



**2015/2132(BUD)**

3.8.2015

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 24**

**Draft opinion**  
**Maria Spyra**  
(PE560.844v01-00)

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016 - all sections  
(2015/2132(BUD))



**Amendment 1**  
**Andrew Lewer**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Notes with concern the decrease of payment appropriations under heading 1b to EUR 49 billion (-4% as compared to 2015), ***and questions whether the amounts proposed in the Draft Budget (DB) 2016 for heading 1b are indeed sufficient to face the current unprecedented level of payments needed under this heading;***

*Amendment*

1. Notes with concern the decrease of payment appropriations under heading 1b to EUR 49 billion (-4% as compared to 2015);

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Steeve Briois**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Notes with concern the decrease of payment appropriations under heading 1b to EUR 49 billion (-4% as compared to 2015), ***and questions whether the amounts proposed in the Draft Budget (DB) 2016 for heading 1b are indeed sufficient to face the current unprecedented level of payments needed under this heading;***

*Amendment*

1. Notes with concern the decrease of payment appropriations under heading 1b to EUR 49 billion (-4% as compared to 2015); ***points out that the other budget lines have been considerably increased, to the detriment of cohesion policy; notes with concern that the amounts proposed in the Draft Budget (DB) 2016 for heading 1b are insufficient to face the unprecedented level of payments needed under this heading;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 3**  
**Younous Omarjee**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Notes with concern the decrease of payment appropriations under heading 1b to EUR 49 billion (-4% as compared to 2015), and **questions whether** the amounts proposed in the Draft Budget (DB) 2016 for heading 1b are **indeed sufficient** to face the current unprecedented level of payments needed under this heading;

*Amendment*

1. Notes with **great** concern the decrease of payment appropriations under heading 1b to EUR 49 billion (-4% as compared to 2015), and **considers that** the amounts proposed in the Draft Budget (DB) 2016 for heading 1b are **insufficient** to face the current unprecedented level of payments needed under this heading;

Or. fr

**Amendment 4**  
**Jan Olbrycht**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. **Notes with concern** the decrease of payment appropriations under heading 1b to EUR 49 billion (-4% as compared to 2015), and questions whether the amounts proposed in the Draft Budget (DB) 2016 for heading 1b are indeed sufficient to face the current unprecedented level of payments needed under this heading;

*Amendment*

1. **Considers alarming** the decrease of payment appropriations under heading 1b to EUR 49 billion (-4% as compared to 2015), and questions **with concern** whether the amounts proposed in the Draft Budget (DB) 2016 for heading 1b are indeed sufficient to face the current unprecedented level of payments needed under this heading;

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Derek Vaughan**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Notes with concern the decrease of

*Amendment*

1. Notes with concern the decrease of

payment appropriations under heading 1b to EUR 49 billion (-4% as compared to 2015), and questions whether the amounts proposed in the Draft Budget (DB) 2016 for heading 1b are indeed sufficient to face the current unprecedented level of payments needed under this heading;

payment appropriations under heading 1b to EUR 49 billion (-4% as compared to 2015), and questions whether the amounts proposed in the Draft Budget (DB) 2016 for heading 1b are indeed sufficient to face the current unprecedented level of payments needed *because of the backlog* under this heading;

Or. en

**Amendment 6**  
**Steeve Briois**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Ia. Notes with concern that this reduction might exacerbate the backlog of payments situation; points out that the situation is especially worrying, since it threatens proper implementation of the operational programmes and exposes project initiators and management authorities to a considerable financial risk for partner firms of projects financed by EU funds;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 7**  
**Younous Omarjee**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Ia. Strongly disagrees with the institutionalisation of the link between cohesion policy and the Stability and Growth Pact, the logic and objectives of which are diametrically opposed; emphasises that the purpose of cohesion*

*policy should not be to impose stringent performance measures and macroeconomic and financial conditions necessitating austerity measures or to penalise Member States and regions; stresses that, on the contrary, cohesion policy aims to ensure balanced growth and eliminate inequalities in order to achieve real economic, social and territorial cohesion; points out that financing for European regions must not be suspended in the event of failure by the Member States to comply with macroeconomic conditions and that the suspension of financing for Member States experiencing difficulties would exacerbate their situation;*

