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Committee on Regional Development

2011/0268(COD)

28.6.2012

OPINION

of the Committee on Regional Development

for the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council
on the European Social Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No
1081/2006
(COM(2011)0607/2 – C7-0327/2011 – 2011/0268(COD))

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AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Regional Development calls on the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Amendment 1 Proposal for a regulation **Recital 2**

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) The ESF should improve employment opportunities, promote education and life-long learning and develop active inclusion policies in accordance with the tasks entrusted to the ESF by Article 162 of the *Treaty*, **and** thereby contribute to economic, social and territorial cohesion in accordance with **Article** 174 of the *Treaty*. In accordance with Article 9 of the Treaty, the ESF should take into account requirements linked to the promotion of a high level of employment, the guarantee of adequate social protection, the fight against social exclusion, and a high level of education, training and protection of human health.

Amendment

(2) The ESF should improve employment opportunities, **promote the creation of sustainable and high quality jobs, support workers' integration in the labour market and their adaption to its changes**, promote education and life-long learning and develop active inclusion policies in accordance with the tasks entrusted to the ESF by Article 162 of the *TFEU*. Thereby **the ESF should** contribute to economic, social and territorial cohesion in accordance with **Articles 174, 349 and 355(1)** of the *TFEU*. In accordance with Article 9 of the Treaty, the ESF should, **while designing and executing its policies and actions**, take into account **the** requirements linked to the promotion of a high level of employment, the guarantee of adequate social protection, the fight against social exclusion **and poverty**, and a high level of education, training and protection of human health.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation **Recital 4**

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) The European Union is confronted with structural challenges arising from economic globalisation, technological change and an

Amendment

(4) The European Union is confronted with structural **and demographic** challenges arising from economic

increasingly ageing workforce and growing skills and labour shortages in some sectors and regions. They have been compounded by the recent economic and financial crisis, which has resulted in increased levels of unemployment, hitting in particular young people and other vulnerable groups, such as migrants. The ESF should aim to promote employment and support labour mobility, invest in education, skills and life-long learning, promote social inclusion and combat poverty. In promoting *the better functioning* of labour markets by *enhancing the transnational* geographical mobility of workers, the ESF should, *in particular*, support European Employment Services (EURES activities) in relation to recruitment and the related information, advice and guidance services at national and cross-border level.

globalisation, technological change and an increasingly ageing workforce and growing skills and labour shortages in some sectors and regions. They have been compounded by the recent economic and financial crisis, which has resulted in increased levels of unemployment, hitting in particular young people and other vulnerable groups, such as migrants. The ESF should aim *to create and* to promote *sustainable and high quality* employment and support labour mobility, invest in *formal and non-formal* education, *research*, skills and life-long learning, promote social inclusion and combat poverty *and discrimination*. In promoting *inclusive* functioning of labour markets by *facilitating workers'* geographical *and professional* mobility *within Member States and transnationally*, the ESF should support European Employment Services (EURES activities) *to play a more active role in identifying employment opportunities together with public and private entities*, in relation to recruitment and the related information, advice and guidance services at national and cross-border level.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) In addition to these priorities, in *the less developed* regions and Member States, and with a view to increasing economic growth and employment opportunities, the efficiency of public administration should be improved and the institutional capacity of stakeholders delivering employment, education and social policies should be strengthened.

Amendment

(5) In addition to these priorities, in *all* regions and Member States, and with a view to increasing economic growth and *promoting* employment opportunities, the efficiency of public administration *on the national and regional level and its ability to act in an active matter* should be improved and the institutional capacity of stakeholders delivering employment, education and social policies should be

strengthened.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) At the same time, it is crucial to support the development and competitiveness of **European** small and medium-sized enterprises and to ensure that people can adapt, through acquiring appropriate skills and through lifelong learning opportunities, to new challenges such as the shift to a knowledge-based economy, the digital agenda, and the transition to a low-carbon and more energy-efficient economy. By pursuing its primary thematic objectives, the ESF should contribute to addressing these challenges. In this context, the ESF should support the labour force transition towards greener skills and jobs, in particular in the energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable transport sectors, taking into account the Union's intention to increase the proportion of the EU budget that is related to climate mainstreaming to at least 20%, with contributions from different policy fields.

Amendment

(6) At the same time, it is crucial to support the **establishment**, development and competitiveness of **different types of enterprises, especially micro-**, small and medium-sized enterprises **and social and social economy enterprises, in order to create sustainable quality jobs** and to ensure that people can adapt, through acquiring appropriate skills and through lifelong learning opportunities, to **changing social and economic conditions and to** new challenges such as the shift to a knowledge-based economy, the digital agenda, and the transition to a low-carbon and more energy-efficient economy. By pursuing its primary thematic objectives, the ESF should contribute to addressing these challenges. In this context, the ESF should support the labour force transition towards greener skills and jobs, in particular in the energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable transport sectors, taking into account the Union's intention to increase the proportion of the EU budget that is related to climate mainstreaming to at least 20%, with contributions from different policy fields.

