time of all plans for restructuring or plant closure arising from the effects of trade, so that negotiations for a suitable social plan can take place in fair conditions with equal access to information. In this way it should be ensured that companies assume their full responsibilities. ***Calls, therefore, for the Information and Consultation Directive to be strengthened;***

Or. fr

Amendment 20

Tokia Saïfi

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Calls on the Commission to ***strengthen*** the Information and Consultation Directive. ***Workers' representatives and trade unions*** should be made aware in good time of all plans for restructuring or plant closure arising from the ***effects of trade***, so that negotiations for a suitable social plan can take place in fair conditions with equal access to information. In this way ***it should be ensured that companies assume their full responsibilities;***

Amendment

3. Calls on the Commission to ***ensure that*** the Information and Consultation Directive ***is properly implemented. The social partners*** should be made aware in good time of all plans for restructuring or plant closure arising from the ***economic and financial crisis or globalisation***, so that negotiations for a suitable social plan can take place in fair conditions with equal access to information. In this way ***better support could be provided for job-seeking and retraining;***

Or. fr

Amendment 21
Judith Sargentini
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Calls on the Commission to ensure effective ex-ante coordination between DG Trade and DG Employment; recommends that DG Employment be adequately involved in all impact assessments, as well as during FTA negotiations; requests that any likely impact of policy decisions led by DG Trade be adequately and systematically reflected in the functioning and the financing of the EGF;

Or. en

Amendment 22
Stelios Kouloglou

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Calls on the EGF to be coordinated with other (European, National, Regional and social) Funds and EU programs in order to help more people to find new employments, creating new jobs, promoting entrepreneurship; especially in the sectors and regions which already suffer from the globalisation or economic crisis. Member states should be duly informed and assisted during the whole procedure of the Fund application.

Or. en

Amendment 23
Judith Sargentini
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3b. Calls on the Parliament to organise regular joint INTA-EMPL hearings in order to contribute to improving coordination between trade policy and the EGF and the monitoring thereof;

Or. en

Amendment 24
Stelios Kouloglou

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3b. Calls on the Commission, to extend the "Young Employment Initiative" derogation further than the end of 2017.

Or. en

Amendment 25
Tokia Saïfi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

Amendment

4. Calls on the Commission to lower the threshold for EGF eligibility, which currently stands at 500 redundancies. This has the effect that in practice only large corporations -which are often globally profitable - are eligible. To make sure that

4. Stresses the importance of ensuring that SMEs can also access the EGF. Points out that the threshold for EGF eligibility currently stands at 500 redundancies, and stresses that the possibility of using the derogations in

employees of smaller companies in sectors that are directly hurt by the effects of globalisation *are* assisted, *the threshold should be lowered to 100 redundancies*;

Article 4(2) of the current regulation must be maintained, as this allows employees of smaller companies in sectors that are directly hurt by the effects of globalisation *to be* assisted *and supported in their reintegration into the labour market*;

Or. fr

Amendment 26
Stelios Kouloglou

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls on the Commission to lower the threshold for EGF eligibility, which currently stands at 500 redundancies. This has the effect that in practice only large corporations -which are often globally profitable - are eligible. To make sure that employees of smaller companies in sectors that are directly hurt by the effects of globalisation are assisted, the threshold should be lowered to **100** redundancies;

Amendment

4. Calls on the Commission to lower the threshold for EGF eligibility, which currently stands at 500 redundancies. This has the effect that in practice only large corporations -which are often globally profitable - are eligible. To make sure that employees of smaller companies in sectors that are directly hurt by the effects of globalisation are assisted, the threshold should be lowered to **50** redundancies;
Since it is more difficult for small Member States to reach the actual threshold of 500 redundancies.

Or. en

Amendment 27
Marielle de Sarnez

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls on the Commission to lower the threshold for **EGF** eligibility, which currently stands at 500 redundancies. This has the effect that in practice only large

Amendment

4. Calls on the Commission to lower the threshold for eligibility, which currently stands at 500 redundancies. This has the effect that in practice only large

corporations -which are often globally profitable - are eligible. To make sure that employees of smaller companies in sectors that are directly hurt by the effects of globalisation are assisted, the threshold should be lowered to 100 redundancies;

corporations -which are often globally profitable - are eligible. To make sure that employees of smaller companies in sectors that are directly hurt by the effects of globalisation are assisted, the threshold should be lowered to 100 redundancies.

Calls on the Commission to support not only employees of companies affected by redundancy plans but all affected sectors, including subcontractors. Calls on the Commission to be more flexible and responsive in using the EGF. Regrets that the amounts earmarked under the fund must too often be advanced by the Member States;

Or. fr

Amendment 28
Marielle de Sarnez

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Calls on the Commission to reorientate the EGF towards SMEs, which are key players in the dynamism of the European economy;

Or. fr

Amendment 29
Stelios Kouloglou

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Calls on the Commission to increase the annual budget accorded to the EGF tool, since the global financial and economic crisis still continue.

Amendment 30
Marielle de Sarnez

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Calls on the Council to unlock the *modernisation of* Trade Defence Instruments (TDIs). *Updated and strengthened TDIs should be used to ensure that the EGF is not unnecessarily used for redundancies brought on by social, environmental or price dumping by other countries;*

Amendment

5. Calls on the *Commission and the* Council to unlock the *regulation to modernise* Trade Defence Instruments (TDIs). *The EU must equip itself with strong and dissuasive Trade Defence Instruments;*

Or. fr

Amendment 31
Tokia Saïfi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Calls on the Council to unlock the modernisation of Trade Defence Instruments (TDIs). *Updated and strengthened TDIs should be used to ensure that the EGF is not unnecessarily used for redundancies brought on by social, environmental or price dumping by other countries;*

Amendment

5. Calls on the Council *and the Commission* to unlock the modernisation of Trade Defence Instruments (TDIs) *without weakening them and to make them quicker, more effective and more accessible to SMEs. Effective and reformed TDIs would make it possible to reduce the frequency of recourse to the EGF in cases of* social, environmental or price dumping by other countries;

Or. fr

Amendment 32
Marielle de Sarnez

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Calls on the Commission to implement, at the same time, a strategy to support a common industrial and investment policy and to strengthen the EU's Trade Defence Instruments;

Or. fr

Amendment 33
Iuliu Winkler

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

Amendment

6. Calls on the Commission only to grant market economy status to trade partners where they meet the five criteria which it has set.

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 34
Tokia Saïfi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

Amendment

6. Calls on the Commission only to grant market economy status to trade partners where they meet the five criteria which it has set.

6. Calls on the Commission only to grant market economy status to trade partners where they meet the five criteria which it has set. *Points out that any granting of market economy status to third countries could cause significant distortions in the European market and result in frequent*

use of the EGF. Calls on the Commission, in this regard, to establish a clear and effective strategy on issues relating to the granting of market economy status to third countries, in order to maintain the competitiveness of our enterprises and to pursue our objectives in tackling all forms of unfair competition;

Or. fr