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REPORT

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers following an application from France – EGF/2021/007 FR/ Selecta

(COM(2022)0035 - C9-0036/2022 - 2022/0023(BUD))

Committee on Budgets

Rapporteur: Eider Gardiazabal Rubial

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MOTION FOR A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers following an application from France – EGF/2021/007 FR/Selecta (COM(2022)0035 – C9-0036/2022 – 2022/0023(BUD))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the European Parliament and the Council (COM(2022)0035 C9-0036/2022),
- having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/691 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF) and repealing Regulation (EU) 1309/2013¹ ('EGF Regulation'),
- having regard to Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021-2027², and in particular Article 8 thereof,
- having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources³, ('Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020'), and in particular point 9 thereof,
- having regard to the letters from the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and from the Committee on Regional Development,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets (A9-0048/2022),
- A. whereas the Union has set up legislative and budgetary instruments to provide additional support to workers who are suffering from the consequences of globalisation and of technological and environmental changes, such as changes in world trade patterns, trade disputes, significant changes in the trade relations of the Union or the composition of the internal market and financial or economic crises, as well as the transition to a low-carbon economy, or as a consequence of digitisation or automation;
- B. whereas the Union has extended the scope of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF) to provide financial support in case of any major restructuring event, and thus covering economic effects of the coronavirus crisis;
- C. whereas France submitted application EGF/2021/007 FR/Selecta for a financial contribution from the EGF, following 294 displacements in the economic sector

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¹ OJ L 153, 3.5.2021, p. 48.

² OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 11.

³ OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 28.

- classified under the NACE Revision 2 division 46 (Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles) in all French NUTS level 2 regions in mainland, except Limousin (FRI2), within a reference period for the application from 1 June 2021 to 1 October 2021;
- D. whereas the application relates to 294 displaced workers whose activity in the company Selecta has ceased during the reference period, while 179 workers were displaced before or after the reference period as a consequence of the same events that triggered the cessations of activity of the displaced workers during the reference period and will thus also be considered eligible beneficiaries;
- E. whereas the application is based on the intervention criteria of Article 4(2), point (a), of the EGF Regulation, which requires the cessation of activity of at least 200 displaced workers over a reference period of four months in an enterprise in a Member State;
- F. whereas the vending machines industry has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic in Europe, due to the closure of sites where the machines were located (business and public places such as airports, railway stations, etc.) or by lack of access to the vending machines in the open sites, and in the Île-de-France region, the vending machine businesses lost 70 % of turnover (September 2020 year-on-year) because of telework⁴;
- G. whereas, according to Selecta, despite the recovery of activity in summer 2020, the replenishment of the machines was down by 47 %, compared to February 2020, the last pre-pandemic month, while despite re-negotiating contracts in an attempt to curb loss-making, exacerbated by fixed cost and falling sales, Selecta recorded operating losses of EUR 60 million in 2020⁵ and organised the displacement of 473 workers;
- H. whereas the Commission declared that the health crisis resulted in an economic crisis, set out a recovery plan for the economy and underlined the role of the EGF as an emergency tool⁶;
- I. whereas, according to the French Organization for Automatic Sales and Services (NAVSA), the turnover of the sector in France dropped between 50 and 90 % in 2020 compared to 2019, putting at risk about 25 000 jobs;
- J. whereas the financial contributions from the EGF should be primarily directed at active labour market policy measures and personalised services that aim to reintegrate beneficiaries rapidly into decent and sustainable employment within or outside their initial sector of activity, while preparing them for a greener and more digital European economy;
- K. whereas the EGF shall not exceed a maximum annual amount of EUR 186 million (in 2018 prices), as laid down in Article 8 of Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027⁷;

⁴ NAVSA. Report on the situation of the sector. September 2020

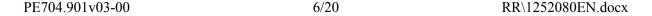
 $^{^{5}\ \}underline{\text{https://www.droits-salaries.com/552014201-selecta/55201420101907-/T09321007764-accord-relatif-a-la-mise-en-place-d-un-dispositif-specifique-d-activite-partielle-longue-duree-apld--autres-temps-de-travail.shtml}$

⁶ COM(2020) 442 final.

⁷ OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 11.

- 1. Agrees with the Commission that the conditions set out in Article 4(2), point (a), of the EGF Regulation are met and that France is entitled to a financial contribution of EUR 4 074 296 under that Regulation, which represents 85 % of the total cost of EUR 4 793 290, comprising expenditure for personalised services of EUR 4 766 930 and, in accordance with Article 7(5) of the EGF Regulation, expenditure for implementing the EGF of EUR 26 630;
- 2. Notes that the French authorities submitted the application on 12 October 2021, and that the Commission finalised its assessment on 7 February 2022 and notified it to Parliament on the same day;
- 3. Notes that the application relates in total to 473 displaced workers whose activity has ceased; welcomes the fact that France expects that all of the eligible beneficiaries will participate in the measures ('targeted beneficiaries');
- 4. Recalls that the social impacts of the redundancies are expected to be important for France, in particular in the region Île-de-France and the city of Lille, where respectively 32 and 13 % of the displacements took place;
- 5. Points out that 29,8 % of the targeted beneficiaries have a lower secondary education or less;
- 6. Notes that France started providing personalised services to the targeted beneficiaries on 1 April 2021 and that the period of eligibility for a financial contribution from the EGF will therefore be from 1 April 2021 until 24 months after the date of the entry into force of the financing decision;
- 7. Recalls that personalised services to be provided to the workers consist of the following actions: advisory services and vocational guidance, psychological support, training, contribution to business creation, job search allowance, allowance for quick reemployment, outplacement incentive, and a contribution to moving and installation costs;
- 8. Reiterates in this context the important role the Union should play in providing the necessary qualifications for the just transformation in line with the European Green Deal; strongly supports that in 2021-2027 the EGF will continue to show solidarity with persons affected and maintain the focus on the impact of restructuring on workers and calls for future applications to maximise policy coherence;
- 9. Welcomes that the co-ordinated package of personalised services for which the EGF cofinancing is requested was drawn up by France in consultation with staff and union representatives; underlines the need for transparency at every step of the procedure and calls for social partners' involvement in the package of service's implementation and evaluation; notes that all the procedural requirements were met;
- 10. Considers that financial contributions from the EGF should be primarily directed at active labour market policy measures and personalised services that aim to reintegrate beneficiaries rapidly into decent and sustainable employment within or outside their initial sector of activity, while preparing them for a greener and more digital European economy;

- 11. Recalls the possibility for special time-limited measures within the coordinated package including, inter alia, to pay childcare allowances, as provided in Article 7(2) point (b) of the EGF Regulation to facilitate job seekers' participation in the activities proposed;
- 12. Notes the French authorities' indication that staff and union representatives are closely involved in the organisational plans to adapt to change;
- 13. Welcomes the fact that Selecta put in place a very active training policy that goes far beyond its legal obligations;
- 14. Notes that in 2021 the training budget per worker was 30 % higher than in 2019, with the aim of improving staff's employability and mobility;
- 15. Stresses that the French authorities have confirmed that the eligible actions do not receive assistance from other Union funds or financial instruments;
- 16. Reiterates that assistance from the EGF must not replace actions which are the responsibility of companies, by virtue of national law or collective agreements, or any allowances or rights of the displaced workers, to ensure full additionality of the allocation;
- 17. Reminds that the objective of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF) is to demonstrate solidarity with and support beneficiaries and to rapidly reintegrate them into decent and sustainable employment within or outside their initial sector of activity;
- 18. Approves the decision annexed to this resolution;
- 19. Instructs its President to sign the decision with the President of the Council and arrange for its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*;
- 20. Instructs its President to forward this resolution, including its Annex, to the Council and the Commission;



ANNEX: DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers following an application from France – EGF/2021/007 FR/ Selecta

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/691 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013¹, and in particular Article 15(1) thereof,

Having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources², and in particular point 9 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF) aims to demonstrate solidarity and promote decent and sustainable employment in the Union by providing support for displaced workers and self-employed persons whose activity has ceased in the case of major restructuring events and assisting them in returning to decent and sustainable employment as soon as possible.
- (2) The EGF is not to exceed a maximum annual amount of EUR 186 million (in 2018 prices), as laid down in Article 8 of Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093³.
- (3) On 12 October 2021, France submitted an application to mobilise the EGF, in respect of worker's displacements in Selecta in France. It was supplemented by additional information provided in accordance with Article 8(5) of Regulation (EU) 2021/691. That application complies with the conditions for a financial contribution from the EGF as laid down in Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2021/691.
- (4) The EGF should, therefore, be mobilised in order to provide a financial contribution of EUR 4 074 296 in respect of the application submitted by France.
- (5) In order to minimise the time taken to mobilise the EGF, this decision should apply from the date of its adoption,

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OJ L 153, 3.5.2021, p. 48.

OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 29.

Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027 (OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 11).

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

For the general budget of the Union for the financial year 2022, the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers shall be mobilised to provide the amount of EUR 4 074 296 in commitment and payment appropriations.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union. It shall apply from [the date of its adoption]*.

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament The President For the Council The President

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^{*} Date to be inserted by the Parliament before the publication in OJ.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

I. Background

The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund has been created in order to provide additional assistance to workers suffering from the consequences of major structural changes in world trade patterns.