Amendment 5
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

(7) The ESF should contribute to the Europe 2020 Strategy, ensuring greater concentration of support on the priorities of the European Union. The ESF should in

Amendment

(7) The ESF should contribute to the Europe 2020 Strategy, ensuring greater concentration of support on the priorities of the European Union **in the areas of**

particular increase its support for *the* fight against social exclusion and poverty, through a minimum ring-fenced allocation. According to the level of development of the supported regions, the choice and number of investment priorities for ESF support should also be limited.

employment, education, social inclusion and the fight against poverty, and action to enhance institutional capacity, with adequate funding to achieve them. The ESF should in particular increase its support for *an active and effective* fight against social exclusion and poverty, through a minimum ring-fenced allocation. According to the level of development of the supported regions, the choice and number of investment priorities for ESF support should also be limited. ***However, the thematic concentration should be flexible to allow the ESF interventions to be adapted to the individual requirements of Member States and regions.***

Justification

The ESF should contribute to the 2020 Strategy within the framework of the four thematic objectives assigned to it.

The thematic concentration proposed by the Commission should be accompanied by flexibility so that ESF interventions can be adapted to the needs of each Member State and region, thereby ensuring a more effective use of resources.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 9

Text proposed by the Commission

(9) Efficient and effective implementation of actions supported by the ESF depends on good governance and partnership between all relevant territorial and socio-economic actors, in particular the social partners and non-governmental organisations. It is therefore necessary that Member States ***encourage the participation of*** social partners and non-governmental organisations in the implementation of the ESF.

Amendment

(9) Efficient and effective implementation of actions supported by the ESF depends on good governance and partnership between all relevant territorial and socio-economic actors, in particular ***the participation of the local and regional authorities***, the social partners and non-governmental organisations. It is therefore necessary that Member States ***involve and help local and regional authorities, the*** social partners and non-governmental organisations, ***where necessary with capacity building measures***, in the ***conceiving and*** implementation of the ESF ***programmes***.

Justification

The local and regional authorities should also participate in procedures linked to the drafting and implementation of the ESF.

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 9 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(9a) Taking into consideration the fact, that in order to assure employment and social cohesion, an integrated and holistic approach is needed; the ESF should support the creation of cross sectoral, transnational, territorial based partnerships and their programmes.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(10) The Member States and the Commission ***should*** ensure that the implementation of the priorities financed by the ESF contribute to the promotion of equality between women and men in accordance with Article 8 of the Treaty. Evaluations have shown the importance of taking the gender aspect into account in all dimensions of programmes, while ensuring that specific actions are taken to promote gender equality.

(10) The Member States and the Commission ***shall*** ensure that the implementation of the priorities financed by the ESF contribute to the promotion of equality between women and men in accordance with Article 8 of the Treaty. Evaluations have shown the importance of taking the gender aspect into account in all dimensions ***and in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation*** of programmes ***in a timely and consistent manner***, while ensuring that specific actions are taken to promote gender equality.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 12 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(12a) Taking into account that social innovation is a subject of different programmes, measures should be put in place to avoid overlapping or double-financing of the same activities and initiatives. In addition, since some activities carried out under ESF under shared management partially overlap with those of the Programme for Social Change and Innovation, which is under direct management, measures should be put in place not to duplicate or double-finance activities falling under different management modes.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(14) The ***mobilisation*** of regional and local stakeholders is necessary to deliver the Europe 2020 Strategy and its headline targets. ***Territorial*** pacts, local initiatives for employment and social inclusion, community-led local development strategies and sustainable urban development strategies may be used and supported to involve more actively regional and local authorities, cities, social partners and non-governmental organisations in the implementation of programmes.

(14) The ***active involvement*** of regional and local stakeholders is necessary to deliver the Europe 2020 Strategy and its headline targets. ***The principle of multilevel governance presumes that territorial*** pacts, local initiatives for employment and social inclusion, community-led local development strategies and sustainable urban development strategies may be used and supported to involve ***under the partnership more actively and fruitfully those*** regional and local authorities, cities, social partners and non-governmental organisations in the ***preparation, monitoring, implementation and management*** of programmes, ***who represent the territorial level concerned.***

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission

(17) The Member States and regions should be encouraged to leverage the ESF through financial instruments in order to support for example students, job creation, mobility of workers, social inclusion and social entrepreneurship.

Amendment

(17) The Member States and regions should be encouraged to leverage the ESF through financial instruments in order to support for example students, ***elderly people***, job creation, mobility of workers, social inclusion ***of the underprivileged*** and social entrepreneurship. ***It should help to increase the effectiveness of actions and complete actions of other EU-instruments such as PSCI, the EGF and the ERDF. However, the provision of grants should be retained to use the funding mix best suited to national, regional and local needs.***

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The ESF shall promote high levels of employment and job quality, support the geographical and occupational mobility of workers, facilitate their adaptation to ***change***, encourage a high level of education and training, ***promote*** gender equality, equal opportunities and non-discrimination, ***enhance social inclusion and combat poverty, thereby contributing to the priorities of the European Union as regards strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion.***

Amendment

1. The ESF shall promote high levels of employment, ***job creation*** and ***contribute to improving*** job quality, support the geographical and occupational mobility of workers, encourage a high level of ***their professional*** education and training ***and*** facilitate their adaptation to ***the labour market changes and evolution, inter alia to those related to businesses and production systems. Furthermore, it shall contribute to the strengthening of economic, social and territorial cohesion in the Union, the fight against poverty and social exclusion, guarantee*** gender equality, equal opportunities and non-discrimination ***and promote youth employment. Eliminating of social inequalities and labour disparities at national, regional and local level shall be***

a guiding principle for all its actions.

Justification

The ESF should include among its objectives the creation of quality jobs and the adaptation of workers to technological changes and labour market developments. The ESF must also guarantee gender equality.

