



**2016/2101(INI)**

27.7.2016

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 53**

**Draft opinion**

**Fernando Ruas**

(PE585.770v01-00)

**European Semester for economic policy coordination - implementation of  
2016 priorities**

(2016/2101(INI))



**Amendment 1**  
**Jens Nilsson**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

— *having regard to the Council Conclusions of 7 December 2015 titled "The promotion of the social economy as a key driver of economical and social development in Europe" (1507/15),*

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Martina Anderson, Martina Michels**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

1. *Acknowledges the greater coherence of the new mainstreamed European Semester, which allows for more opportunities to engage and communicate with Member States and stakeholders at all levels;*

1. *Is highly concerned about the increasing subordination of the EU cohesion policy under the new mainstreamed European Semester;*

Or. en

**Amendment 3**  
**Isabella Adinolfi, Rosa D'Amato, Marco Zullo**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

1. *Acknowledges the greater coherence of the new mainstreamed European Semester, which allows for more*

1. *Takes note of the new mainstreamed European Semester to engage and communicate with Member*

*opportunities* to engage and communicate with Member States and stakeholders **at all levels**;

States and stakeholders;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 4** **Fernando Ruas**

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

###### *Draft opinion*

1. Acknowledges the greater coherence of the new mainstreamed European Semester, which allows for more opportunities to engage and communicate with Member States and stakeholders at all levels;

###### *Amendment*

1. Acknowledges the greater coherence of the new mainstreamed European Semester, which allows for more opportunities to engage and communicate with Member States and stakeholders at all levels, ***reinforcing national ownership and proposing fewer recommendations focusing on key economic, social priorities and functioning as an important stabilization factor for the European Union***;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 5** **Iskra Mihaylova**

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

###### *Draft opinion*

1. Acknowledges the greater coherence of the new mainstreamed European Semester, which allows for more opportunities to engage and communicate with Member States and stakeholders at all levels;

###### *Amendment*

1. Acknowledges the greater coherence of the new mainstreamed European Semester, which allows for more opportunities to engage and communicate with Member States and stakeholders at all levels ***and welcomes the Commission's focus on the three main priorities to further strengthen economic growth: supporting investment, pursuing***

*structural reforms and preserving  
responsible public finances;*

Or. en

**Amendment 6**  
**Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Acknowledges the greater coherence of the new mainstreamed European Semester, which allows for more opportunities to engage and communicate with Member States and stakeholders at all levels;

*Amendment*

1. Acknowledges the greater coherence of the new mainstreamed European Semester, which allows for more opportunities to engage and communicate with Member States and stakeholders at all levels; *reiterates its call for a code of conduct the involvement of the local and regional authorities in the European Semester, similar to the one on partnership within cohesion policy<sup>1a</sup>;*

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*<sup>1a</sup> European Parliament resolution of 28 October 2015 on cohesion policy and the review of the Europe 2020 strategy (2014/2246(INI))*

Or. en

**Amendment 7**  
**Bronis Ropé**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Acknowledges the greater coherence of the new mainstreamed European Semester, which allows for more opportunities to engage and communicate with Member States and stakeholders at all levels;

*Amendment*

1. Acknowledges the greater coherence of the new mainstreamed European Semester, which allows for more opportunities to engage and communicate with Member States and stakeholders at all levels; *is of the opinion that the*

*involvement of regional and local authorities still needs to be enhanced and procedures be adapted accordingly;*

Or. en

**Amendment 8**

**Jens Nilsson**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1a. Emphasises the key role social economy enterprises play in generating a highly competitive and fairer regional development through its diverse range of business models with social and ecologic objectives; stresses the need to increase the visibility of the already existing partnerships between regional and local authorities and social economy organisations across the Member States; calls on the Commission to present a EU Action Plan for Social Economy Enterprises in order to unlock the full potential for a sustainable growth;*

Or. en

**Amendment 9**

**Iratxe García Pérez**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1a. Notes with great concern the high unemployment rates in some Member States, especially regarding youth and long-term unemployment; highlights the need to strongly support labour markets, education systems and financial services*