Or. fr

## **Amendment 8**

**Rosa D'Amato, Isabella Adinolfi, Marco Zullo**

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 2**

##### *Draft opinion*

2. *Points out* that according to the Commission's document "Elements for a payment plan to bring the EU budget back onto a sustainable track", the foreseen payment appropriations for heading 1b must also be used to pay the expected backlog at the end of 2015 (EUR 20 billion);

##### *Amendment*

2. *Notes* that according to the Commission's document "Elements for a payment plan to bring the EU budget back onto a sustainable track", the foreseen payment appropriations for heading 1b must also be used to pay the expected backlog at the end of 2015 (EUR 20 billion), *and calls on the Commission to make further efforts to reduce delays in payments, stressing that such delays greatly increase the burdens on local and administrative authorities and have an extremely serious domino effect on recipients of funding;*

Or. it

**Amendment 9**  
**Davor Škrlec**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2a. Is seriously concerned that payment delays - to a large extent - hit small and vulnerable beneficiaries especially when they are not reimbursed by the Member States before the certifying authorities have received the payment from the Commission and therefore have to bear the negative impact of payment delays despite a lack of financial capacity to pre-finance expenditure for a long time;***

Or. en

**Amendment 10**  
**Younous Omarjee**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2a. Recalls that the conclusions of the sixth report on economic, social and territorial cohesion highlighted the fact that regional disparities had increased since 2008; emphasises the crucial role played by the EU budget in triggering investment, given that, by supplementing public and private financing at national and international level, its leverage effect helps reinforce growth and ensure economic, social and territorial cohesion in the EU;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 11**  
**Younous Omarjee**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**2b. Notes that the EU draft budget for 2016 foresees commitments amounting to EUR 153 500 billion (a 5.3% reduction as compared with 2015) and payment appropriations of EUR 143.5 billion (a 1.6% increase over 2015);**

Or. fr

**Amendment 12**  
**Andrea Cozzolino, Michela Giuffrida**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3a. Notes furthermore that it is desirable also to take into account in advance the impact on payments under heading 1b due to the modification of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020;**

Or. it

**Amendment 13**  
**Derek Vaughan**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

4. Recalls the need for sufficient resources to ensure *the intended impact* of the programmes, on the *one hand, and of* their multiannual operation, *on the other*, which

4. Recalls the need for sufficient resources to ensure, *on the one hand, the proper implementation* of the programmes, *and* on the *other*, their multiannual operation,



together call for appropriate *and definitive* measures in order to minimise the risk of recurrence of the backlog of payments *in later stages of the cohesion policy implementation*;

which together call for appropriate *means and* measures in order to minimise the risk of recurrence of the backlog of payments;

Or. en

**Amendment 14**  
**Tomasz Piotr Poręba**

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

*Draft opinion*

4. Recalls the need for sufficient resources to ensure the intended impact of the programmes, on the one hand, and of their multiannual operation, on the other, which together call for appropriate and definitive measures in order to minimise the risk of recurrence of the backlog of payments in later stages of the cohesion policy implementation;

*Amendment*

4. Recalls the need for sufficient resources to ensure the intended impact of the programmes, on the one hand, and of their multiannual operation, on the other, which together call for appropriate and definitive measures in order to minimise the risk of recurrence of the backlog of payments in later stages of the cohesion policy implementation; *is concerned, however, at the continuous increase in administrative expenditures, in spite of earlier assurances that these would be limited*;

Or. pl

**Amendment 15**  
**Younous Omarjee**

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

*Draft opinion*

4. Recalls the need for sufficient resources to ensure the intended impact of the programmes, on the one hand, and of their multiannual operation, on the other, which together call for appropriate and definitive measures in order to minimise the risk of recurrence of the backlog of payments in

*Amendment*

4. Recalls the need for sufficient resources to ensure the intended impact of the programmes, on the one hand, and of their multiannual operation, on the other, which together call for appropriate and definitive measures in order to minimise the risk of recurrence of the backlog of payments in

later stages of the cohesion policy implementation;

later stages of the cohesion policy implementation; ***underlines the negative impact of payment deadlines for local, regional and national authorities, especially those with social, economic and financial problems; recalls the urgent need to strengthen the fight against poverty, unemployment, social exclusion and inequality by means of cohesion policy;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 16**  
**Steeve Briois**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4a. Calls on the Commission to review the 2016 draft budget in order to ensure sufficient funds for payment appropriations under heading 1b;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 17**  
**Younous Omarjee**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4a. Recalls that the outermost region of Mayotte is the only region in the EU to have been granted a one-off allocation, contrary to the general regulations governing the funds; therefore calls on the Commission to perform a mid-term re-evaluation of the allocation to be granted to Mayotte in accordance with the calculation rules for all regions in the***

*EU;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 18**  
**Younous Omarjee**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5. Calls on the Commission to thoroughly monitor, in close cooperation with the Member States, and to prepare a detailed forecast on the evolution of payments under heading 1b related to the 2014-2020 programming period, using measurable and thus comparable key performance indicators which will account for the efficiency and effectiveness of the budget appropriations;*

*deleted*

Or. fr

**Amendment 19**  
**Derek Vaughan**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

5. Calls on the Commission to thoroughly monitor, in close cooperation with the Member States, and to prepare a detailed forecast on the evolution of payments under heading 1b related to the 2014-2020 programming period, using measurable and thus comparable key performance indicators which will account for the efficiency and effectiveness of the budget appropriations;

5. Calls on the Commission to thoroughly monitor, in close cooperation with the Member States **and regions**, and to prepare a detailed forecast on the evolution of payments under heading 1b related to the 2014-2020 programming period, using measurable and thus comparable key performance indicators which will account for the efficiency and effectiveness of the budget appropriations;

**Amendment 20**  
**Steeve Briois**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5a. Asks the Commission in future to reduce the commitment appropriations for cohesion policy and to review, for the next programming period, the breakdown of cohesion policy funding by Member State so that the EU's funding capability can be better anticipated;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 21**  
**Davor Škrlec**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5a. Recalls that outstanding payments undermine the credibility and accountability of the Union, in particular in those parts of the society and territory where they are most needed; Considers the payment backlog a structural problem likely to re-occur due to the low payment ceilings; Requests therefore a long-term solution going beyond the short-term alleviations of the payment plan;***

Or. en

**Amendment 22**  
**Younous Omarjee**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5a. Is concerned that, in certain cases, the Member States will disburse funding quickly to avoid losing funds which have been committed, a procedure which would increase the risk of irregularities and might lead to financial corrections, and that a situation would arise whereby funds which had not been absorbed at the end of the programming period were subject to automatic decommitment;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 23**  
**Andrew Lewer**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

6. Takes note of the Commission's proposal for a preparatory action under heading 1b, which is open to all Member States, and is intended to finance capacity development and institution building to support the implementation of reforms identified as priorities in the lifecycle of the macroeconomic surveillance, and calls for ***further similar initiatives in the future.***

6. Takes note of the Commission's proposal for a preparatory action under heading 1b, which is open to all Member States, and is intended to finance capacity development and institution building to support the implementation of reforms identified as priorities in the lifecycle of the macroeconomic surveillance, and calls for ***a full impact assessment of this preparatory action before funding is extended to similar initiatives.***

Or. en

**Amendment 24**  
**Derek Vaughan**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Draft opinion*

6. **Takes note of** the Commission's proposal for a preparatory action under heading 1b, which is open to all Member States, and is intended to finance capacity development and institution building to support the implementation of reforms identified as priorities in the lifecycle of the macroeconomic surveillance, and calls for further similar initiatives ***in the future***.

*Amendment*

6. **Welcomes** the Commission's proposal for a preparatory action under heading 1b, which is open to all Member States, and is intended to finance capacity development and institution building to support the implementation of reforms identified as priorities in the lifecycle of the macroeconomic surveillance, and calls for further similar initiatives.

Or. en