Explicit mention should be made of its integrating aspects and the reduction of social inequalities and disparities with regard to employment as the backbone for its actions.

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The ESF shall benefit people, including disadvantaged groups such as the long-term unemployed, people with disabilities, migrants, *ethnic* minorities, marginalised communities and people facing social exclusion. The ESF shall also provide support to enterprises, systems and structures with a view to facilitating their adaptation to new challenges and promoting good governance and the implementation of reforms, in particular in the fields of employment, education and social policies.

Amendment

3. The ESF shall benefit people, including disadvantaged groups such as the *unemployed and in particular* long-term unemployed *men and women, young people, workers over 54*, people with disabilities, *unskilled workers*, migrants, *asylum seekers*, minorities, marginalised communities and people facing social exclusion, *irrespective of their age*. The ESF shall also provide support to *workers*, enterprises, *and entrepreneurs as well as* systems and structures with a view to facilitating their adaptation to new challenges and promoting good governance and the implementation of reforms, in particular in the fields of employment, education and social policies.

Justification

The ESF should pay particular attention to disadvantaged groups, which should include the unemployed, young people, women and older workers.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(i) Access to employment for job-seekers and inactive people, including local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility;

(i) Access to employment for job-seekers, inactive ***and disadvantaged people, such as disabled***, including local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility;

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ii) Sustainable integration of young people not in employment, education or training ***into the labour market***;

(ii) ***Active, inclusive and*** sustainable integration of young people ***into the labour market, in particular of those*** not in employment, education or training ***and promoting youth mobility in Europe***;

Justification

The ESF should promote the active and lasting integration of young people into the labour market, paying particular attention to young people not in employment, education or training.

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a – point iii

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(iii) Self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation;

(iii) Self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation ***and development, particularly of microenterprises and SMEs, supported by technical advice and orientation to sustainable economic activities including business transfer among SMEs***;

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a – point iv

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(iv) Equality between men and women and reconciliation between work and *private* life;

(iv) **Effective** equality between men and women **in the labour market** and **in career progression and** reconciliation between work and **personal and family** life;

Justification

The ESF should promote effective equality between men and women and reconciliation between work and personal and family life.

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a – point v

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(v) Adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to **change**;

(v) Adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs, **in particular SMEs and micro enterprises**, to **sustainable, technological, labour market, demographic, social and economic changes through active and preventative measures, focused inter alia on regions subject to a restructuring of enterprises and sectors, affected by industrial transition**;

Justification

The ESF should promote and make provision for the adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to technological changes and changes in the labour market. This measure is particularly useful in regions affected by the restructuring of enterprises and sectors, and by the closure or relocation of enterprises.

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a – point vi

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(vi) Active and healthy ageing;

(vi) Active and healthy ageing **by**

improvement of their working and living conditions, their environment and health, including health promoting physical activities and amateur sport;

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a – point vii

Text proposed by the Commission

vii) Modernisation and strengthening of labour market institutions, including actions to enhance transnational labour mobility;

Amendment

vii) Modernisation and strengthening of labour market institutions, including actions to enhance **workers'** transnational labour mobility, **through the cross-border integration of labour markets, recognition of skills and professional qualifications and strengthening of EURES network activities;**

Justification

The ESF should promote the enhancement of workers' transnational labour mobility, through the cross-border integration of labour markets, recognition of skills and professional qualifications and strengthening of EURES network activities.

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a – point vii

Text proposed by the Commission

(i) Access to employment for job-seekers and inactive people, including local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility;

Amendment

(vii) Access to employment **and employment services** for job-seekers and inactive people, including local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility;

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) Investing in education, skills and life-long learning through:

(b) Investing in **good quality and modern** education, skills and life-long learning through:

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

i) **Reducing early** school-leaving and promoting equal access to good-quality early-childhood, primary and secondary education

i) **Preventing and reducing** school-leaving and promoting equal access to good-quality early childhood, primary and secondary education;

Justification

The ESF should prevent and reduce early school-leaving with the aim of reducing youth unemployment and helping to ensure that all citizens acquire the minimum training needed, promoting continuity of education and reintegration into education.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b – point i a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(i a) establishment and strengthening of practical, economy-related training for young people through dual education systems that link theoretical and practical course content in a meaningful way;

Amendment 25

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

(ii) Improving the quality, efficiency and openness of tertiary and equivalent education with a view to increasing participation and attainment levels;

Amendment

(ii) Improving the quality, efficiency and openness of tertiary and equivalent education, ***through using modern teaching systems***, with a view to increasing participation and attainment levels ***to allow, inter alia adaptation to the needs in the labour market***;

Justification

Nowadays, there are many skills which are not useful in finding work opportunities, making it essential for training to fit in with the market. There are countries with too little skilled labour in some areas and others where there is too much, which will effectively support mobility throughout Europe.

Amendment 26

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b – point iii

Text proposed by the Commission

(iii) Enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems;

Amendment

(iii) Enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the skills and ***professional*** competences of the workforce and ***ensuring that*** education and training systems ***match labour market needs and developments, by boosting education and measures to ease the transition between education, vocational training and access to employment, paying particular attention to training and apprenticeship for young people, long-term unemployed and elderly workers***;

Amendment 27

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point c – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(i) Active inclusion;

(i) ***Social and labour*** active inclusion of ***all, particularly of the most disadvantaged groups, by both promoting participation in the labour market and fighting poverty and exclusion;***

Justification

The ESF should promote the social and employment inclusion of the most disadvantaged groups.