*for SMEs through cohesion policy  
financial instruments at regional,  
national and EU level in order to boost  
quality employment opportunities;*

Or. en

**Amendment 10**  
**Michela Giuffrida**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1a. Notes that cohesion policy funds  
represent for many regions the main or  
only source of funding for investment in  
growth, development and employment;*

Or. en

**Amendment 11**  
**Michela Giuffrida, Andrea Cozzolino**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1b. Underlines the opportunities  
within the European semester to explore  
tools and mechanisms to ensure that the  
flexibility permitted by the Stability and  
Growth Pact could be used in strategic  
areas of investment to ensure growth and  
sustainable employment;*

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Fernando Ruas**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Is concerned by the cumulative lack of investments, which affects long-term growth and job creation; stresses the importance of swift and consistent implementation of cohesion policy 2014-2020 operational programmes and other EU-funded programmes and initiatives; underlines also the necessity of enhancing multi-level governance and improving the overall quality of public administration, both horizontally and vertically;

*Amendment*

2. Is concerned by the cumulative lack of investments, which affects long-term growth and job creation; stresses the importance of swift and consistent implementation of cohesion policy 2014-2020 operational programmes and other EU-funded programmes and initiatives; ***reminds in this context that the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) should become more geographically balanced and must remain complementary and additional to the European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds and that synergies between different EU funds, programmes, initiatives and national investments must be exploited in order to maximize the full potential of the projected investments;*** underlines also the necessity of enhancing multi-level governance and improving the overall quality of public administration, both horizontally and vertically, ***with a particular focus on administrative capacity, as well as strengthening public procurement rules, transparency, accountability and fight against corruption;***

Or. en

**Amendment 13**  
**Iskra Mihaylova**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Is concerned by the cumulative lack of investments, which affects long-term growth and job creation; stresses the importance of swift and consistent

*Amendment*

2. Is concerned by the cumulative lack of investments, which affects long-term growth and job creation; stresses the importance of swift and consistent



implementation of cohesion policy 2014-2020 operational programmes and other EU-funded programmes and initiatives; underlines also the necessity of enhancing multi-level governance and improving the overall quality of public administration, both horizontally and vertically;

implementation of cohesion policy 2014-2020 operational programmes and other EU-funded programmes and initiatives; ***points out the importance of maximising the synergies and complementarities between ESI Funds, EFSI and other EU instruments to boost investment and better achieve Europe 2020 goals***; underlines also the necessity of enhancing multi-level governance and improving the overall quality of public administration, both horizontally and vertically;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 14**

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

#### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 2**

##### *Draft opinion*

2. Is concerned by the cumulative lack of investments, which affects long-term growth and job creation; stresses the importance of swift and consistent implementation of cohesion policy 2014-2020 operational programmes and other EU-funded programmes and initiatives; underlines also the necessity of enhancing multi-level governance and improving the overall quality of public administration, both horizontally and vertically;

##### *Amendment*

2. Is concerned by the cumulative lack of investments, which affects long-term growth and job creation; ***regrets the late adoption of the Operational programmes in the current programming period***; stresses the importance of swift and consistent implementation of cohesion policy 2014-2020 operational programmes and other EU-funded programmes and initiatives; underlines also the necessity of enhancing multi-level governance and improving the overall quality of public administration, both horizontally and vertically ***and involving civil society already in the early stage of programming***;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 15**

**Bronis Ropé**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Is concerned by the cumulative lack of investments, which affects long-term growth and job creation; stresses the importance of swift and consistent implementation of cohesion policy 2014-2020 operational programmes and other EU-funded programmes and initiatives; underlines also the necessity of enhancing multi-level governance and improving the overall quality of public administration, both horizontally and vertically;

*Amendment*

2. Is concerned by the cumulative lack of investments, which affects long-term **sustainable** growth and **quality** job creation; stresses the importance of swift and consistent implementation of cohesion policy 2014-2020 operational programmes and other EU-funded programmes and initiatives; underlines also the necessity of enhancing multi-level governance and improving the overall quality of public administration, both horizontally and vertically;

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Andrea Cozzolino**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**2a. Calls on the Commission to take action to ensure that Member States fully use their fiscal space to support productive investments;**

