



2018/0166R(APP)

15.10.2018

POSITION IN THE FORM OF AMENDMENTS

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Budget

on the Interim report on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 –
Parliament's position with a view to an agreement
(2018/0166R(APP))

On behalf of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality: Iratxe
García Pérez (rapporteur)

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality presents the following amendments to the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible:

Amendment 1

Motion for a resolution

Recital E a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(Ea) whereas mainstreaming gender 'in all its activities', including budgeting, remains a legal obligation of the Union stemming directly from Article 8 of the TFEU;

Amendment 2

Motion for a resolution

Recital E b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(Eb) whereas this cross-cutting perspective not only has often led to lower support for gender-specific actions, not to mention the lack of gender indicators, but also makes it almost impossible to estimate the amounts that are allocated to gender issues;

Amendment 3

Motion for a resolution

Recital E c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(Ec) whereas for the 2014-2020 MFF the attached joint declaration of November 2013 of Parliament, the Council and the Commission embodied the agreement that

the annual budgetary procedures applying to the MFF would, as appropriate, integrate gender-responsive elements, taking into account the ways in which the overall financial framework of the Union contributes to greater gender equality and ensures gender mainstreaming;

Amendment 4

Motion for a resolution
Recital E d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(Ed) whereas the Commission communication of 14 September 2016 on the MFF mid-term review makes no reference to the implementation of gender mainstreaming; whereas the Commission’s Strategic Engagement to Gender Equality 2016-2019 highlights the key role of EU funding in support for gender equality and states that gender budgeting ‘is not applied systematically to the EU general budget’; whereas the 2018 impact assessment of the external instrument states that mainstreaming of human rights, including gender equality, ‘was considered as work-in-progress, with partner governments sometimes showing a lack of interest or resistance to these areas’; whereas no EU institution has consistently implemented gender budgeting;

Amendment 5

Motion for a resolution
Recital E e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(Ee) whereas it is crucial to keep specific lines in the EU budget to guarantee the

proper implementation of our projects;

Amendment 6

Motion for a resolution
Recital E f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(Ef) whereas in the current climate of erosion of the EU's values, which has brought out a surprisingly strong anti-gender backlash in the EU, a strong commitment from all three institutions that gender equality will be upheld is required more than ever and must be reflected in the funding policy;

Amendment 7

Motion for a resolution
Recital E g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(Eg) whereas equality between women and men is a precondition for women's participation in the labour market, in leading positions and in science and research, and thus for gender equality, with an impact on the economy of the Member States;

Amendment 8

Motion for a resolution
Recital E h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(Eh) whereas the goal of gender equality in Europe is still far from being achieved, and further efforts are therefore needed;

Amendment 9

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 4

Motion for a resolution

4. Declares, moreover, its opposition to any reduction in the level of key EU policies, such as the EU cohesion policy and the common agricultural policy (CAP); is particularly opposed to any radical cuts that will adversely impact on the very nature and objectives of these policies, such as the cuts proposed for the Cohesion Fund or for the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development; opposes, in this context, the proposal to reduce the European Social Fund despite its enlarged scope and the integration of the Youth Employment Initiative;

Amendment

(4) Declares, moreover, its opposition to any reduction in the level of key EU policies, such as the EU cohesion policy and the common agricultural policy (CAP); is particularly opposed to any radical cuts that will adversely impact on the very nature and objectives of these policies, such as the cuts proposed for the Cohesion Fund or for the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development; opposes, in this context, the proposal to reduce the European Social Fund despite its enlarged scope, ***the need to improve gender equality in the labour market*** and the integration of the Youth Employment Initiative; ***highlights the importance of the structural funds, and the European Social Fund in particular, for sustaining women's empowerment through the creation of jobs and improvement of services, as well as the horizon funds for promoting women's participation in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) sector.***

Amendment 10

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5

Motion for a resolution

5. Underlines, furthermore, the importance of the horizontal principles that should underpin the MFF and all related EU policies; reaffirms, in this context, its position that the EU must deliver on its

Amendment

(5) Underlines, furthermore, the importance of the horizontal principles that should underpin the MFF and all related EU policies; reaffirms, in this context, its position that the EU must deliver on its

commitment to be a frontrunner in implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and deplores the lack of a clear and visible commitment to that end in the MFF proposals; requests, therefore, the mainstreaming of the SDGs into all EU policies and initiatives of the next MFF; further emphasises that the elimination of discrimination is vital to fulfil the EU's commitments towards an inclusive Europe and deplores the lack of gender mainstreaming and gender equality commitments in EU policies, as presented in the MFF proposals; underlines also its position that, following the Paris Agreement, climate-related spending should be significantly increased in comparison with the current MFF and reach 30 % as soon as possible and at the latest by 2027; Employment Initiative;

commitment to be a frontrunner in implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and deplores the lack of a clear and visible commitment to that end in the MFF proposals; requests, therefore, the mainstreaming of the SDGs into all EU policies and initiatives of the next MFF; further emphasises that the elimination of discrimination, as well as gender inequality and gender-based violence, is vital to fulfil the EU's commitments towards an inclusive Europe and deplores the lack of gender mainstreaming and gender equality commitments in EU policies, as presented in the MFF proposals; ***supports a reinforced and specific budgetary dimension in combating all instances of discrimination, giving particular attention to the gender dimension within migration and asylum policies and external EU policies***; underlines also its position that, following the Paris Agreement, climate-related spending should be significantly increased in comparison with the current MFF and reach 30 % as soon as possible and at the latest by 2027;

Amendment 11

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(5a) Calls for the MFF to be revised with a view to including concrete measures and allocating increased financial resources to combat violence against women and girls and ensure the protection of migrant and refugee women, as well as undocumented women, from violence; insists on targeted investments to ensure women's rights and safety throughout the whole asylum procedure;

