



**2019/2028(BUD)**

16.7.2019

# **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

for the Committee on Budgets

on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2020  
(2019/2028(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Adina-Ioana Vălean



## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Regrets that the budget proposed by the Commission is EUR 474,6 million below the ceiling for Heading 1a, even though relevant programmes are oversubscribed and could easily absorb additional funds;
2. Rejects the cuts by Council of a total of EUR 747,4 million in Heading 1a, including EUR 424,9 million for the Common Strategic Framework for Research and Innovation, EUR 28 million for the ICT strand of the Connecting Europe Facility and EUR 20 million for COSME, which risk undermining the Union's efforts to creating growth and jobs;
3. Believes that, in particular during the final year of the MFF, an ambitious budget in Heading 1a is needed to build a bridge to the forthcoming MFF, under which all new programmes will take time to become fully operational;
4. Calls, therefore, for a level of commitment appropriations up to the ceiling for Heading 1a and furthermore for the use of all possible flexibility instruments available under the MFF Regulation and of the special provision on the re-use of decommitted funds for research projects laid down in the Financial Regulation to ensure the highest possible level of commitment appropriations for the 2020 budget;
5. Notes the oversubscription of various programmes such as Horizon 2020 and COSME, which could be addressed by a more ambitious budget for 2020;
6. Strongly regrets that the budget proposed by the Commission is, once again, far below that requested by ACER and that this risks jeopardising ACER's functioning and its ability to perform the additional tasks conferred on it through recent legislation;
7. Calls, with regard to all agencies within its remit (ACER, BEREC, ENISA and GSA), for a level of appropriations and staff as requested by those agencies;
8. Recalls the commitment made by Parliament, the Council and the Commission in a Joint Statement annexed to Regulation (EU) 2017/1953 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>1</sup> aiming to ensure overall funding for the promotion of internet connectivity in local communities of EUR 120 million over a three-year period in order for the initiative to become a true European success for the benefit of local communities and citizens;
9. Calls for additional funds to accelerate the development and deployment of cleaner technologies to help meet the commitments undertaken by the Union under the Paris Agreement;
10. Calls for additional appropriations for the Connecting Europe Facility, in particular its energy and ICT strands, to ensure that isolated markets are connected and remaining

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2017/1953 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2017 amending Regulations (EU) No 1316/2013 and (EU) No 283/2014 as regards the promotion of internet connectivity in local communities (OJ L 286, 1.11.2017, p. 1).

bottlenecks are removed.