Or. en

**Amendment 17**  
**Rosa D'Amato, Isabella Adinolfi, Marco Zullo**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the

3. **Deplores** the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the

wider economic governance framework **by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules**; **underlines, however, that** the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance **should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort**; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should **always take into consideration** the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

wider economic governance framework, **as** the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance **punish sub-national level actors for failures of processes that are steered at national level, and that there are therefore counterproductive for the development of regions and municipalities, also considering that the reprogramming would entail a further administrative burden to Local and Regional authorities**; recalls, moreover, that the **decision of the** application of such measures should **be taken considering** the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

Or. en

## Amendment 18 Bronis Ropé

### Draft opinion Paragraph 3

#### *Draft opinion*

3. **Recognises** the **strong** links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework **by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules**; **underlines, however, that** the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should

#### *Amendment*

3. **Regrets** the links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework **leading to counteracting** recovery efforts **through suspension of ESI funds**; **underlines that** the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific

always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

Or. en

**Amendment 19**  
**Mercedes Bresso**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. Recognises the *strong links that* cohesion policy *has established with* the wider economic governance framework *by providing support for* recovery efforts *to stimulate* compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

*Amendment*

3. Recognises the *importance of coherence between the* cohesion policy *instruments and* the wider economic governance framework, *in view of supporting the* recovery efforts *needed to achieve* compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

Or. en

**Amendment 20**  
**Martina Michels**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. **Recognises** the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework **by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with** the European Semester rules; underlines, **however**, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

*Amendment*

3. **Notes with concern** the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework **including** the European Semester rules; underlines that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that **the** measures linking effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance **currently in force** should be **reviewed, revised and until then** applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

Or. en

**Amendment 21**  
**Lambert van Nistelrooij**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, **with caution and only as a last resort**; recalls, moreover, that the

*Amendment*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously **and be reported in their effects**; recalls, moreover, that the

application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

Or. en

## **Amendment 22** **Fernando Ruas**

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

#### *Draft opinion*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

#### *Amendment*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity ***having as main objectives strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion in the EU through reducing disparities between the levels of development of the various regions and financing investment linked to Europe 2020 goals***; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments, ***which are absolutely essential for the Member States economies- particularly for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), maximising growth and job creation and stimulating competitiveness and productivity, especially in times of***

*strong pressure on public expenditure;*

Or. en

**Amendment 23**  
**Jens Nilsson**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

*Amendment*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity *as well as bringing the EU closer to its citizens*; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

Or. en

**Amendment 24**  
**Marc Joulaud**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the

*Amendment*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the

wider economic governance framework by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

wider economic governance framework by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, ***in a balanced way***, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always ***be justified, transparent and*** take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

Or. en

**Amendment 25**  
**Tomasz Piotr Poreba**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of the

*Amendment*

3. Recognises the strong links that cohesion policy has established with the wider economic governance framework by providing support for recovery efforts to stimulate compliance with the European Semester rules; underlines, however, that the legitimacy of cohesion policy derives from the Treaties, and that this policy is the expression of European solidarity; is therefore of the opinion that measures linking the effectiveness of ESI Funds with sound economic governance should be applied judiciously, ***if at all***, with caution and only as a last resort; recalls, moreover, that the application of such measures should always take into consideration the specific socio-economic circumstances of



Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

the Member State concerned, in order to avoid restricting regional and local investments;

Or. en

**Amendment 26**  
**Iskra Mihaylova**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3a. Calls on the Commission to take better account of the Europe 2020 strategy and address its key targets properly by improving its implementation, carrying out a strategy analysis in the context of the European Semester and suggesting measures and a methodology for improved monitoring of the EU Funds expenditures related to Europe 2020 goals; believes that the forthcoming Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) review will provide an opportunity to analyse, evaluate and, where necessary, improve the added value of and support from ESI Funds, towards delivering the goals of the Europe 2020 strategy, having an indirect relation to European Semester processes;**

Or. en

**Amendment 27**  
**Jens Nilsson**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3a. Welcomes the European Commission 2016 Country**