Amendment 28

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point c – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ii) Integration of marginalised communities such as ***the*** Roma;

(ii) ***Full social and labour*** integration of marginalised communities such as Roma, ***disabled and other disadvantaged groups;***

Justification

The ESF should target its actions at the social and employment integration of the most disadvantaged groups.

Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point c – point ii a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

ii a) employment and social integration of migrant workers;

Justification

The ESF should target its actions at the social and employment integration of migrant workers.

Amendment 30

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point c – point vi

Text proposed by the Commission

(vi) Community-led local development strategies;

Amendment

(vi) ***The promotion of*** community-led local development strategies;

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point d – point i – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

This investment priority is only applicable throughout the territory of the Member States which have at least one NUTS level 2 region as defined in Article 82(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No [...] or in Member States eligible for Cohesion Fund support.

Amendment

This investment priority is only applicable throughout the territory of the Member States which have at least one NUTS level 2 region as defined in Article 82(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No [...], in Member States eligible for Cohesion Fund support, ***or in Member States which have high levels of unemployment, with the aim of establishing actions that will contribute to job creation by enhancing institutional capacity and ensuring efficient public administration and public services.***

Justification

The ESF should include the possibility for Member States with high levels of unemployment to allocate resources to enhancing institutional capacity and making public administration more efficient, with the aim of reforming and improving the regulation and management of public services and hence contributing to job creation.

Amendment 32

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point d – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

(ii) Capacity building for stakeholders delivering employment, education ***and*** social policies and sectoral and territorial

Amendment

(ii) Capacity building for stakeholders ***such as social partners and non-governmental organisations,*** delivering employment,

pacts to mobilise for reform at national, regional and local level.

formal and non-formal education, *vocational training*, social policies and sectoral and territorial pacts to mobilise for reform at national, regional and local level.

Amendment 33

Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) Supporting the shift towards a *low-carbon*, climate-resilient, *resource-efficient* and environmentally sustainable economy, through reform of education and training systems, adaptation of skills and qualifications, up-skilling of the labour force, and the creation of new jobs in sectors related to the environment and energy;

Amendment

(a) Supporting the shift towards a *low-emission*, climate-resilient, *resource- and energy efficient, and* environmentally sustainable economy, through reform of education and training systems, adaptation of skills and qualifications, up-skilling of the labour force, and the creation of new *green* jobs in sectors related to the environment and energy;

Amendment 34

Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) Enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises, through *promoting the adaptability of enterprises and workers and increased investment in human capital*.

Amendment

(d) Enhancing the competitiveness *and sustainable development* of *micro*, small and medium-sized enterprises, *inter alia cooperative, social economy and social enterprises*, through *increased investment in human capital and through promoting the adaptability of enterprises, workers and managers to meet new societal challenges*.

Amendment 35

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Member States shall ensure that the strategy and actions set out in the Operational Programmes are consistent and focused on addressing the challenges identified in the National Reform Programmes and the relevant Council Recommendations made under Article 148(4) of the Treaty, in order to contribute to achieving the headline targets of the Europe 2020 strategy on employment, education and poverty reduction.

Amendment

1. Member States shall ensure that the strategy and actions set out in the Operational Programmes are consistent and focused on addressing the challenges identified ***with the contribution of regional and local authorities*** in the National Reform Programmes and the relevant Council Recommendations made under Article 148(4) of the Treaty, in order to contribute to achieving the headline targets of the Europe 2020 strategy on employment, education and poverty reduction.

Amendment 36

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

a) For more developed regions, Member States shall concentrate **80 %** of the ESF allocation to each operational programme on up to **four** of the investment priorities set out in Article 3(1).

Amendment

a) For more developed regions, Member States shall concentrate **70 %** of the ESF allocation to each operational programme on up to **six** of the investment priorities set out in Article 3(1).

Justification

The amendment seeks to ensure a degree of flexibility in the amounts that can be allocated to each operational programme, in order to enable the regions to work more effectively in the specific fields in which their need is greatest.

Amendment 37

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

b) For transition regions, Member States shall concentrate **70 %** of the ESF

Amendment

b) For transition regions, Member States shall concentrate **60 %** of the ESF

allocation to each operational programme on up to **four** of the investment priorities set out in Article 3(1).

allocation to each operational programme on up to **six** of the investment priorities set out in Article 3(1).

Justification

The amendment seeks to ensure a degree of flexibility in the amounts that can be allocated to each operational programme, in order to enable the regions to work more effectively in the specific fields in which their need is greatest.

Amendment 38

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point c**

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) For less developed regions, Member States shall concentrate **60 %** of the **ESF** allocation to each operational programme on up to **four** of the investment priorities set out in Article 3(1)

Amendment

(c) For less developed regions, **and for the regions whose GDP per capita for the 2007- 2013 period was less than 75% of the average GDP of the EU- 25 but which are now eligible under the transition or more developed regions category**, Member States shall concentrate **50 %** of the allocation to each operational programme on up to **six** of the investment priorities set out in Article 3(1).

Justification

The amendment seeks to ensure a degree of flexibility in the amounts that can be allocated to each operational programme, in order to enable the regions to work more effectively in the specific fields in which their need is greatest.