Amendment 12

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(5b) Deplores the fact that there is no individual programme to fight violence against women any more, as it is only integrated into the general ‘citizens and rights’ programme, and calls for more funds to prevent, fight and eradicate violence against women, the most widespread form of violation of human rights and a clear reflection of the inequality between women and men; highlights that the EU should always support the fight against gender-based violence and sexual harassment, especially by giving the Member States the support they need to implement the Istanbul Convention;

Amendment 13

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(5c) Supports strongly the commitments arising from Article 9 TFEU for the delivery of a social Europe and the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights based on the sustainable growth of a highly competitive social market economy, aiming at full employment and social progress and promoting equality between women and men, solidarity between generations and protection of the rights of the child as enshrined in the Treaty;

Amendment 14

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(5d) Stresses the need to ensure that women have access to sexual and reproductive services and that special attention be paid to the specific needs of vulnerable persons, including minors and other groups, such as the LGBTI community;

Amendment 15

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(5e) Strongly condemns the reinstatement and expansion by the Trump administration of the Global Gag Rule and its detrimental impact on women's and girls' global healthcare and rights and reiterates its call for the EU and its Member States, as part of the MFF, to fill the financing gap left by the US in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights, using both national and EU development funding;

Amendment 16

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(5f) Insists that the future of structural funds and cohesion policies must include gender targets and monitoring

mechanisms to increase funding for actions that underpin and generate greater gender equality, such as investing in public care services for children and elderly people;

Amendment 17

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(5g) Reiterates that the next MFF needs to earmark adequate budgetary commitments to step up the efforts to eradicate trafficking in women and girls for sexual exploitation across the Union and increasingly invest in victim's rights and protection, as well as actions decreasing the demand for trafficked women and girls;

Amendment 18

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(5h) Repeats its call for gender equality to be mainstreamed in the next MFF with a view to counteracting the shrinking space for civil society, and calls in particular for the EU and the Member States to increase both their political and financial support to women's rights organisations, women's shelters/houses and women's human rights defenders both within the Union and worldwide;

Amendment 19

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 6 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(6a) Recommends setting up an internal European Democracy Fund for strengthening support to civil society and NGOs working in the fields of democracy and human rights, including women's rights and the fight against gender-based violence, to be managed by the Commission.

Amendment 20

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 11 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(11a) Reiterates its regret that, despite the joint declaration on gender mainstreaming annexed to the MFF, there has been no significant progress in this area under the MFF 2014-2020;

Amendment 21

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 11 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(11b) Deeply regrets that gender mainstreaming has been completely sidelined in the Commission's proposal and that not only has the situation not improved but the proposals are a step backwards; points to the fact that existing goals dedicated to gender equality have been merged with other policy goals, such as in the Rights and Values programme,

and that gender equality requirements, such as the gender equality ex ante conditionality in the ESI funds, have been eliminated in the Commission's new proposals;

Amendment 22

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11 c (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(11c) Deplores the fact that several programmes include gender equality only as a cross-cutting objective, which leads to lower support for gender-specific actions;

Amendment 23

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11 d (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(11d) Repeats its call for the expression of a renewed commitment by Parliament, the Council and the Commission to gender equality in the next MFF, by means of a joint declaration attached to the MFF, including an unequivocal commitment to implementing gender budgeting; repeats its call for the effective monitoring of implementation of the declaration in the annual budgetary procedures through the inclusion of a provision in a review clause in the new MFF regulation;

Amendment 24

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 11 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(11e) Invites the partner institutions to display leadership by accepting gender equality as a horizontal objective and to identify and put in place an effective mechanism for systematically applying gender budgeting across the MFF instruments and programmes, as well as an annual budgetary procedure;

Amendment 25

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 11 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(11f) Calls for clear targets and dedicated resources to be established in EU programmes such as the European Social Fund (ESF), the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme 2014-2020 (REC), Horizon 2020, the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance II (IPA II), the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) and the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) in order to allow for systematic implementation and monitoring and to avoid mere references to general principles of gender equality without asking for specific action such as in the case of the EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI), the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD), the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) and the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF);

Amendment 26

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 18 – subparagraph i

Motion for a resolution

i. compulsory and legally binding **mid-term** revision, following a review of the functioning of the MFF;

Amendment

(18i) compulsory and legally binding **mid-term** revision, following **a gender-mainstreamed** review of the functioning of the MFF;

Amendment 27

Paragraph 38 Modification 8 a (new) – Recital 9 a

Text proposed by the Commission

Modification

(9a) Article 8 TFEU lays down the principle of gender mainstreaming in all EU activities, which requires the allocation of adequate resources and transparency in the budget allocations dedicated to promoting gender equality and combating gender discrimination.

Amendment 28

Paragraph 38 Modification 16 a (new) Chapter 1 – Article 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Modification

***Article 3a (new)
Gender budgeting***

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission shall incorporate a gender perspective at various levels of the budgetary procedure for each year concerned and restructure revenues and expenditures in order to promote gender equality.

Amendment 29

Paragraph 38

Modification 35 – Chapter 4 - Article 16

Text proposed by the Commission

Modification

Article 16

Mid-term review of the MFF

Before 1 January 2024, the Commission shall **present a review of the functioning** of the MFF. This **review** shall, as appropriate, be accompanied by relevant proposals.

Article 16

Mid-term revision of the MFF

Before 1 January 2024, the Commission shall **revise** the MFF. This **revision** shall **introduce gender mainstreaming and include a specific chapter on gender equality and**, as appropriate, be accompanied by relevant proposals.

The Council, acting in accordance with the legislative procedure laid down in Article 312 TFEU and after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament, shall revise this regulation.