*Recommendations with focus on economic and budgetary recommendations tailored to each country and designed to boost growth, job creation, training and education opportunities, research and innovation; notes that boost of the social economy through projects that are encouraging growth of social enterprises could bring employment and prosperity to the regions;*

Or. en

**Amendment 28**  
**Andrea Cozzolino, Michela Giuffrida**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3a. Points out the importance to rebalance the economic asymmetries generated by the different monetary policies between euro-area and not in order to achieve the main goals of the territorial cohesion policy;*

Or. en

**Amendment 29**  
**Iratxe García Pérez**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3a. Regrets that the infringement procedure for excessive deficit against Spain and Portugal, recommended by the Commission, might lead to a fine and a partial suspension of the ESI Funds as a result of the macroeconomic conditionality; stresses that these two*

*Member States have already carried out significant structural reforms in past years, as documented in their national reform programmes and in the Commission's dedicated Country Reports for Spain and Portugal;*

Or. en

**Amendment 30**  
**Bronis Ropé**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3a. Regrets the decision by Council from 12 July 2016 to trigger a macro-economic conditionality procedure following Article 126(8) of the Treaty and in accordance with Article 23(9) of the Common Provisions Regulation; stresses that the suspension of resources meant for investment in the real economy threatens the recovery process of the Member States concerned; recalls that as a result of such measures regions, local authorities and other beneficiaries suffering from suspension of ESI funds are punished for national budgetary policies which are beyond their reach;*

Or. en

**Amendment 31**  
**Jens Nilsson**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3b. Notes that Member States are still facing a high unemployment rate; stresses*

*that the capacity to create jobs is still limited in many of them; calls on the Commission and Member States to better utilize the synergies between ESIF and EFSI in order to eliminate this handicap, maximize growth and reduce territorial disparities;*

Or. en

**Amendment 32**  
**Andrea Cozzolino, Michela Giuffrida**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3b. Believes that the Commission should involve all beneficiaries of the 2014-2020 Structural Funds when assessing the ongoing European Semester, in order to ensure an effective implementation of the Cohesion Policy;*

Or. en

**Amendment 33**  
**Jens Nilsson**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3c. Stresses that cohesion policy instruments could play a very important role in the implementation of the relevant CSRs, thus supporting structural reforms and contributing to the fulfillment of the EU's strategic goals in line with the targets of the EU 2020 strategy;*

Or. en

**Amendment 34**

**Jens Nilsson**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3d. Encourage EU Member States to involve their local and regional authorities in making the most of the Structural Funds, as well as the Investment Plan for Europe (EFIS), which must be implemented flexibly and in a way that complements the Structural Funds, so that the full public and private investment potential can be harnessed;**

Or. en

**Amendment 35**

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

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

4. Believes that ensuring the transparency and effectiveness of public expenditure is essential for creating a growth-friendly environment; **welcomes the fact** that several Member States have been able to address the CSRs in their operational programmes (OPs) by means of targeted investments or reforms undertaken in the context of ex-ante conditionalities; **appreciates the fact that the ESI Fund investments already contribute to the implementation of structural reforms and improve overall economic performance in Member States;**

4. Believes that ensuring the transparency and effectiveness of public expenditure is essential for creating a growth-friendly environment; **remarks** that several Member States have been able to address the CSRs in their operational programmes (OPs) by means of targeted investments or reforms undertaken in the context of ex-ante conditionalities; **considers that the rationale of the ESI Funds do not lie in the implementation of structural reforms and that the ESI Funds remain the main tool for public investment in Member State;**

Or. en

**Amendment 36**  
**Martina Michels, Martina Anderson**

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

*Draft opinion*

4. Believes that ensuring the transparency and effectiveness of public expenditure is essential for creating *a growth-friendly* environment; *welcomes the fact* that several Member States have been able to address *the* CSRs in their operational programmes (OPs) *by means of* targeted investments or reforms undertaken in the context of ex-ante conditionalities; appreciates the fact that the ESI Fund investments *already* contribute to *the implementation of structural reforms and improve* overall economic performance in Member States;

