



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

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*Committee on Regional Development*

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**2014/2040(BUD)**

5.9.2014

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 18**

**Draft opinion**  
**Derek Vaughan**  
(PE537.191v01-00)

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015 - all sections  
(2014/2040(BUD))

AM\1033583EN.doc

PE537.328v01-00

**EN**

*United in diversity*

**EN**

AM\_Com\_NonLegOpinion

**Amendment 1**  
**Bill Etheridge**

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

*Draft opinion*

*1. Is of the opinion that the amounts entered in the Draft Budget (DB) 2015 for heading 1b to cover the minimum needs and objectives of cohesion policy as set by the Union in the Treaty and in the policy legislative framework for 2014-2020 are insufficient;*

*Amendment*

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Derek Vaughan**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Is of the opinion that the amounts entered in the Draft Budget (DB) 2015 for heading 1b to cover the minimum needs and objectives of cohesion policy as set by the Union in the Treaty and in the policy legislative framework for 2014-2020 *are insufficient;*

*Amendment*

1. Is of the opinion that the amounts entered in the Draft Budget (DB) 2015 for heading 1b to cover the minimum needs and objectives of cohesion policy as set by the Union in the Treaty and in the policy legislative framework for 2014-2020 *should be restored;*

Or. en

**Amendment 3**  
**Martina Michels, Ángela Vallina, Younous Omarjee, Dimitrios Papadimoulis**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Is of the opinion that the amounts entered in the Draft Budget (DB) 2015 for heading 1b to cover the minimum needs and objectives of cohesion policy as set by the Union in the Treaty and in the policy legislative framework for 2014-2020 are insufficient;

*Amendment*

1. Is of the opinion that the amounts entered in the Draft Budget (DB) 2015 for heading 1b to cover the minimum needs and objectives of cohesion policy as set by the Union in the Treaty and in the policy legislative framework for 2014-2020 are insufficient; ***in all the communications from the European Commission on the execution of payments for Structural Funds the Commission clearly reports a EUR 23.4 billion deficit on the appropriations to cohesion programmes;***

Or. en

**Amendment 4**  
**Bill Etheridge**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1a. Is of the opinion that the people of the UK, as a net contributor to the EU can ill afford further contributions to these projects. When British people are forced to use foodbanks in increasing numbers and are seeing essential services cut.***

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Martina Michels, Younous Omarjee, Dimitrios Papadimoulis**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1a. Notes with concern the clear statement of the 6th Cohesion Report that regional disparities widened in particular during the crisis years 2008-2011, meaning that efforts of cohesion policy will have to be significantly increased in order to reach the goals of economic, social and territorial cohesion as stipulated in Article 174 TFEU;***

Or. en

**Amendment 6**

**Martina Michels, Ángela Vallina, Younous Omarjee, Dimitrios Papadimoulis**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1b. Notes that 2015 will be the second year of implementation of the new ESI funds cycle; underscores the need for sufficient commitment and payment appropriations in order to ensure that the programmes reach the intended number of beneficiaries and thus impact;***

Or. en

**Amendment 7**

**Bill Etheridge**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2. Notes with concern the decrease in payment appropriations under heading 1b***

*deleted*

*by 5,0% to EUR 51 601,9 million over 2014, while the so-called increase in commitment appropriations of +3,6% stems mainly from the proposed mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument in 2015 to address the situation of Cyprus;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 8**

**Martina Michels, Ángela Vallina, Younous Omarjee, Dimitrios Papadimoulis**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

#### **Draft opinion**

##### **Paragraph 2**

###### *Draft opinion*

2. Notes with concern the decrease in payment appropriations under heading 1b by 5,0% to EUR 51 601,9 million over 2014, while the so-called increase in commitment appropriations of +3,6% stems mainly from the proposed mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument in 2015 to address the situation of Cyprus;

###### *Amendment*

2. Notes with concern the decrease in payment appropriations under heading 1b by 5,0% to EUR 51 601,9 million over 2014, while the so-called increase in commitment appropriations of +3,6% stems mainly from the proposed mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument in 2015 to address the situation of Cyprus; *recalls that instruments such as the ESF, the ERDF, the Cohesion Fund or the Youth Employment Initiative are of particular importance during a crisis, and that the first victims of payment decrease are always the weaker stakeholders, such as Member States with budgetary constraints, local and regional authorities, outermost regions, SMEs, NGOs, social partners;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 9**

**Bill Etheridge**

#### **Draft opinion**

##### **Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2a. Is of the opinion that all payment appropriations are reduced to zero on any projects that do not directly benefit the UK. The tax payers of the UK do not wish to see their money redistributed in this way.***

Or. en

**Amendment 10**  
**Bill Etheridge**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3. Notes with concern that, while the proposed level of payment appropriations will be mainly dedicated to covering outstanding commitments and the winding down of programmes, the Commission declares that the payments backlog will continue to grow and is expected to reach around EUR 18 billion at the end of 2015, even if DAB No 3/2014 is approved;***

***deleted***

Or. en

**Amendment 11**  
**Martina Michels, Ángela Vallina, Younous Omarjee, Dimitrios Papadimoulis**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3. Notes with concern that, while the proposed level of payment appropriations**

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will be mainly dedicated to covering outstanding commitments and the winding down of programmes, the Commission declares that the payments backlog will continue to grow ***and is expected to reach around EUR 18 billion*** at the end of **2015**, even if DAB No 3/2014 is approved;

will be mainly dedicated to covering outstanding commitments and the winding down of programmes ***while at same time most of the instruments have seen their scopes increased (e.g.: Fund for most deprived)***, the Commission declares that the payments backlog will continue to grow ***above the EUR 23.4 billion already reached at the end of 2013, even if DAB 3/2014 is approved;***

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**José Blanco López**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3a. Considers it necessary to allocate appropriate resources to tackle the challenge of depopulation and the gradual ageing of Europe, in keeping with Article 174 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and with a view to the EU's own social and territorial cohesion, economic vitality and sustainability, and in order to preserve our social model;***

Or. es

**Amendment 13**  
**Marc Joulaud**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

4. Requests timely and precise information on the estimates regarding the evolution of

*(Does not affect the English version.)*



payments claims in 2014 and further clarification on how the Commission intends to address the unsustainable level of outstanding payments already foreseen for the end of 2014 for heading 1b;

Or. fr

**Amendment 14**  
**Monika Vana**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4a. Calls on the Commission to monitor climate-related expenditure and to take immediate corrective action in case achieving the 20% target and maintaining the effectiveness of the spending programmes are at risk;***

Or. en

**Amendment 15**  
**Bill Etheridge**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4a. We propose that all funding lines, which are not benefitting the UK are scrapped. With the current level of over spending by this committee we will not support further projects that the people of the UK will not benefit from and cannot afford in this time of austerity.***

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Bill Etheridge**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5. Notes with concern that the Commission seems to be unable to honour all payment requests. Calls on the Commission to provide all necessary details if resulting delays in payments occur.*

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 17**  
**Martina Michels, Ángela Vallina, Younous Omarjee, Dimitrios Papadimoulis**  
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5a. Condemns mechanisms introduced by the new CPR such as the macroeconomic conditionalities and the performance reserve, which could punish local and regional authorities in a budgetary context they are not responsible for;*

Or. en

**Amendment 18**  
**Marc Joulaud**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5a. Asks the Commission what measures*

*it intends to introduce in the future to prevent a permanent gap between commitment appropriations and payment appropriations, and thereby prevent regular payment backlogs.*

Or. fr