On 2 May 2018 the European Commission proposed a multiannual financial framework (MFF) for 2021-2027 of €1279.413 billion (2018 prices) or 1.11% of EU-27 gross national income (GNI) in commitment appropriations. Following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic the Commission presented an amended proposal on 27 May 2020 together with a ‘recovery plan for Europe’. Agreement was finally reached in December 2020 on a €1 824.3 billion package combining a €1 074.3 billion MFF with the €750 billion Next Generation EU (NGEU) recovery instrument including top-ups for a number of EU flagship programmes negotiated by Parliament.

National ratification of the Own Resources Decision: State of play on 5 May 2021
Briefing by Alessandro D’Alfonso, May 2021
Completion of the ratification procedure has usually required more than two years. However, there is a sense of urgency for this ORD to be ratified, since it is a pre-condition for the launch of the NGEU recovery instrument.

Matching priorities and resources in the EU budget: Climate action, migration and borders
Briefing by Alessandro D’Alfonso, May 2021
The agreement on EU finances for 2021 to 2027 provides for a significant relative increase in the financial resources devoted to climate action, migration and border management - policy areas identified among the emerging priorities that required increased joint action and funding.

Communicating and perceiving the EU budget: Challenges and outcomes
In-Depth Analysis by Alina Dobreva, May 2021
This analysis presents the EU budget as a subject of communication, while also outlining its importance for the perception of the EU’s democratic legitimacy and the challenges involved in presenting it to the citizens.

The role of the European Council in negotiating the 2021-27 MFF
In-Depth Analysis by Ralf Drachenberg, April 2021
The European Council’s involvement in legislative matters against the letter of the Treaties can be considered both as ‘déjà vu’ and as a further evolution of its involvement.

Own resources of the European Union: Reforming the EU’s financing system
‘EU Legislation in progress’ Briefing by Alessandro D’Alfonso, February 2021
This briefing examines the proposals (as updated in May 2020) for the reform of the revenue side of the EU budget as well as the reactions to them from stakeholders.

Multiannual Financial Framework for the years 2021-2027: The future of EU finances
‘EU Legislation in progress’ Briefing by Alessandro D’Alfonso, January 2021
The final edition of this briefing analyses the new MFF Regulation and the road to its adoption from original proposal to final agreement against the background of the Covid-19 pandemic.

EU financing for 2021-2027
Briefing by Magdalena Sapala, Marianna Pari, Nadejda Kresnichka-Nikolchova, December 2020
This infographic presents the 2021-2027 MFF as adopted in December 2020.
Protection of the Union’s budget in case of ‘rule of law’ deficiencies

‘At a glance’ note by Karoline Kowald, December 2020
This paper gives an overview of the regulation in view of the Parliament’s adoption in December 2020.

Parliament’s consent to the 2021-2027 MFF

‘At a glance’ note by Alessandro D’Alfonso, December 2020
This paper outlines the European Parliament’s position in view of the conclusion of the negotiations on the 2021-2027 MFF, and Parliament’s consent vote on the regulation in December 2020.

Next Generation EU: A European instrument to counter the impact of the coronavirus pandemic

Briefing by Alessandro D’Alfonso, July 2020
This briefing analyses the May 2020 proposal to establish a €750 billion European recovery instrument, as an answer to the crisis caused by the pandemic and a complement to the 2021-2027 MFF.

Further reading

Single market, innovation and digital: Heading 1 of the 2021-2027 MFF
Briefing by Marianna Pari, April 2021
Cohesion, resilience and values: Heading 2 of the 2021-2027 MFF
Briefing by Magdalena Sapała, April 2021
Natural resources and environment: Heading 3 of the 2021-2027 MFF
Briefing by Karoline Kowald, April 2021
Migration and border management: Heading 4 of the 2021-2027 MFF
Briefing by Alessandro D’Alfonso, April 2021
Security and defence: Heading 5 of the 2021-2027 MFF
Briefing by Sidonia Mazur, April 2021
Neighbourhood and the World: Heading 6 of the new 2021-2027 MFF
Briefing by Velina Lilyanova, April 2021
European public administration: Heading 7 of the 2021-2027 MFF
Briefing by Velina Lilyanova, April 2021
Economic and budgetary outlook for the European Union 2021
Study by Alessandro D’Alfonso, Angelos Delivorias, Nora Milotay, Magdalena Sapała, January 2021
European Green Deal Investment Plan: Main elements and possible impact of the coronavirus pandemic
Briefing by Alessandro D’Alfonso, April 2020
How flexible is the EU budget? Flexibility instruments and mechanisms in the multiannual financial framework (MFF)
In-depth analysis by Magdalena Sapala, January 2020
Mainstreaming of climate action in the EU budget: Impact of a political objective
In-depth analysis by Alessandro D’Alfonso, October 2019