*Amendment*

4. Believes that ensuring the transparency and effectiveness of public expenditure is essential for creating *an* environment *that encourages more and enhanced use of EU funding and that is beneficial to social and economic regional development*; *notes* that several Member States have been able to address *those* CSRs in their operational programmes (OPs) *that* targeted *public* investments or reforms undertaken in the context of *those* ex-ante conditionalities *that help enhance participation and proper implementation of cohesion policy*; appreciates the fact that the ESI Fund investments contribute to *improving* overall economic performance in *regions and* Member States *in many cases while in some Member States and regions they remain a large or even the main source of public investment and at least help mitigating the impacts of unresolved crises*;

Or. en

**Amendment 37**  
**Iskra Mihaylova**

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

*Draft opinion*

4. Believes that ensuring the transparency and effectiveness of public expenditure is essential for creating a growth-friendly environment; welcomes

*Amendment*

4. Believes that ensuring the transparency and effectiveness of public expenditure is essential for creating a growth-friendly environment; welcomes

the fact that several Member States have been able to address the CSRs in their operational programmes (OPs) by means of targeted investments or reforms undertaken in the context of ex-ante conditionalities; appreciates the fact that the ESI Fund investments already contribute to the implementation of structural reforms and improve overall economic performance in Member States;

the fact that several Member States have been able to address the CSRs in their operational programmes (OPs) by means of targeted investments or reforms undertaken in the context of ex-ante conditionalities; ***points out that the CSRs together with the ex-ante conditionalities within cohesion policy could play a key role, as they have important positive spill-over effects on the broader investment environment;*** appreciates the fact that the ESI Fund investments already contribute to the implementation of structural reforms and improve overall economic performance in Member States;

Or. en

### **Amendment 38** **Fernando Ruas**

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

##### *Draft opinion*

4. Believes that ensuring the transparency and effectiveness of public expenditure is essential for creating a growth-friendly environment; welcomes the fact that several Member States have been able to address the CSRs in their operational programmes (OPs) by means of targeted investments or reforms undertaken in the context of ex-ante conditionalities; appreciates the fact that the ESI Fund investments already contribute to the implementation of structural reforms and improve overall economic performance in Member States;

##### *Amendment*

4. Believes that ensuring the transparency and effectiveness of public expenditure is essential for creating a growth-friendly environment; welcomes the fact that several Member States have been able to address the CSRs in their operational programmes (OPs) by means of targeted investments or reforms undertaken in the context of ex-ante conditionalities; appreciates the fact that the ESI Fund investments already contribute to the implementation of structural reforms and improve overall economic performance in Member States, ***producing economic growth, quality jobs and sustainable development across the Union, including in regions or areas suffering from natural or geographical handicaps;***

Or. en

## Amendment 39

Jens Nilsson

### Draft opinion

#### Paragraph 4

##### *Draft opinion*

4. Believes that ensuring the transparency and effectiveness of public expenditure is essential for creating a growth-friendly environment; welcomes the fact that several Member States have been able to address the CSRs in their operational programmes (OPs) by means of targeted investments or reforms undertaken in the context of ex-ante conditionalities; appreciates the fact that the ESI Fund investments already contribute to the implementation of structural reforms and improve overall economic performance in Member States;

##### *Amendment*

4. Believes that ensuring the transparency and effectiveness of public expenditure is essential for creating a growth-friendly environment; welcomes the fact that several Member States have been able to address the CSRs in their operational programmes (OPs) by means of targeted investments or reforms undertaken in the context of ex-ante conditionalities; appreciates the fact that the ESI Fund investments already contribute to the implementation of structural reforms and improve overall economic performance in Member States; ***make active use of the ESI Funds, the EaSI programme and Horizon 2020 to build up the investment capacity of the relevant intermediaries and the investment readiness of social economy enterprises;***

Or. en

## Amendment 40

Tomasz Piotr Poręba

### Draft opinion

#### Paragraph 4 a (new)

##### *Draft opinion*

##### *Amendment*

***4a. Stresses that any suspensions of payments would weaken economic recovery and Commission-led reprogramming to address new CSRs would destabilise the long-term and stable planning framework that Cohesion policy brings to public investment and would***



*involve significant administrative costs and burden for beneficiaries;*

Or. en

**Amendment 41**  
**Tomasz Piotr Poreba**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**4b.** *Believes that simplification should be pursued more vigorously with a view to reducing the administrative burden of procedures and management for beneficiaries;*

Or. en

**Amendment 42**  
**Rosa D'Amato, Isabella Adinolfi, Marco Zullo**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

5. *Is of the opinion that* the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) *should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other types of technical assistance;* emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposals.

