



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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*Committee on Foreign Affairs*

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**2011/2033(INI)**

12.7.2013

# AMENDMENTS

## 1 - 13

**Draft opinion**

**Jelko Kacin**

(PE510.873v01-00)

on budgetary management of European Union pre-accession funds in the areas of judicial systems and the fight against corruption in the candidate and potential candidate countries  
(2011/2033(INI))

AM\_Com\_NonLegOpinion

**Amendment 1**  
**Maria Eleni Koppa**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***-1. Recalls that the fight against corruption and organised crime is one of the most important benchmarks for any candidate or potential candidate country wishing to fulfil its European perspective;***

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Eduard Kukan, Ria Oomen-Ruijten**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

1. Reiterates the importance of an independent judiciary and of an efficient fight against corruption in strengthening the rule of law and democracy; welcomes the EU's new negotiating approach, which firmly anchors these core ***fields*** at the heart of the accession process and includes an early opening of Chapters 23 and 24; stresses the need for setting transparent and fair benchmarks throughout the process, which translate the criteria into concrete steps towards accession;

1. Reiterates the importance of an independent judiciary, ***of the protection and promotion of fundamental rights*** and of an efficient fight against corruption in strengthening the rule of law and democracy; welcomes the EU's new negotiating approach, which firmly anchors these core ***areas*** at the heart of the accession process and includes an early opening of Chapters 23 and 24 ***on the basis of clear and detailed action plans, stimulating the establishment of the necessary legislation, institutions and solid track records of implementation;*** stresses the need for setting transparent and fair benchmarks throughout the process, which translate the criteria into concrete steps towards accession;

Or. en

**Amendment 3**  
**Takis Hadjigeorgiou**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Reiterates the importance of an independent judiciary and of an efficient fight against corruption in strengthening the rule of law and democracy; welcomes the EU's new negotiating approach, which firmly anchors these core fields at the heart of the accession process and includes an early opening of Chapters 23 and 24; stresses the need for setting transparent and fair benchmarks throughout the process, which translate the criteria into concrete steps towards accession;

*Amendment*

1. Reiterates the importance of an independent judiciary and of an efficient fight against corruption in strengthening the rule of law and democracy; welcomes the EU's new negotiating approach, which firmly anchors these core fields at the heart of the accession process and includes an early opening of Chapters 23 and 24, ***as soon as all the preconditions are met***; stresses the need for setting transparent and fair benchmarks throughout the process, which translate the criteria into concrete steps towards accession;

Or. en

**Amendment 4**  
**Sophocles Sophocleous**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Reiterates the importance of an independent judiciary and of an efficient fight against corruption in strengthening the rule of law and democracy; welcomes the EU's new negotiating approach, which firmly anchors these core fields at the heart of the accession process and includes an early opening of Chapters 23 and 24; stresses the need for setting transparent and fair benchmarks throughout the process, which translate the criteria into concrete steps towards accession;

*Amendment*

1. Reiterates the importance of an independent judiciary and of an efficient fight against corruption in strengthening the rule of law and democracy; welcomes the EU's new negotiating approach, ***for future negotiating frameworks***, which firmly anchors these core fields at the heart of the accession process and includes an early opening of Chapters 23 and 24; stresses the need for setting transparent and fair benchmarks throughout the process, which translate the criteria into concrete

steps towards accession;

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Eduard Kukan**

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

*Draft opinion*

2. Considers it an essential enlargement policy **and funding concern** to improve the independence, accountability, impartiality, professionalism and efficiency of the **judiciary**; stresses **the need** for sustainable **measures in judicial reform**; calls for financial assistance **for** relevant civil society actors in **building** long-term capacities;

*Amendment*

2. Considers it essential **to link the EU financial assistance more closely to the priorities of the** enlargement policy, **especially in relation to the rule of law, in order** to improve the independence, accountability, impartiality, professionalism, **transparency** and efficiency of the **judicial systems**; stresses **that predictable and sufficient funding is a key pre-condition** for sustainable **judicial reforms**; **underlines the importance of continuous professional training for judges, prosecutors and clerks**; calls for **further** financial assistance **and engagement with** relevant civil society actors in **order to enhance transparency in judiciary and improve their** long-term capacities;

Or. en

**Amendment 6**  
**Ulrike Lunacek**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

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

*Draft opinion*

2. Considers it an essential enlargement policy and funding concern to improve the

*Amendment*

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independence, accountability, impartiality, professionalism and efficiency of the judiciary; stresses the need for sustainable measures in judicial reform; calls for financial assistance for relevant civil society actors in building long-term capacities;

independence, accountability, impartiality, professionalism and efficiency of the judiciary; stresses the need for sustainable measures in judicial reform; calls for financial assistance for relevant civil society actors in building long-term capacities *as well as for those acting as watchdogs and whistle-blowers as regards the misuse of these funds;*

