



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

---

*Committee on International Trade*

---

**2014/2040(BUD)**

24.7.2014

# DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on International Trade

for the Committee on Budgets

on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015 - all sections  
(2014/2040(BUD))

Rapporteur: Reimer Böge

PA\_NonLeg

## SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Stresses that it should be ensured that the budgetary line devoted to the Union's trade policy area should provide for sufficient appropriations for the Commission to efficiently pursue its ambitious trade agenda, contributing directly to growth and jobs; moreover, considers that the appropriations should be complemented by adequate reallocations of resources and staff, if necessary;
2. Welcomes the increase in appropriations for the Instrument for Macro-Financial Assistance after a sharp decrease in the previous budgetary exercise;
3. Deplores the decrease in the appropriations for the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI); points out that such a decrease will undermine the EU's capacity to stabilise and assist its neighbouring countries, including those with whom the Union has already concluded deep and comprehensive free trade agreements (DCFTAs) as well as with those it is currently negotiating;
4. Welcomes the slight increase in the appropriations for the Development Cooperation Instrument, including Aid for Trade, and the increase in the modest appropriation in Aid for Trade - Multilateral action;
5. Supports the extension into 2015 of the Preparatory Action "Euromed innovation entrepreneurs for change";
6. Notes that the EU business centres in Asia will be funded by the Partnership Instrument (PI); points to concerns regarding the way these business centres carry out their activities, in particular in terms of outreach to SMEs, sustainability, and complementarities with existing public and private structures of the EU and of Members States; encourages, therefore, that a significant reserve of the payment appropriations for these centres will be set aside until such time that these concerns have been adequately addressed.