5. *Strongly opposes* the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) *and regrets that EUR 142 800 000 will be deduced from the technical assistance resources of 2014-2020 ESI Funds programming;* emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposals.

**Amendment 43**  
**Lambert van Nistelrooij**

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, ***only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other types of technical assistance***; emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposals.

*Amendment*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, ***as an additional support***; emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposals;

**Amendment 44**  
**Iskra Mihaylova**

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, ***only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other***

*Amendment*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, ***at the same time ensuring that there is no overlapping/double financing with*** other

types of technical assistance; emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposals.

**Community** instruments or other types of technical assistance; emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposal.

Or. en

## **Amendment 45** **Martina Michels**

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

#### *Draft opinion*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other types of technical assistance; **emphasises that** the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP **at the initiative of the Commission should not be** a precedent for **any** future proposals.

#### *Amendment*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms **avoiding austerity measures**, only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other types of technical assistance; **rejects the Commission's proposal of** the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP **as this could create** a precedent for future proposals.

Or. en

## **Amendment 46** **Bronis Ropè**

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

#### *Draft opinion*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural

#### *Amendment*

5. Is of the opinion that the **proposal**

Reform Support Programme (SRSP) **should** provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other types of technical assistance; emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposals.

*for a* Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) **could** provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other types of technical assistance; emphasises that the **proposed** budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposals.

Or. en

**Amendment 47**  
**Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso**

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other types of technical assistance; emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposals.

*Amendment*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other types of technical assistance; **stresses that the SRSP should be open to local and regional authorities as necessary; calls the European Commission to issue a single strategic document setting priorities and criteria to use the SRSP in coordination with other EU capacity-building measures**; emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future

proposals.

Or. en

**Amendment 48**  
**Fernando Ruas**

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other types of technical assistance; emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposals.

*Amendment*

5. Is of the opinion that the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) should provide dedicated and targeted support to Member States on a voluntary basis to assist them with the design and implementation of institutional, structural and administrative reforms, only when such reforms cannot be addressed by other instruments or supported by other types of technical assistance ***already in place***; emphasises that the budgetary transfer from the technical assistance under cohesion policy to the SRSP at the initiative of the Commission should not be a precedent for any future proposals.

Or. en

**Amendment 49**  
**Andrea Cozzolino**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5a. Considering that structural reforms might have a negative impact on national budgets, notes that the mismatch between the flexibility granted by the Stability and Growth Pact and the temporal horizon needed to reap the benefits of structural reforms maturation***

*is counterproductive.*

Or. en

**Amendment 50**  
**Tomasz Piotr Poręba**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5a.** *Stresses the necessity to include local and regional authorities in the implementation of the guidance, commitments and good practices of the European Semester at local and regional levels.*

Or. en

**Amendment 51**  
**Andrea Cozzolino**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5b.** *Notes that the Country Specific Recommendations could be a useful tool for the dissemination of investment opportunities including the promotion of synergies between European structural funds and all other EU funds; recognizes the effort of the Commission to explore all investment opportunities in Europe.*

Or. en

**Amendment 52**  
**Tomasz Piotr Poręba**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5b. Recognizes that further involvement of national parliaments would contribute to ensure legitimacy, ownership and democratic accountability of the European Semester as acceptance of the common rules and compliance in Member States are still low.**

Or. en

**Amendment 53**  
**Tomasz Piotr Poręba**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5c. Believes that the division of the Semester into two phases – the European phase (from November to February) and the national phase (from February to June) would better identifies the different areas of responsibility and enables European social partners to take part in in depth consultations on reform processes in Europe.**

Or. en