



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

2011/0269(COD)

7.6.2012

OPINION

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council
on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (2014-2020)
(COM(2011)0608 – C7-0319/2011 – 2011/0269(COD))

Rapporteur: Vilija Blinkevičiūtė

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AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality calls on the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation Recital 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1a) Respect for gender equality is confirmed throughout the Europe 2020 strategy to be one of Union's core values, stressing the need to promote gender equality policies in order to increase labour force participation and to contribute to growth and social cohesion. Its flagship initiative 'An Agenda for new skills and jobs' notes that Member States are to promote new forms of work-life balance and gender equality. Additionally, the Commission, in 2010, adopted a strategy for promoting equality between women and men in Europe aiming, in particular, to make better use of women's potential, thereby contributing to the Union's overall economic and social goals.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4a) The detrimental effect of job losses is exacerbated for certain groups who find reintegration into the labour market more difficult, particularly for low-skilled or unskilled female workers, single mothers and women with caring responsibilities.

The financial and economic crisis and its impact on reduced public sector funding in turn has led to the further loss of jobs and to further insecurity for millions of women, notably those on temporary or part-time contracts and engaged in seasonal work. Equal access to EGF therefore should apply to all employment contracts.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5a) In accordance with Articles 8 and 10 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Commission and the Member States should ensure that the implementation of the priorities, financed by the EGF contribute to the promotion of equality between men and women, taking into account, in addition, the European Pact for Gender Equality 2011-2020.

Effective implementation of the principle of equality between men and women should include data and indicators broken down by sex, gender equality objectives and criteria, involving gender equality bodies in various stages of implementation, in particular in planning, monitoring and evaluation.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation Recital 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7a) In order to protect the gender dimension of the EGF, special attention should be paid to women who are forced

to accept casual, part-time and temporary jobs due to the numerous breaks they have to take for maternity reasons and to look after children and elderly members of the family.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

(10) When drawing up the coordinated package of active labour market policy measures, Member States should favour measures that will significantly contribute to the employability of the redundant workers. Member States should strive towards the reintegration into employment or new activities of at least 50 % of the targeted workers within 12 months of *the date of application*.

Amendment

(10) When drawing up the coordinated package of active labour market policy measures, Member States should favour measures that will significantly contribute to the employability of the redundant workers. Member States should strive towards the reintegration into employment or new activities of at least 50 % of the targeted workers within 12 months of *receiving assistance*.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation Article 1 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

Actions benefiting from financial contributions by the Fund pursuant to Article 2(a) and (b) shall aim to ensure that a minimum of 50 % of workers participating in these actions find stable employment within a year *from the date of application*.

Amendment

Actions benefiting from financial contributions by the Fund pursuant to Article 2(a) and (b) shall aim to ensure that a minimum of 50 % of workers participating in these actions find stable employment within a year *of receiving assistance*.

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – point -a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(- a) 'the principle of equal treatment between men and women' means that there shall be no discrimination whatsoever on grounds of sex in various stages of the implementation of the financial contribution, in particular in selecting target groups, establishing criteria, indicators and beneficiaries;

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) special time-limited measures, such as job-search allowances, employers' recruitment incentives, mobility allowances, subsistence or training allowances (including allowances for ***carers*** or farm relief services), all of which limited to the duration of the documented active job search or life-long learning or training activities;

(b) special time-limited measures, such as job-search allowances, employers' recruitment incentives, mobility allowances, subsistence or training allowances (including allowances for ***child care and care for other dependents***, or farm relief services), all of which limited to the duration of the documented active job search or life-long learning or training activities;

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c) measures to stimulate in particular disadvantaged or older workers to remain in or return to the labour market.

(c) measures to stimulate in particular disadvantaged workers ***and those who are at higher risk of poverty, such as women – especially single mothers*** – or older workers to remain in or return to the labour

market.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation

Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ca) financial measures, for example instruments such as micro-credit, to support workers who are in a particularly vulnerable condition, such as people with disabilities, single mothers and the elderly.

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation

Article 7 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The costs of the measures under (b) may not exceed 50 % of the total costs of the coordinated package of personalised services listed in this paragraph.

deleted

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c) the identification, where applicable, of the dismissing enterprises, suppliers or downstream producers, sectors, and the categories of targeted workers;

(c) the identification, where applicable, of the dismissing enterprises, suppliers or downstream producers, sectors, and the categories of targeted workers ***using gender segregated data;***

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation Article 10

Text proposed by the Commission

The Commission and the Member States shall ensure that equality between men and women and the integration of the gender perspective are promoted during the various stages of the implementation of the financial contribution. ***The Commission and the Member State shall take appropriate steps to prevent any discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age, sexual orientation and type of contract of employment or employment relationship in access to and during the various stages of the implementation of the financial contribution.***

Amendment

The Commission and the Member States ***shall apply the principle of equal treatment between men and women, which means that they shall not tolerate any discrimination whatsoever on grounds of sex, and that they*** shall ensure that equality between men and women and the integration of the gender perspective are promoted during the various stages of the implementation of the financial contribution, ***in particular when selecting target groups and establishing criteria and indicators and beneficiaries.***

The Commission and the Member State shall take appropriate steps to prevent any discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age, sexual orientation and type of contract of employment or employment relationship in access to and during the various stages of the implementation of the financial contribution.

In applying for and using resources from the European Globalisation Fund, Member States shall particularly support the more vulnerable groups in society, including women, in whose case the significant gender pay gap also affects the amount of employment insurance benefits, while long-term unemployment further reduces pensions.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation Article 14

Text proposed by the Commission

Expenditure shall be eligible for a financial contribution from the dates set out in Article 8(2)(**h**) on which the Member State starts the personalised services to the targeted workers or the administrative expenditure to implement the EGF in accordance with Article 7(1) and (3) respectively. In the case of farmers, expenditure shall be eligible for a contribution from the date set in the delegated act taken in accordance with Article 4(3).

Amendment

Expenditure shall be eligible for a financial contribution from the dates set out in Article 8(2)(**f**) on which the Member State starts the personalised services to the targeted workers or the administrative expenditure to implement the EGF in accordance with Article 7(1) and (3) respectively. In the case of farmers, expenditure shall be eligible for a contribution from the date set in the delegated act taken in accordance with Article 4(3).

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation Article 18 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

No later than 15 months after the date of the application pursuant to Article 8(1) or by the date laid down in the delegated act taken in accordance with Article 4(3) the Member State shall present an interim report to the Commission on the implementation of the financial contribution, including on the funding, timing and type of actions already carried out and on the rate of reintegration into employment or new activities achieved 12 months after the date of the application.

Amendment

No later than 15 months after the date of the application pursuant to Article 8(1) or by the date laid down in the delegated act taken in accordance with Article 4(3) the Member State shall present an interim report to the Commission on the implementation of the financial contribution, including on the funding, timing and type of actions already carried out and on the rate of reintegration into employment, ***with particular reference to the gender dimension***, or new activities achieved 12 months after the date of the application.

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation

Article 18 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) a description of the actions taken and planned by the national, regional or local authorities, Union Funds, social partners and enterprises, including an estimate of how these contribute to the reintegration of the workers into employment or new activities.

Amendment

(b) a description of the actions taken and planned by the national, regional or local authorities, Union Funds, social partners and enterprises, including an estimate of how these contribute to the reintegration of the workers into employment or new activities ***and to the principle of equal treatment between men and women.***

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation

Article 18 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3a. Whenever possible, data shall be segregated (broken down) by sex.

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation

Article 19 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. By 1 August of every second year, and for the first time in 2015, the Commission shall present to the European Parliament and to the Council a quantitative and qualitative report on the activities under this Regulation and Regulation 1927/2006 in the previous two years. The report shall focus mainly on the results achieved by the EGF and shall in particular contain information relating to applications submitted, decisions adopted, actions funded, ***including their*** complementarity with actions funded by other Union Funds,

1. By 1 August of every second year, and for the first time in 2015, the Commission shall present to the European Parliament and to the Council a quantitative and qualitative report on the activities under this Regulation and Regulation 1927/2006 in the previous two years. The report shall focus mainly on the results achieved by the EGF and shall in particular contain information relating to applications submitted, decisions adopted ***and*** actions funded, ***as well as information relating to activities that pursue the objective of***

notably the European Social Fund (ESF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), **and the winding-up of financial contributions made**. It *should* also document those applications that have been rejected or reduced owing to a lack of sufficient appropriations or to non-eligibility.

equality between men and women, information and statistics on the reintegration rate for workers, with particular reference to the more vulnerable categories such as women and the elderly, and the winding-up of financial contributions made. In that regard, the report shall include an assessment of the complementarity of such actions and activities with actions funded by other Union Funds, notably the European Social Fund (ESF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), . It **shall** also document those applications that have been rejected or reduced owing to a lack of sufficient appropriations or to non-eligibility. **All data in the report where possible shall be segregated (broken) down by sex.**

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation Article 20 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) by 31 December 2022, an ex-post evaluation with the assistance of external experts, to measure the impact of the EGF and its added value.

Amendment

(b) by 31 December 2022, an ex-post evaluation with the assistance of external experts, **including gender equality experts**, to measure the impact of the EGF and its added value.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) verifying that management and control arrangements have been set up and are being implemented in such a way as to ensure that Union funds are being used efficiently and correctly, in accordance

Amendment

(a) verifying that management and control arrangements have been set up and are being implemented in such a way as to ensure that Union funds are being used efficiently and correctly, in accordance

with the principles of sound financial management;

with the principles of sound financial management *and of equal treatment between men and women*;

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1a. While carrying out management and financial control, Member States shall ensure that monitoring bodies include gender equality experts.

PROCEDURE

Title	European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (2014 - 2020)	
References	COM(2011)0608 – C7-0319/2011 – 2011/0269(COD)	
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	EMPL 25.10.2011	
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	FEMM 25.10.2011	
Rapporteur Date appointed	Vilija Blinkevičiūtė 22.11.2011	
Discussed in committee	27.3.2012	30.5.2012
Date adopted	30.5.2012	
Result of final vote	+: 24	–: 0
	0:	0
Members present for the final vote	Regina Bastos, Andrea Češková, Iratxe García Pérez, Mikael Gustafsson, Mary Honeyball, Livia Járóka, Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio, Nicole Kiil-Nielsen, Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou, Astrid Lulling, Elisabeth Morin-Chartier, Siiri Oviir, Antonia Parvanova, Joanna Senyszyn, Joanna Katarzyna Skrzydlewska, Britta Thomsen, Angelika Werthmann, Inês Cristina Zuber	
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Franziska Katharina Brantner, Minodora Cliveti, Mojca Kleva, Ana Miranda, Norica Nicolai, Antigoni Papadopoulou	