



2017/2053(INI)

15.9.2017

AMENDMENTS

1 - 30

Draft opinion

Mercedes Bresso

(PE609.360v01-00)

Reform of the European Union's system of own resources
(2017/2053(INI))

AM_Com_NonLegOpinion

Amendment 1
Cristian Dan Preda

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Recalls that the current system of own resources contradicts the **letter and spirit** of the Treaties **in two major ways: firstly, in** that Article 310(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) stipulates that the Union shall not adopt any act that would have budgetary implications without providing assurance that such expenditure can be financed within the limit of the Union's own resources, and secondly, in that Article 311 of the TFEU stipulates that the Union budget shall be financed wholly from own resources, **while** in practice the majority of **its** revenue comes from national contributions in the form of a percentage of GNI (69.1 %) and VAT (12.4 %);

Amendment

1. **Reiterates its strong support for a comprehensive reform of the European Union's system of own resources**; recalls that the current system of own resources contradicts the spirit of the Treaties **given that** that Article 310(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) stipulates that the Union shall not adopt any act that would have budgetary implications without providing assurance that such expenditure can be financed within the limit of the Union's own resources, and secondly, in that Article 311 of the TFEU stipulates that the Union budget shall be financed wholly from own resources; **underlines that, nevertheless**, in practice the majority of **the EU's** revenue comes from national contributions in the form of a percentage of GNI (69.1 %) and VAT (12.4 %), **which are not perceived as genuine own resources, as they've lead to a zero-sum game between the Member States**;

Or. en

Amendment 2
Richard Corbett

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Recalls that the current system of own resources contradicts the **letter and spirit** of the Treaties in two major ways:

Amendment

1. Recalls that the current system of own resources contradicts the spirit of the Treaties in two major ways: firstly, in that

firstly, in that Article 310(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) stipulates that the Union shall not adopt any act that would have budgetary implications without providing assurance that such expenditure can be financed within the limit of the Union's own resources, and secondly, in that Article 311 of the TFEU stipulates that the Union budget shall be financed wholly from own resources, while in practice the majority of its revenue comes from national contributions in the form of a percentage of GNI (69.1 %) and VAT (12.4 %);

Article 310(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) stipulates that the Union shall not adopt any act that would have budgetary implications without providing assurance that such expenditure can be financed within the limit of the Union's own resources, and secondly, in that Article 311 of the TFEU stipulates that the Union budget shall be financed wholly from own resources, while in practice the majority of its revenue comes from national contributions in the form of a percentage of GNI (69.1 %) and VAT (12.4 %);

Or. en

Amendment 3
Kostas Chrysogonos

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Stresses that the current system of own resources is characterised by a considerable degree of complexity and lack of transparency; calls therefore on the EU institutions and the Member States to tackle these shortcomings efficiently and constructively;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Morten Messerschmidt
on behalf of the ECR Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

Amendment

2. *Insists on the use of the passerelle clause enshrined in Article 48(7) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) to switch from voting by unanimity to qualified majority voting (QMV) and the ordinary legislative procedure for the adoption of own resources, thus putting Parliament on an equal footing with the Council when it comes to decision-making on both the revenue and expenditure sides of the EU budget;*

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 5
Cristian Dan Preda

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. *Insists on the use of the passerelle clause enshrined in Article 48(7) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) to switch from voting by unanimity to qualified majority voting (QMV) and the ordinary legislative procedure for the adoption of own resources, thus putting Parliament on an equal footing with the Council when it comes to decision-making on both the revenue and expenditure sides of the EU budget;*

Amendment

2. *Considers that the Parliament role in the procedure for the adoption of own resources should be reinforced; insists that a thorough reflection should take place on the legal aspects of putting the Parliament on an equal footing with the Council when it comes to decision-making on both the revenue and expenditure sides of the EU budget;*

Or. en

Amendment 6
Mercedes Bresso

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

Amendment

2. ***Insists on the use of the passerelle clause enshrined in Article 48(7) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) to*** switch from voting by unanimity to qualified majority voting (QMV) and the ordinary legislative procedure for the adoption of own resources, ***thus putting*** Parliament on an equal footing with the Council when it comes to decision-making on both the revenue and expenditure sides of the EU budget;

2. ***Believes that a*** switch from voting by unanimity to qualified majority voting (QMV) and the ordinary legislative procedure for the adoption of own resources, ***would put*** Parliament on an equal footing with the Council when it comes to decision-making on both the revenue and expenditure sides of the EU budget;

Or. en

Amendment 7
Danuta Maria Hübner

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Insists on the use of the passerelle clause enshrined in Article 48(7) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) to switch from voting by unanimity to qualified majority voting (QMV) and the ordinary legislative procedure for the adoption of own resources, ***thus putting*** Parliament ***on an equal footing with*** the Council ***when it comes to*** decision-making on both the revenue and expenditure sides of the EU budget;

Amendment

2. Insists on the use of the passerelle clause enshrined in Article 48(7) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) to switch from voting by unanimity to qualified majority voting (QMV) and the ordinary legislative procedure for the adoption of own resources, ***thereby giving*** Parliament ***and*** the Council ***equal rights in*** decision-making on both the revenue and expenditure sides of the EU budget;

Or. en

Amendment 8
Kostas Chrysogonos

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. *Notes that the EU budget and its financing should be more transparent and readable for citizens, so that the benefits of the EU, and not only its costs, are made visible; takes the view that this would improve the overall accountability of the EU budget;*

Or. en

Amendment 9
Morten Messerschmidt
on behalf of the ECR Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Takes note of the opportunity presented by Brexit to reconsider the current system of rebates and corrections, which are not only contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaties, but which have also proven to shift the focus of discussions from the European added value of the EU budget to the ‘net balance’ effect on the contributions of Member States;

Amendment

3. Takes note of the opportunity presented by Brexit to ***deeply reform the structural fund system, entrust the national Courts and Parliament to examine and evaluate the execution of the budget and expenses in their country,*** reconsider the current system of rebates and corrections, which are not only contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaties, but which have also proven to shift the focus of discussions from the European added value of the EU budget to the ‘net balance’ effect on the contributions of Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 10
Cristian Dan Preda

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

Amendment

3. ***Takes note of*** the opportunity presented by Brexit to ***reconsider*** the current system of rebates and corrections, which are not only contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaties, but which have also proven to shift the focus of discussions from the European added value of the EU budget to the ‘net balance’ effect on the contributions of Member States;

3. ***Underlines the importance of using*** the opportunity presented by Brexit to ***abolish*** the current system of rebates and corrections, which are not only contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaties, but which have also proven to shift the focus of discussions from the European added value of the EU budget to the ‘net balance’ effect on the contributions of Member States, ***which overlooks benefits of European budget that are not measurable on short-term;***

Or. en

Amendment 11

Jasenکو Selimovic, Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz, Charles Goerens

Draft opinion Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. ***Takes note of*** the opportunity presented by Brexit to reconsider the current system of rebates and corrections, which are not only contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaties, but which have also proven to shift the focus of discussions from the European added value of the EU budget to the ‘net balance’ effect on the contributions of Member States;

Amendment

3. ***Encourages the Member States and the European Commission to seize*** the opportunity presented by Brexit to reconsider the current system of rebates and corrections, which are not only contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaties, but which have also proven to shift the focus of discussions from the European added value of the EU budget to the ‘net balance’ effect on the contributions of Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 12

Pascal Durand

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft opinion Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Takes note of the opportunity presented by Brexit to ***reconsider the current system of*** rebates and corrections, which are not only contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaties, but which have also proven to shift the focus of discussions from the European added value of the EU budget to the ‘net balance’ effect on the contributions of Member States;

Amendment

3. Takes note of the opportunity presented by Brexit to ***get rid of all*** rebates and corrections, which are not only contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaties, but which have also proven to shift the focus of discussions from the European added value of the EU budget to the ‘net balance’ effect on the contributions of Member States ***without taking into account the spill over effects of the EU budget***;

Or. en

Amendment 13
Richard Corbett

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Takes note of the opportunity presented by Brexit to reconsider the current system of rebates and corrections, which are not only contrary to the ***letter and*** spirit of the Treaties, but which have also proven to shift the focus of discussions from the European added value of the EU budget to the ‘net balance’ effect on the contributions of Member States;

Amendment

3. Takes note of the opportunity presented by Brexit to reconsider the current system of rebates and corrections, which are not only contrary to the spirit of the Treaties, but which have also proven to shift the focus of discussions from the European added value of the EU budget to the ‘net balance’ effect on the contributions of Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 14
Morten Messerschmidt

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Notes that the EU's powers are founded on the principle of representation of interests of Member States and according to the Art. 311 TFEU the adoption of provisions relating to the system of own EU resources requires a unanimous decision by the Council and approval by every Member States, thus retaining their fiscal sovereignty.

Or. en

Amendment 15

Jasenکو Selimovic, Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz, Charles Goerens

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Stresses that the EU budget should be endowed with a system of genuine own resources, following the recommendations of the High Level Group on Own Resources;

Or. en

Amendment 16

Jasenکو Selimovic, Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz, Charles Goerens

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3b. Underlines that in times of scarce public resources but growing financial needs, the EU budget needs to focus on areas bringing the highest 'European added value', or on European public goods for which action at EU level is not only relevant, but indispensable;

Amendment 17

Jasenکو Selimovic, Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz, Charles Goerens

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3c. *Calls on the Commission to start a reflection on how funds directly generated by EU policies could become revenues for the EU budget, such as revenues from auctions under the Emissions Trading System, emissions premiums for cars as well as revenues from the future European Travel Information and Authorisation System;*

Or. en

Amendment 18

Morten Messerschmidt

on behalf of the ECR Group

Draft opinion

Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

Amendment

4. Believes that any reform of the system of own resources should be based on the principles of ***subsidiary*** and comprehensibility for European citizens;

4. Believes that any reform of the system of own resources should be based on the principles of ***subsidiary*** and comprehensibility for European citizens, ***that implies in particular the refusal of EU taxation, to lay down in the Treaty a ceiling of EU expenditure at 1% of the GDP and to broadly involve national Parliaments and Court of auditors in the discussion on their national contributions and EU expenses made on their territory.***

Or. en

Amendment 19
Danuta Maria Hübner

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Believes that any reform of the system of own resources should be based on the principles of *subsidiary* and comprehensibility for European citizens;

Amendment

4. Believes that any reform of the system of own resources should be based on the principles of *subsidiarity* and comprehensibility for European citizens; *recalls the principles listed in the Monti report and used by the High Level Group on Own Resources to assess possible new own resources and takes the view that they constitute useful guidance for the reflection on the reforms;*

Or. en

Amendment 20
Cristian Dan Preda

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Believes that any reform of the system of own resources should be based on the principles of *subsidiary and* comprehensibility for European citizens;

Amendment

4. Believes that any reform of the system of own resources should be based on the principles of *fairness, stability and unity, subsidiary*, comprehensibility for European citizens *and visibility; underlines moreover the importance of ensuring sufficient revenues to the EU budget in order for the EU policies to be adequately and credibly financed, in particular after Brexit;*

Or. en

Amendment 21

Pascal Durand

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft opinion

Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Believes that any reform of the system of own resources should be based on the principles of subsidiary and comprehensibility for European citizens;

Amendment

4. Believes that any reform of the system of own resources should be based on the principles of subsidiary, ***solidarity***, ***sustainability*** and comprehensibility for European citizens;

Or. en

Amendment 22

Morten Messerschmidt

Draft opinion

Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Believes that a reform of the EU own resources system should center on more efficient use of EU financial means, improved democratic control over the EU budget, and respect of the subsidiarity principle, which provides Member States with a right to decide about sources of financing for their contributions they pay to EU budget.

Or. en

Amendment 23

Danuta Maria Hübner

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

Amendment

5. Considers that reform on the revenue side should go hand in hand with reform on the expenditure side *to ensure* a visible link *with* EU policies and priorities and *to support* EU policies in key areas of EU competence, such as the single market, environmental protection and climate action, energy union, and reducing fiscal heterogeneity in the single market, as recommended in the Monti report¹ ;

¹ Final report and recommendations of the High Level Group on Own Resources on the future financing of the EU, adopted in December 2016

5. Considers that reform on the revenue side should go hand in hand with reform on the expenditure side *in order to increase the European added value of EU expenditure by ensuring* a visible link *between EU expenditures and* EU policies and priorities and *supporting* EU policies in key areas of EU competence, such as the single market, environmental protection and climate action, energy union, and reducing fiscal heterogeneity in the single market, as recommended in the Monti report¹ ;

¹ Final report and recommendations of the High Level Group on Own Resources on the future financing of the EU, adopted in December 2016

Or. en

Amendment 24 **Cristian Dan Preda**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 5**

Draft opinion

5. Considers that reform on the revenue side should go hand in hand with reform on the expenditure side to ensure a visible link with EU policies and priorities and to support EU policies in key areas of EU competence, such as the single market, environmental protection and climate action, energy union, and reducing fiscal heterogeneity in the single market, as recommended in the Monti report¹ ;

Amendment

5. Considers that reform on the revenue side should go hand in hand with reform on the expenditure side to ensure a visible link with EU policies and priorities and to support EU policies in key areas of EU competence, such as the single market, environmental protection and climate action, energy union, and reducing fiscal heterogeneity in the single market, as recommended in the Monti report¹; *draws attention, moreover, to the importance of prioritizing policy areas with a high potential for added value at the European level at the economic, political and social levels, such as research and development and internal and external security;*

¹ Final report and recommendations of the High Level Group on Own Resources on the future financing of the EU, adopted in December 2016

¹ Final report and recommendations of the High Level Group on Own Resources on the future financing of the EU, adopted in December 2016

Or. en

Amendment 25

Morten Messerschmidt

on behalf of the ECR Group

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers that reform on the revenue side should go hand in hand with reform on the expenditure side to ensure a visible link with EU policies and priorities and to support EU policies in key areas of EU competence, such as the single market, environmental protection and climate action, energy union, and reducing fiscal heterogeneity in the single market, as recommended in the Monti report¹ ;

¹ Final report and recommendations of the High Level Group on Own Resources on the future financing of the EU, adopted in December 2016

Amendment

5. Considers that reform on the revenue side should go hand in hand with reform on the expenditure side to ensure a visible link with EU policies and priorities and to support EU policies in key areas of EU competence, such as the single market, environmental protection and climate action, energy union, and reducing fiscal heterogeneity in the single market, as recommended in the Monti report¹ ; ***by such a reform national Court of auditors and Parliaments should be entrusted to investigate and deliver an opinion on the execution of the budget and EU expenditure in their territory ;***

¹ Final report and recommendations of the High Level Group on Own Resources on the future financing of the EU, adopted in December 2016

Or. en

Amendment 26

Paulo Rangel

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers that reform on the revenue side should go hand in hand with reform on the expenditure side to ensure a visible link with EU policies and priorities and to support EU policies in key areas of EU competence, such as the single market, environmental protection and climate action, energy union, and reducing fiscal heterogeneity in the single market, as recommended in the Monti report¹;

¹ Final report and recommendations of the High Level Group on Own Resources on the future financing of the EU, adopted in December 2016

Amendment

5. Considers that reform on the revenue side should go hand in hand with reform on the expenditure side to ensure a visible link with EU policies and priorities and to support EU policies in key areas of EU competence, such as the single market, environmental protection and climate action, energy union, ***common defence policy***, and reducing fiscal heterogeneity in the single market, as recommended in the Monti report¹;

¹ Final report and recommendations of the High Level Group on Own Resources on the future financing of the EU, adopted in December 2016

Or. pt

Amendment 27
Danuta Maria Hübner

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Recalls, when conducting the future reforms, the importance of preserving the unity of the European budget and limiting the use of programmes and vehicles that run parallel to the European budget, confining those to strictly justified cases and subjecting them to proper scrutiny, as recommended by the High Level Group on Own Resources;

Or. en

Amendment 28
Cristian Dan Preda

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. *Takes the view that all five scenarios for the future of the EU presented by the Commission in March 2017 would necessitate additional financing for the new priorities of the Union derived from genuine own resources.*

Amendment

6. *Draws attention that a thorough reflection is needed on the effects of the debate on the future of Europe, launched by the Commission in March 2017, on the reform of the system of own resources; insists on the importance of respecting the unity of the budget and of reducing, and not increasing, its complexity in order to ensure the coherence of EU policies internally and externally;*

Or. en

Amendment 29
Paulo Rangel

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Takes the view that all five scenarios for the future of the EU presented by the Commission in March 2017 would necessitate additional financing *for the new priorities* of the *Union derived from genuine own resources*.

Amendment

6. Takes the view that all five scenarios for the future of the EU presented by the Commission in March 2017 would necessitate additional financing, *derived from genuine own resources, in order to pursue the objectives set out in Article 3 of the TEU, now encompassed within the new priorities of the Union.*

Or. pt

Amendment 30
Kostas Chrysogonos

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Highlights the need for restoring legitimacy to EU and public spending in general; suggests therefore that greater attention should be given to synergies between the EU budget and national funding for areas with a high European added value or where national financial possibilities are insufficient for achieving a European public good;

Or. en