**Amendment 39 Proposal for a regulation
Article 6 – paragraph 1**

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The involvement of the social partners and other stakeholders, in particular non-governmental organisations, in the implementation of operational programmes, as referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No [...], may take the form of global grants as defined in Article

Amendment

1. The involvement **of local and regional authorities and** of the social partners and other stakeholders, in particular non-governmental organisations, in the implementation of operational programmes, as referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No [...], may take the

113(7) of Regulation (EU) No [...]. In such a case, the operational programme shall identify the part of the programme concerned by the global grant, including an indicative financial allocation from each priority axis to it.

form *of technical assistance under Articles 108 and 109 of Regulation (EU) n° [...]* and of global grants as defined in Article 113(7) of Regulation (EU) No [...]. In such a case, the operational programme shall identify the part of the programme concerned by the global grant, including an indicative financial allocation from each priority axis to it.

The managing authorities of an operational programme shall ensure that an appropriate amount of ESF resources is allocated to capacity building for small local authorities.

Justification

The ESF must encourage the participation of local and regional authorities, the social partners and other stakeholders and, in particular, non-governmental organisations, in the implementation of the operational programmes, by means of global grants and of technical assistance.

Amendment 40

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. To encourage adequate participation of the social partners in *actions* supported by the ESF, managing authorities of an operational programme *in a region as defined in Article 82(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No [...] or in Member States eligible for Cohesion Fund support* shall ensure that an appropriate amount of ESF resources is allocated to capacity-building activities, in the form of training, networking measures, and strengthening of the social dialogue, and to activities jointly undertaken by the social partners.

Amendment

2. To encourage adequate participation of the social partners in *the preparation, implementation, monitoring and management of the programmes* supported by the ESF, *in accordance with Article 5 of Regulation EU No [...]*, managing authorities of an operational programme shall ensure that an appropriate amount of ESF resources is allocated to capacity-building activities, in the form of training, networking measures, and strengthening of the social dialogue, and to activities jointly undertaken by the social partners.

Justification

Support for participation by the social partners in measures supported by the ESF must not be restricted to the poorest regions or those eligible for cohesion funding, but must cover all the EU Member States and regions.

Amendment 41

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. To encourage adequate participation of and access by non-governmental organisations *to actions* supported by the ESF, notably in the fields of social inclusion, gender equality and equal opportunities, the managing authorities of an operational programme *in a region as defined in Article 82(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No [...] or in Member States eligible for Cohesion Fund support* shall ensure that an appropriate amount of ESF resources is allocated to capacity-building for non-governmental organisations.

Amendment

3. To encourage adequate participation of and access by non-governmental organisations *in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and management of the programmes* supported by the ESF, *particularly with measures of impact and in accordance with Article 5 of Regulation EU No [...]*, notably in the fields of social inclusion, gender equality and equal opportunities, the managing authorities of an operational programme shall ensure that an appropriate amount of ESF resources is allocated to capacity-building *and networking* for non-governmental organisations.

Justification

Support for participation by non-governmental organisations in measures supported by the ESF must not be restricted to the poorest regions or those eligible for cohesion funding, but must cover all the EU Member States and regions.

Amendment 42

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 6 a

In order to ensure that ESF resources are used efficiently and deliver the expected

benefits, a system must be developed to simplify procedural and administrative matters for social partners and NGOs.

Amendment 43

Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The Member States and the Commission shall promote equality between men and women through mainstreaming as referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No [...] and specific targeted actions as referred to in Article 3(1)(a)(iv), in particular with the aim of **increasing the sustainable participation and progress** of women in **employment**, reducing gender-based **segregation** in the labour market, combating gender stereotypes in education and training and **promoting** reconciliation of work and personal life for men and women.

Amendment

The Member States and the Commission shall promote equality between men and women through mainstreaming as referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No [...] and specific targeted actions as referred to in Article 3(1)(a)(iv), in particular with the aim of **eliminating gender basic segregation** of women in **the labour market, especially following periods of maternity and caring for dependents**, reducing gender-based **discrimination** in the labour market **and eliminating the pay gap between men and women**, combating gender stereotypes in education and training and **ensuring** reconciliation of work and personal **and family** life for men and women **through measures such as facilitating access to childcare and care for dependent persons, as well as addressing the feminisation of poverty by promoting equal share of care responsibility between men and woman.**

The Member States shall ensure that gender equality and equal opportunities are promoted in the preparation, implementation, monitoring, management and evaluation of operational programmes.

Justification

The ESF should promote the genuine and lasting participation of women in the labour market through the introduction of measures which encourage their integration into the labour market, especially following periods of maternity and caring for dependents, and ensure the reconciliation of work and personal and family life. Special attention must also be awarded to

reducing wage differences between men and women.

Amendment 44

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The Member States and the Commission shall promote equal opportunities for all, including accessibility for disabled persons through mainstreaming the principle of non-discrimination, as referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No [...], and through specific actions within the investment priorities as defined in Article 3, and in particular Article 3(1)(c)(iii). Such actions shall target people at risk of discrimination and people with disabilities, with a view to increasing their labour market participation, enhancing their social inclusion, reducing inequalities in terms of educational attainment and health status and facilitating the transition from institutional to community-based care.

Amendment

The Member States and the Commission shall promote ***the combating of discrimination and the acceptance of diversity and*** equal opportunities for all, including accessibility for disabled persons through mainstreaming the principle of non-discrimination, as referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No [...], and through specific actions within the investment priorities as defined in Article 3, and in particular Article 3(1)(c)(iii). Such actions shall target people ***who experience discrimination, especially where this is multiple discrimination, people*** at risk of discrimination and people with disabilities, with a view to increasing their labour market participation, ***in particular improving their accessibility of the labour market,*** enhancing their social inclusion, reducing inequalities in terms of educational attainment and health status and facilitating the transition from institutional to community-based care.

