



2017/2121(INI)

10.10.2017

OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs

on the annual report on the implementation of the common foreign and security
policy
(2017/2121(INI))

Rapporteur: Jean Arthuis

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Notes that while the budgetary appropriations adopted under the common foreign and security policy (CFSP) for 2016 amounted to EUR 326.8 million in commitments and EUR 298.1 million in payments, the proportion of transfers from the CFSP chapter reached an unprecedented EUR 124.4 million in commitments and EUR 69 million in payments in 2016;
2. Notes that following the approval of transfer of appropriations No DEC 07/2017 worth EUR 85 million from the CFSP chapter to the EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey and the increase in planned consumption, the CFSP will be running an estimated deficit of EUR 55.6 million until the end of 2017, if all the planned operations are approved;
3. Recalls that CFSP appropriations represented 3.6 % of the Heading 4 commitments in 2016 and 0.2 % of the whole EU budget; regrets that the size and under-implementation of and systematic transfers from the CFSP chapter reveal a persistent lack of ambition for the EU to act as a global player;
4. Reiterates its call for the full utilisation of the Treaty tools for raising funds under the CFSP and the common security and defence policy (CSDP), namely Permanent Structured Cooperation and the start-up fund for the initial phase of the missions; reiterates the need for synergies in order to improve cost efficiency; believes that EU defence cooperation must be strengthened by looking for further avenues for the joint purchase, maintenance and upkeep of forces and material, as this would boost EU assets and capabilities and potentially have positive effects on defence research and industrial matters; notes that owing to Member States' financial constraints there should be more coordination and clearer decisions about which capabilities to maintain, so that Member States can specialise in certain capabilities; calls on the Member States to review and broaden substantially the Athena financing mechanism and to take full advantage of the cooperative projects proposed by the European Defence Agency (EDA), provided that they generate added value for the EU;
5. Calls on the Commission to fully reflect the growing security challenges in its proposal for the next multiannual financial framework; considers that both the size and the flexibility of the CFSP budget must match, inter alia, EU citizens' expectations on the EU's role as a security provider, and the likely challenges and opportunities for the EU's standing as a strategic actor following Brexit; insists on the need for a global vision for EU policy and instruments in the field of security, including fruitful coordination with the proposed European Defence Fund; calls on the Member States to aim for the target of spending 2 % of GDP on defence, and to spend 20 % of their defence budgets on equipment identified as necessary by the EDA; points out, in addition, that any new policy must be backed by funding from new sources;
6. Notes that while the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia, EULEX Kosovo and EUPOL Afghanistan are historically the only missions with their own budgetary lines, more important missions from a budgetary point of view, such as EUCAP Somalia, EUCAP Sahel Niger and EUAM Ukraine, all fall under the generic line; considers that, in order to

respect the principles of transparency and specification, appropriations concerning single major missions should be entered as separate budget lines of the CFSP chapter.

INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	10.10.2017
Result of final vote	+: 25 -: 10 0: 1
Members present for the final vote	Nedzhmi Ali, Jonathan Arnott, Jean Arthuis, Richard Ashworth, Reimer Böge, Lefteris Christoforou, Manuel dos Santos, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Jens Geier, Ingeborg Gräßle, Monika Hohlmeier, John Howarth, Bernd Kölmel, Siegfried Mureşan, Liadh Ní Riada, Jan Olbrycht, Urmas Paet, Pina Picierno, Răzvan Popa, Paul Rübig, Jordi Solé, Patricija Šulin, Eleftherios Synadinos, Indrek Tarand, Isabelle Thomas, Inese Vaidere, Monika Vana, Daniele Viotti, Tiemo Wölken, Stanisław Żółtek
Substitutes present for the final vote	Andrey Novakov, Derek Vaughan, Tomáš Zdechovský
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Marie-Pierre Vieu, Auke Zijlstra

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

25	+
ALDE	Nedzhmi Ali, Jean Arthuis, Urmas Paet
PPE	Reimer Böge, Lefteris Christoforou, José Manuel Fernandes, Ingeborg Gräßle, Monika Hohlmeier, Siegfried Mureşan, Andrey Novakov, Jan Olbrycht, Paul Rübig, Patricija Šulin, Inese Vaidere, Tomáš Zdechovský
S&D	Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Jens Geier, John Howarth, Pina Picierno, Răzvan Popa, Isabelle Thomas, Derek Vaughan, Daniele Viotti, Tiemo Wölken, Manuel dos Santos

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ECR	Richard Ashworth, Bernd Kölmel
EFDD	Jonathan Arnott
ENF	Auke Zijlstra, Stanisław Żółtek,
GUE/NGL	Liadh Ní Riada, Marie-Pierre Vieu
NI	Eleftherios Synadinos
VERTS/ALE	Jordi Solé, Monika Vana

1	0
VERTS/ALE	Indrek Tarand

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention