



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Budgets

2013/2081(INI)

27.6.2013

OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs

on the Annual Report from the Council to the European Parliament on the
Common Foreign and Security Policy in 2012
(2013/2081(INI))

Rapporteur: Nadezhda Neynsky

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Budgets calls on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Notes that the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) outturn in 2011 was EUR 332 million, or 3.54 % of total heading 4 appropriations; notes the 93.12 % implementation of commitment and payment appropriations available for this policy by December 2012; remains concerned, however, at the fact that the mandates for the EU rule of law mission in Kosovo and the monitoring mission in Georgia for the period 2012-2013 were renewed by the Council with a lower budget than expected;
2. Warns, in view of the overall good implementation rate, against unjustified cuts to the CFSP budget in the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) that would undermine the effectiveness and impact of this policy;
3. Remains concerned about the problems in starting Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions, such as delays in planning and deployment, staff shortages, financial planning and implementation difficulties, issues regarding the status of CFSP agreements with third countries and start-up difficulties; requests that a follow-up mechanism be created to ensure that such recurring problems are addressed together;
4. Reiterates its concerns regarding parliamentary scrutiny of the CFSP budget, the budget's transparency and the use of the Athena mechanism for CSDP operations; welcomes efforts to undertake a clear breakdown of all items financed within the CFSP budget, including for each CSDP operation, each EU special representative and each other attendant policy, as long as this does not detract from the flexibility and responsiveness required for the CFSP; reiterates its position that the total amount of operating CFSP expenditure should be entered entirely in one budget chapter, entitled CFSP, and distributed between the articles of the CFSP budget;
5. Recalls the importance of creating synergies and avoiding overlaps between existing policies and new initiatives, and welcomes the efforts to promote civil-military synergies and consistency between CFSP actions; takes the view that, in order to be consistent with the EU's own values, EU foreign policy and external action must give a clear indication of the instruments and financial allocations to be used towards each of the EU's priorities on peace-building, promoting democracy and the rule of law, good governance and fair societies; in this connection, highlights the importance of the Instrument for Stability as the EU's strategic tool for addressing a number of global security and development challenges;
6. Stresses the need to make use of the enhanced flexibility provided by the new financial regulation and to speed up the delivery of aid in crisis situations and in situations of imminent or immediate danger threatening to escalate into armed conflict or to destabilise a country, giving priority to crisis situations, whereby early engagement by the EU would be of major importance in promoting conflict prevention.
7. Calls, in this connection, on the Commission to present, in accordance with Article 54(2), delegated acts concerning detailed rules for the financing of preparatory measures in the

field of CFSP.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	27.6.2013
Result of final vote	+ : 16 - : 1 0 : 0
Members present for the final vote	Marta Andreasen, Jean Louis Cottigny, Jean-Luc Dehaene, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazábal Rubial, Jens Geier, Jutta Haug, Monika Hohlmeier, Sidonia Elżbieta Jędrzejewska, Giovanni La Via, Claudio Morganti, Jan Mulder, Dominique Riquet, Alda Sousa, Helga Trüpel, Derek Vaughan
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Georgios Stavrakakis