Justification

The ESF must provide for measures promoting not just equal opportunities but also the combating of discrimination and the acceptance of diversity. Special attention must be awarded to groups of people who experience multiple discrimination.

Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The ESF shall promote social innovation within all areas falling under the scope of the ESF, as defined in Article 3 of this Regulation, in particular with the aim of testing and scaling up innovative solutions to address social needs.

Amendment

1. The ESF shall promote social innovation within all areas falling under the scope of the ESF, as defined in Article 3 of this Regulation, in particular with the aim of testing, ***evaluating*** and scaling up innovative solutions ***including bottom up solutions*** to address social needs.

Amendment 46

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 9 – paragraph 2**

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Member States shall identify themes for social innovation, corresponding to their specific needs ***in their operational programmes***.

Amendment

2. Member States shall identify ***in their operational programmes, in cooperation with their local and regional authority partners and with the participation of all the stakeholders***, themes for social innovation corresponding to their specific needs ***and specific regional needs***.

Justification

Local and regional authorities must participate, along with all the other stakeholders, in selecting the themes for social innovation.

Amendment 47

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 9 – paragraph 3**

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The Commission shall facilitate capacity building for social innovation, in particular through supporting mutual learning, establishing networks, and disseminating good practices and methodologies.

Amendment

3. The ***European*** Commission ***together with the Member States*** shall facilitate capacity building for social innovation, in particular through supporting mutual learning, establishing networks, and disseminating good practices and methodologies. ***It shall also ensure that the social innovation measures under the***

ESF are consistent with, and complementary to, those taken under the EU Programme for Social Change and Innovation.

Justification

In the interests of capacity-building in the field of social innovation and the efficient use of resources, the measures promoted by the ESF must be consistent with, and complementary to, the measures taken under the EU Programme for Social Change and Innovation.

Amendment 48

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – title**

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Transnational cooperation

Cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation

Amendment 49

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 1**

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. Member States shall support transnational cooperation with the aim of promoting mutual learning and thereby increasing the effectiveness of policies supported by the ESF. Transnational cooperation shall involve partners from at least two Member States.

1. Member States shall ***ensure cross-border, transnational and interregional*** cooperation with the aim of promoting mutual learning and thereby increasing the effectiveness of policies supported by the ESF. Transnational cooperation shall involve partners, ***referred to in Article 5 of the Regulation (EU) No [...]***, from at least two Member States.

Amendment 50

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 2**

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Member States may select themes for transnational co-operation from a list proposed by the Commission and endorsed by the ESF Committee.

Amendment

2. Member States may select themes for ***cross-border***, transnational ***and interregional*** co-operation from a list proposed by the Commission and ***after consultation with civil society organisations and local and regional authorities and*** endorsed by the ESF Committee, ***taking into account the local specificities and needs of the targeted areas.***

Justification

The closest possible consensus must be reached over the list of themes for transnational co-operation and the greatest possible consistency sought between the transnational themes selected and the thematic objectives of the various operational programmes.

Amendment 51

Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The Commission shall facilitate transnational cooperation on the themes referred to in paragraph 2 through mutual learning and coordinated or joint action. In particular, the Commission shall operate an EU-level platform to facilitate the exchange of experience, capacity building and networking, as well as dissemination of the relevant outcomes. In addition, the Commission shall develop a coordinated implementation framework, including common eligibility criteria, types and timing of actions, and common methodological approaches for monitoring and evaluation, with a view to facilitating ***transnational*** cooperation.

Amendment

3. The Commission shall facilitate ***cross-border***, transnational ***and interregional*** cooperation on the themes referred to in paragraph 2 through mutual learning and coordinated or joint action. In particular, the Commission shall operate an EU-level platform to facilitate the exchange of experience, capacity building and networking, as well as dissemination of the relevant outcomes. In addition, the Commission shall develop a coordinated implementation framework, including common eligibility criteria, types and timing of actions, and common methodological approaches for monitoring and evaluation, with a view to facilitating ***the*** cooperation. ***Cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation supported by the ESF should be aligned with Regulation (EU) No [...]***

[ETC] in order to ensure coordination between the funds as provided for in that Regulation.

Amendment 52

Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. By way of derogation from Article 87(1) of Regulation (EU) No [...], operational programmes **may** set out priority axes for the implementation of social innovation and transnational cooperation as referred to in Articles 9 and 10.

Amendment

1. By way of derogation from Article 87(1) of Regulation (EU) No [...], operational programmes **should** set out priority axes for the implementation of social innovation and transnational cooperation as referred to in Articles 9 and 10.

Justification

Application of social innovation and transnational cooperation shall be fostered in the approaches of the operational programmes.

Amendment 53

Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. By way of derogation from Article 110(3) of Regulation (EU) No [...], the maximum co-financing rate for a priority axis shall be increased by ten percentage points, but not exceeding 100%, where the whole of a priority axis is dedicated to social innovation or to transnational cooperation, or a combination of both.

