**Petras Auštrevičius (ALDE).** – Mr President, I support the proposed reform of the European Union system of own resources which, among other things, addresses the Brexit budget gap arising after the UK’s withdrawal. Currently, national contributions based on the GNI resource represent around 83% of overall EU revenue which, regrettably, results in the ‘fewer returns’ logic which hijacks budgetary discussions in the Council, as everybody knows exactly how much they have put in.

The new own resources system will significantly reduce national contributions by Member States and would use a basket approach, reinforcing EU policies with added value. I believe this proposal would not only lead to more transparency, but, as well, a better understanding of the Union’s budget to all our citizens.