



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

2013/2017(BUD)

20.6.2013

OPINION

of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

for the Committee on Budgets

on the 2014 Budget – Mandate for the Trilogue
(2013/2017(BUD))

Rapporteur: Reinhard Bütikofer

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Stresses that Parliament has not yet given its consent to the new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) Regulation and insists that the Commission should first draw up the Draft Budget 2014 on the basis of its own proposal for the MFF 2014-2020;
2. Deeply regrets the fact that the Council has made cuts of EUR 38 billion to Heading 1a, under which the main EU policies on innovation, research, infrastructure, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), youth and education – policies needed in order to address the current economic crisis and important societal challenges – are financed; stresses that appropriations under Heading 1a should be authorised, which could help to implement priority EU policies in areas such as: measures to combat unemployment; EU industrial policy; research and innovation; and energy;
3. Wishes to know the approximate amount of unused payment appropriations from the 2007-2013 period, in particular for the final year, 2013, and to this end asks the Commission to provide a financial statement on the take-up of payment appropriations under the current financial framework for the 2007-2013 period, indicating: the amounts provided for, and the amounts committed, for the period 2007-2012; the take-up shortfall; the amounts still to be committed; and all relevant financial information regarding the utilisation of payment appropriations;
4. Calls on the budgetary authorities to establish the maximum possible flexibility with a view to directing unused annual appropriations towards the programmes covered by Heading 1a, in particular Horizon 2020, COSME and the Connecting Europe Facility;
5. Strongly opposes any attempt to redeploy the necessary resources from Heading 1a in order to remedy any potential future failure to cover all unpaid payment claims from the particular financial year during the next MFF;
6. Reminds the Council of its statement that there must be real growth in the funding for the Horizon 2020 programme compared with its 2013 level; calls, therefore, for an ambitious allocation of funds to the Horizon 2020 programme and firmly objects to any proposal for 2014 ceilings which would be below the 2013 levels; calls on the Commission to establish a dedicated budget for the SME instrument, and dedicated budget lines for the Science in Society and Widening Participation Programmes and for follow-up to the Eco-innovation and Intelligent Energy Europe programmes within the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP);
7. Calls for a single budget allocation for the European Institute of Innovation and Technology in order to provide stakeholders in the Knowledge and Innovation Communities with a stable and predictable framework in which to make investments;
8. Calls for an ambitious allocation of funds to the European Institute of Innovation and Technology in order to reach the critical mass needed to establish the new Knowledge and Innovation Communities envisaged;

9. Believes that the Connecting Europe Facility has an important role to play in the EU's economic recovery; calls for an increased share of financial resources to be allocated to this financial instrument in order to provide leverage for other public and private investments; calls, in particular, for a focus on renewable energy project bonds and ICT infrastructure project bonds and for sufficient allocation to smart grids, especially in view of the potential synergies with the ICT sector;
10. Stresses the need to address the problems faced by SMEs through an ambitious COSME programme; believes that the level of funding currently proposed is insufficient, and restates Parliament's position that the amount allocated to the programme over the MFF period should be doubled; calls, in view of the particularly difficult situation regarding access to finance, for at least 60 % of the COSME budget to be allocated to the most effective financial instruments; insists that the MFF should continue to provide for microfinancing programmes (such as the European Progress Microfinance Facility and Jasmine); calls, in addition, for closer networking of existing and future tools for the promotion of entrepreneurship, e.g. the European Social Fund, the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, the Youth Guarantee Scheme and Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs, with a view to generating incentives and synergies at national and local level;
11. Insists that the major EU infrastructure projects (such as Galileo, ITER and Copernicus) must be financed over and above the MFF ceilings so that additional appropriations can be released by the Member States where necessary, and insists that the funding and successful implementation of other EU programmes should not be threatened by possible cost overruns in respect of these large-scale projects;
12. Believes that better governance and coordination on the part of the EU, the Member States and the regions in relation to spending is needed in order to implement the Europe 2020 strategy; calls for optimal use of existing EU financing, with a focus on EU added value, effective streamlining and leverage effects, together with appropriate and urgent implementation in the Member States; asks for the European Semester process to monitor investments in research, innovation, industrial policy, SMEs, energy and ICT infrastructure.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	20.6.2013
Result of final vote	+: 36 -: 1 0: 7
Members present for the final vote	Josefa Andrés Barea, Jean-Pierre Audy, Ivo Belet, Bendt Bendtsen, Jan Březina, Maria Da Graça Carvalho, Giles Chichester, Jürgen Creutzmann, Dimitrios Droutsas, Christian Ehler, Vicky Ford, Adam Gierek, Robert Goebbels, Fiona Hall, Jacky Hénin, Edit Herczog, Kent Johansson, Romana Jordan, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Philippe Lamberts, Judith A. Merkies, Jaroslav Paška, Aldo Patriciello, Vittorio Prodi, Herbert Reul, Teresa Riera Madurell, Jens Rohde, Paul Rübig, Francisco Sosa Wagner, Konrad Szymański, Britta Thomsen, Patrizia Toia, Ioannis A. Tsoukalas, Marita Ulvskog, Vladimir Urutchev, Kathleen Van Brempt, Alejo Vidal-Quadras
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Jerzy Buzek, Ioan Enciu, Andrzej Grzyb, Roger Helmer, Jolanta Emilia Hibner, Bernd Lange
Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote	Bas Eickhout