Amendment

2. By way of derogation from Article 110(3) of Regulation (EU) No [...], the maximum co-financing rate for a priority axis shall be increased by ten percentage points, but not exceeding 100%, where the whole of a priority axis is dedicated to social innovation or to transnational cooperation, or a combination of both ***in the case of programmes managed by non-governmental organisations or social partners;***

Amendment 54

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3a. The operational programmes shall, where appropriate, with a view to maximising the effectiveness of ESF support, take into account areas, listed under Articles 174, 349 and 355(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Justification

The ESF should award special attention to the least favoured regions, in accordance with Articles 174 and 349 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Amendment 55

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 3 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b a) to increase education and training, particularly among young people;

Amendment 56

Proposal for a regulation

Article 12 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. The ESF **may** support community-led local development strategies, as referred to in Article 28 of Regulation (EU) No [...], territorial pacts and local initiatives for employment, education and social inclusion, as well as Integrated Territorial Investments (ITI) as referred to in Article 99 of Regulation (EU) No. [...].

1. The ESF **should in particular** support community-led local development strategies, as referred to in Article 28 of Regulation (EU) No [...], territorial pacts and local initiatives for employment, education and social inclusion, as well as Integrated Territorial Investments (ITI) as referred to in Article 99 of Regulation (EU) No. [...].

Amendment 57

Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1b. In regions that are particularly affected by demographic developments and in which youth unemployment is below 8 %, the ESF can be used for initiatives to encourage people over 60 back to work.

Justification

The long-term aim of the measures funded by the ESF is always to get people into the labour market (for the first time). This does not always apply to people who are on the verge of retirement. This formulation is intended to ensure that older people can also benefit from ESF measures. Particular attention should be paid to the special demographic situation in the regions. The need to invest in older workers can be explained by the decline in the proportion of young people in the working population or sustained comparatively low unemployment rates among young people. This can be assumed to be the case when the average regional youth unemployment rate drops below eight per cent.

Amendment 58

Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. Complementing ERDF interventions as referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No [ERDF], the ESF may support sustainable urban development through strategies setting out integrated actions to tackle the economic, environmental and social challenges affecting urban areas of cities which are listed in the partnership contract.

2. Complementing ERDF interventions as referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No [ERDF], the ESF may support sustainable ***local and regional*** urban development through strategies setting out integrated actions to tackle the economic, environmental, ***climate, demographic*** and social challenges affecting urban areas of cities which are listed in the partnership contract.

Justification

Rural and less-populated areas should not be overlooked when specific types of area are being addressed. A minimum of 5% should be set for local development, in line with Article 7 of the ERDF Regulation.

Amendment 59

Proposal for a regulation

Article 12 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2a. At least 5% of the ESF resources allocated at national level shall be allocated to integrated actions for sustainable local development delegated to municipalities for management through Integrated Territorial Investments referred to in Article 99 of Regulation (EU) No [...]/2012 [CPR].

Justification

Rural areas should not be overlooked when specific types of area are being addressed. A minimum of 5% should be set for local development, in line with Article 7 of the ERDF Regulation.

Amendment 60

Proposal for a regulation

Article 13 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) the obligations of the authorities for the programme in relation to management, control and audit concerning the operation are fulfilled by the authorities responsible for the programme under which that operation is supported or they enter into agreements with authorities in the Member State in which the operation is implemented provided that the conditions set out in paragraph 2 (a) and the obligations in relation to management, control and audit concerning the operation

(b) the obligations of the authorities for the programme in relation to management, control and audit concerning the operation are fulfilled by the authorities responsible for the programme under which that operation is supported or they enter into agreements with authorities in the Member State in which the operation is implemented provided that the conditions set out in paragraph 2 (a) and the obligations in relation to management, control and audit concerning the operation

are fulfilled.

are fulfilled. *Within 5% of the budget of the ESF operational programme, expenditure under such operations and provided they concern research and innovation, education and training is eligible outside the Union if incurred and paid according to the Member State and EU rules applicable to the operational programme. If a programme is funded through more than one fund, Article 87(1) of the Regulation (EU) No [...] /2012 [CPR] the maximum of 5% is calculated on the basis of the allocation to the programme from the ESF.*

Amendment 61

Proposal for a regulation Article 14 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. Grants reimbursed on the basis of the eligible cost of operations, determined in the way of flat-rate financing, standard scales of unit costs and lump sums as referred to in Article 57(1) of Regulation (EU) No [...] may be calculated on a case-by-case basis by reference to a draft budget agreed ex ante by the Managing Authority, where the **public support** does not exceed EUR 100 000.

Amendment

3. Grants reimbursed on the basis of the eligible cost of operations, determined in the way of flat-rate financing, standard scales of unit costs and lump sums as referred to in Article 57(1) of Regulation (EU) No [...] may be calculated on a case-by-case basis by reference to a draft budget agreed ex ante by the Managing Authority, where the **EU co-financing** does not exceed EUR 100 000.

Amendment 62

Proposal for a regulation Article 14 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. Grants for which the **public support** does not exceed EUR 50 000 shall take the form of lump sums or standard scales of unit costs in accordance with paragraph 1 or Article 57 of Regulation (EU) No [...], except for operations receiving support

Amendment

4. Grants for which the **EU co-financing** does not exceed EUR 50 000 shall take the form of lump sums or standard scales of unit costs in accordance with paragraph 1 or Article 57 of Regulation (EU) No [...], except for operations receiving support

within the framework of a state aid scheme.

within the framework of a state aid scheme.

Amendment 63

Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Pursuant to Article 32 of Regulation (EU) No [...], the ESF may support actions and policies falling within its scope through financial instruments, such as risk-sharing schemes, equity and debt, guarantee funds, holding funds, **and** loan funds.

