On 2 May 2018, the European Commission published its proposals for a post-2020 multiannual financial framework (MFF). The MFF sets the annual limits on EU commitments in different policy areas (‘headings’) and on overall annual payments. The Commission’s proposal for the 2021-2027 MFF amounts to €1.13 billion (2018 prices), which is 1.11 % of the EU-27’s gross national income (GNI) in commitment appropriations. Increases are most visible in the areas of research and innovation, support for investment, migration and border management, and security and defence. Cuts have mainly fallen on cohesion policy (-10 %) and the EU’s common agricultural policy (-15 %). In November 2018, the Parliament estimated that, in order to finance all EU priorities, the total MFF resources should increase to 1.3 % of EU-27 GNI. The Parliament’s position thus amounts to €1.32 billion (2018 prices), which is 16.7 % more than that proposed by the Commission.

2021-2027 multiannual financial framework and new own resources. Analysis of the Commission’s proposal
In-depth analysis by Matthew Parry and Magdalena Sapala, July 2018
This analysis presents the proposed new MFF and own resources and compares them to the status quo, as well as to the European Parliament’s priorities as expressed in plenary resolutions adopted in spring 2018.

Multiannual Financial Framework for the years 2021-2027: The future of EU finances
Briefing by Alessandro D’Alfonso, June 2019
This briefing examines the Commission proposal for the post-2020 MFF as well as the reactions to it in the context of the legislative procedure and beyond.

How flexible is the EU budget? Flexibility instruments and mechanisms in the multiannual financial framework (MFF)
In-depth analysis by Magdalena Sapala, January 2020
In its proposal for 2021-2027, the Commission has sought to adjust the balance between predictability and responsiveness by enhancing a cluster of flexibility instruments outside the MFF heading ceilings, stating that the current EU budget is ‘still too rigid’. It remains to be seen whether these proposals will overcome the difficulties experienced with implementation of the 2014-2020 MFF.

Own resources of the European Union: Reforming the EU’s financing system
Briefing by Alessandro D’Alfonso, November 2018
This briefing examines the Commission proposals for the reform of the revenue side of the EU budget as well as the reactions to them in the context of the legislative procedure and beyond.

Protecting the EU budget against generalised rule of law deficiencies
Briefing by Rafal Marko, November 2018
This legislative proposal would provide for the possibility for the Commission to make proposals to the Council on sanctions measures with regard to EU funding. These include suspension of payments, suspension, reduction or even termination of legal commitments (to pay), suspension of programmes, and the transfer of money to other programmes.
Further reading

**EU policies – Delivering for citizens: Future financing of EU policies**
Briefing by Matthew Parry, June 2019

**Economic and budgetary outlook for the European Union 2020**
Study by Alessandro D’Alfonso, Angelos Delivorias, Magdalena Sapala, Carla Stamegna, forthcoming

**The 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework in figures**
Infographic by Giulio Sabbati and Magdalena Sapala, January 2020

**Single market, innovation and digital: Heading 1 of the 2021-2027 MFF**
Briefing by Marianna Pari, January 2020

**Cohesion funds, values and economic and monetary union in the 2021-2027 MFF: European Parliament position on Heading 2 – Cohesion and values**
Briefing by Magdalena Sapala, January 2019

**Natural resources and environment: Heading 3 of the 2021-2027 MFF**
Briefing by Karoline Kowald, January 2020

**Migration and border management: Heading 4 of the 2021-2027 MFF**
Briefing by Alessandro D’Alfonso, January 2020

**Financing EU security and defence: Heading 5 of the 2021-2027 MFF**
Briefing by Sidonia Mazur, January 2020

**Financing EU external action in the new MFF, 2021-2027: Heading 6 ‘Neighbourhood and the World’**
Briefing by Velina Lilyanova, November 2019

**Financing the EU’s administration: Heading 7 of the 2021-2027 MFF**
Briefing by Velina Lilyanova, January 2020

**Mainstreaming of climate action in the EU budget: Impact of a political objective**
In-depth analysis by Alessandro D’Alfonso, October 2019

**Commission proposal – total MFF**

**Commission proposal for individual programmes as share of total (2018 prices)**