Or. en

## **Amendment 7**

**Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris**

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 3**

##### *Draft opinion*

3. Calls for unbiased and successful prosecutions and court rulings in combating corruption, including in high-profile cases, in order to enhance citizens' trust in the rule of law and public institutions; invites the relevant authorities to improve interinstitutional cooperation, raise public awareness and develop capacities for planning, enforcing and monitoring anti-corruption rules and activities, as well as to cooperate closely with the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and to engage closely with state independent bodies, such as anti-corruption agencies;

##### *Amendment*

3. Calls for unbiased and successful prosecutions and court rulings in combating corruption, including in high-profile cases, in order to enhance citizens' trust in the rule of law and public institutions; invites the relevant authorities to improve interinstitutional cooperation, raise public awareness and develop capacities for planning, enforcing and monitoring anti-corruption rules and activities, as well as to cooperate closely with the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and to engage closely with state independent bodies, such as anti-corruption agencies; ***calls for the implementation of strategies to prevent and combat corruption nationally and internationally, by determining and promoting appropriate methods for developing such strategies;***

Or. it

**Amendment 8**  
**Nadezhda Neynsky**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. Calls for unbiased and successful prosecutions and court rulings in combating corruption, including in high-profile cases, in order to enhance citizens' trust in the rule of law and public institutions; invites the relevant authorities to improve interinstitutional cooperation, raise public awareness and develop capacities for planning, enforcing and monitoring anti-corruption rules and activities, as well as to cooperate closely with the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and to engage closely with state independent bodies, such as anti-corruption agencies;

*Amendment*

3. Calls for ***a track-record of*** unbiased and successful prosecutions and court rulings in combating corruption, including in high-profile cases, in order to enhance citizens' trust in the rule of law and public institutions; invites the relevant authorities to improve interinstitutional cooperation, ***especially with law-enforcement structures***, raise public awareness and develop capacities for planning, enforcing and monitoring anti-corruption rules and activities, as well as to cooperate closely with the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and to engage closely with state independent bodies, such as anti-corruption agencies;

Or. en

**Amendment 9**  
**Eduard Kukan**

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

*Draft opinion*

4. Regrets the fact that ***IPA-I funding levels still appear*** limited when set against the importance of these areas; considers it essential ***in the future financing of*** these areas under IPA-II that progress in meeting specific objectives on an independent and efficient judiciary, the rule of law and combating corruption, including their implementation, should be monitored and assessed on the basis of measurable indicators.

*Amendment*

4. Regrets the fact that ***funding under IPA-I appears to be*** limited when set against the importance of these areas; ***observes, however, weak absorption capacity of IPA-I in the areas of rule of law in some candidate and potential candidate countries;*** considers it essential ***to improve the management of pre-accession funding in*** these areas under IPA-II ***and underlines*** that progress in meeting specific objectives on an

independent and efficient judiciary, the rule of law and combating corruption, including their implementation, should be monitored and assessed on the basis of measurable indicators

Or. en

**Amendment 10**  
**Nadezhda Neynsky**

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

*Draft opinion*

4. Regrets the fact that IPA-I funding levels still appear limited when set against the importance of these areas; considers it essential in the future financing of these areas under IPA-II that progress in meeting specific objectives on an independent and efficient judiciary, the rule of law and combating corruption, including their implementation, should be monitored and assessed on the basis of *measurable* indicators.

*Amendment*

4. Regrets the fact that IPA-I funding levels still appear limited when set against the importance of these areas; considers it essential in the future financing of these areas under IPA-II that progress in meeting specific objectives on an independent and efficient judiciary, the rule of law and combating corruption, including their implementation, should be monitored and assessed on the basis of *quantitative and qualitative* indicators.

Or. en

**Amendment 11**  
**Maria Eleni Koppa**

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

*Draft opinion*

4. Regrets the fact that IPA-I funding levels still appear limited when set against the importance of these areas; considers it essential in the future financing of these areas under IPA-II that progress in meeting specific objectives on an independent and

*Amendment*

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efficient judiciary, the rule of law and combating corruption, including their implementation, should be monitored and assessed on the basis of measurable indicators.

efficient judiciary, the rule of law and combating corruption, including their implementation, should be monitored and assessed on the basis of measurable indicators; *considers it also important to provide for a performance incentive under IPA-II to reward the performance in making substantial progress in meeting the relevant objectives specified in the strategy papers;*

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Marietje Schaake, Jelko Kacin**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4 a. Considers freedom of the press and media and digital freedom to be a crucial check on power and an important component in the fight against corruption, both by providing a platform for freedom of expression and by providing the public with access to information; calls, therefore, for these freedoms to be actively pursued through programs under IPA, aimed both at governments, citizens and press and media outlets;*

Or. en

**Amendment 13**  
**Marietje Schaake, Jelko Kacin**

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

***4 b. Underlines that the Parliament should be actively involved in the supervision of the allocation and spending of pre-accession funds in the candidate and potential candidate countries in all areas, including judicial systems and the fight against corruption; stresses, therefore, that the Parliament should be kept informed on the implementation of the IPA and the allocation of funds for candidate and potential candidate countries;***

Or. en