Amendment

1. Pursuant to Article 32 of Regulation (EU) No [...], the ESF may support actions and policies falling within its scope through financial instruments, such as risk-sharing schemes, equity and debt, guarantee funds, holding funds, loan funds **and microcredits and -facilities**.

Justification

The option of must be made available of supporting measures and policies through the use of microcredit.

Amendment 64

Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2a. Delegated Acts are established in cooperation with the European representatives of the partners referred to in Article 5 of the Regulation on the common provision, in consultation with the ESF Committee;

Amendment 65

Proposal for a regulation Annex 1 – point 1 – paragraph 1 – point 1

Text proposed by the Commission

unemployed, including long-term unemployed

Amendment

unemployed, including long-term unemployed, ***showing separate data on age, gender and disabled people***

Amendment 66

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 1 – paragraph 1 – point 13 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

from rural areas

Amendment 67

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1a) Holders of vocational education and training qualifications

Amendment 68

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 1 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

These data on participants entering an ESF supported operation are to be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 44(1) and (2) and Article 101(1) of Regulation (EU) No [...]. All data are to be broken down by gender.

These data on participants entering an ESF supported operation are to be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 44(1) and (2) and Article 101(1) of Regulation (EU) No [...]. All data are to be broken down by gender ***in order to show the interventions on men and women.***

Amendment 69

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 3 – point 4 – indent 3 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- number of employed women in the MINT-sector upon leaving

Amendment 70

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 3 – point 4 – indent 7 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- number of participants, from disadvantaged groups in education, training, gaining qualification or in employment upon leaving

Amendment 71

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 3 – point 4 – indent 9 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- number of disabled participants in employment after getting support

Amendment 72

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 3 – point 4 bis (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- number of participants no longer receiving minimum income or other benefits following participation

Amendment 73

Proposal for a regulation Annex 1 – point 3 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

These data are to be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 44(1) and (2) and Article 101(1) of Regulation (EU) No [...]. All data are to be broken down by gender.

Amendment

These data are to be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 44(1) and (2) and Article 101(1) of Regulation (EU) No [...]. All data are to be broken down by gender ***in order to the interventions on men and women.***

Amendment 74

Proposal for a regulation Annex 1 – point 4 – point 1

Text proposed by the Commission

· participants in employment **6** months after leaving

Amendment

· participants in employment **9** months after leaving.

Amendment 75

Proposal for a regulation Annex 1 – point 4 – point 2

Text proposed by the Commission

· participants in self-employment **6** months after leaving.

Amendment

· participants in self-employment **9** months after leaving.

Amendment 76

Proposal for a regulation Annex 1 – point 4 – point 3

Text proposed by the Commission

· participants with an improved labour

Amendment

· participants with an improved labour

market situation **6** months after leaving.

market situation **9** months after leaving.

Amendment 77

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 4 – point 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

· participants who no longer receive social benefits in 9 months following participation

Amendment 78

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 4 – point 3 – indent 10 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- number of women employed in the MINT-sector 9 months after leaving

Amendment 79

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 4 – point 3 – indent 11 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- number of disabled participants in employment after 9 months of getting support

Amendment 80

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 4 – point 3 – indent 15 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- reduction of number of cases of discrimination registered by the designated body or bodies for the promotion of equal treatment

Amendment 81

Proposal for a regulation

Annex 1 – point 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

These data are to be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 44(4) of Regulation (EU) No [...]. They are to be collected based on a representative sample of participants within each priority axis or sub-priority. Internal validity of the sample should be ensured in such a way that the data can be generalised at the level of priority axis or sub-priority. All data are to be broken down by gender.

These data are to be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 44(4) of Regulation (EU) No [...]. They are to be collected based on a representative sample of participants within each priority axis or sub-priority. Internal validity of the sample should be ensured in such a way that the data can be generalised at the level of priority axis or sub-priority. All data are to be broken down by gender ***in order to show the interventions on men and women.***

PROCEDURE

Title	European Social Fund and repeal of Regulation (EC) No 1081/2006			
References	COM(2011)0607 – C7-0327/2011 – 2011/0268(COD)			
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	EMPL 25.10.2011			
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	REGI 25.10.2011			
Rapporteur Date appointed	María Irigoyen Pérez 21.6.2011			
Discussed in committee	23.11.2011	25.1.2012	28.2.2012	19.3.2012
	26.4.2012	8.5.2012		
Date adopted	21.6.2012			
Result of final vote	+: -: 0:	36 1 6		
Members present for the final vote	François Alfonsi, Catherine Bearder, Jean-Paul Basset, Victor Boştinaru, John Bufton, Alain Cadec, Salvatore Caronna, Nikos Chrysogelos, Ryszard Czarnecki, Francesco De Angelis, Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Brice Hortefeux, Danuta Maria Hübner, Filiz Hakaeva Hyusmenova, María Irigoyen Pérez, Seán Kelly, Constanze Angela Krehl, Petru Constantin Luhan, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Ramona Nicole Mănescu, Vladimír Maňka, Riikka Manner, Iosif Matula, Erminia Mazzoni, Miroslav Mikolášik, Lambert van Nistelrooij, Jan Olbrycht, Markus Pieper, Monika Smolková, Ewald Stadler, Oldřich Vlasák, Kerstin Westphal, Joachim Zeller			
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Antonello Antinoro, Cornelia Ernst, Pat the Cope Gallagher, Jens Geier, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, James Nicholson, Ivari Padar, Vilja Savisaar-Toomast, Elisabeth Schroedter, Patrice Tirolien			