According to the provisions of Article 8(1) of Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 2020/2093 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021-2027⁴ and of Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 2021/691⁵, the Fund may not exceed a maximum annual amount of EUR 186 million (2018 prices).

As concerns the procedure, according to point 9 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources⁶, in order to activate the Fund the Commission, in case of a positive assessment of an application, presents to the budgetary authority a proposal for mobilisation of the Fund and, at the same time, a corresponding request for transfer.

II. France's application and the Commission's proposal

On 12 October 2021, France submitted an application EGF/2021/007 FR/Selecta for a financial contribution from the EGF, following 473 displacements in the economic sector classified under the NACE Revision 2 division 46 (Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles) in all French NUTS level 2 regions in mainland France, except Limousin (FRI2).

Following its assessment of this application, the Commission has concluded, in accordance with all applicable provisions of the EGF Regulation, that the conditions for awarding a financial contribution from the EGF are met.

On 7 February 2022, the Commission adopted a proposal for a decision on the mobilisation of the EGF to support the reintegration in the labour market of 473 targeted beneficiaries, and communicated it to the Parliament and the Council on the same day.

The Commission deemed the application admissible under the intervention criteria of Article 4(2)(a) of the EGF Regulation, which requires the cessation of activity of at least 200 displaced workers over a reference period of four months in an enterprise in a Member State, including workers displaced in suppliers and downstream producers and/or self-employed persons whose activity has ceased.

This application is examined under the 2023 budget, the MFF (Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027⁷) and the IIA of 16 December 2020.

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⁴OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 15.

⁵ OJ L 153, 3.5.2021, p. 48.

⁶ OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 28.

⁷ OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 11.

The cessation of activities of all displaced workers during the reference period running from 1 June 2021 to 1 October 2021 has been calculated from the date of the employer's individual notice to lay off or to terminate the contract of employment of the worker.

The application refers to the mobilisation of a total amount of EUR 4 074 296 from the EGF for France representing 85 % of the total costs of the proposed actions.

The objectives of the EGF are to demonstrate solidarity and promote decent and sustainable employment in the Union by offering assistance in the case of major restructuring events, in particular those caused by challenges related to globalisation, such as changes in world trade patterns, trade disputes, significant changes in the trade relations of the Union or the composition of the internal market and financial or economic crises, as well as the transition to a low-carbon economy, or as a consequence of digitisation or automation⁸.

In order to limit the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, France decided to implement a lockdown, which led to a collapse of the sales from vending machines, triggered either by the closure of the sites where the machines were located (business and public places such as airports, railway stations, etc.) or by lack of access to the vending machines in the open sites.

Once the lockdown was softened, machine/site access was eased. However, sanitary measures still lead to interruption or restriction of sales by vending machine (e.g. ban on selling non-essential items; recommendation not to drink or eat in the public transport network; etc.⁹). Furthermore, massive teleworking caused a sharp drop in consumption at the workplaces. In France, the vending machine businesses in the Île-de-France region lost 70% of turnover (September 2020 year-on-year) because of telework¹⁰.

Selecta operates in a mature market. Thus, the competition is fierce and leads to low sales prices for products sold from vending machines and high fees paid for the rented space where the machines are installed. This narrows the operators' profit margins. Despite re-negotiating contracts in an attempt to curb loss-making, exacerbated by fixed cost and falling sales, Selecta recorded operating losses of EUR 60 million in 2020. In the first half of 2021, turnover improved by 0,4% compared to 2020. However the turnover is about half (-48,3%) of what it was in 2019¹¹.

The region Île-de-France (32%) and the city of Lille (13%) have been most affected by displacements in Selecta. The number of unemployed in Île-de-France increased by 8,6% (2020 Q4 year-on-year), with more than one million¹² registered job seekers¹³ and an unemployment rate of 8,3%. The registered unemployment rate in 2021 Q1 in Hauts de France, where Lille is located, was 9,4%¹⁴.

The eight types of actions to be provided to redundant workers, for which EGF co-funding is requested consist of:

france.dreets.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/suivi du taux de chomage 2021 t1.pdf

⁸ Regulation (EU) 2021/691

⁹ NAVSA. Report on the situation of the sector. September 2020

¹⁰ NAVSA. Report on the situation of the sector. September 2020

https://www.droits-salaries.com/552014201-selecta/55201420101907-/T09321007764-accord-relatif-a-la-mise-en-place-d-un-dispositif-specifique-d-activite-partielle-longue-duree-apld--autres-temps-de-travail.shtml

^{1 058 690} registered job seekers.

https://idf.drieets.gouv.fr/sites/idf.drieets.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/synthese trimestrielle 2020t4.pdf

¹⁴ https://hauts-de-france.dreets.gouv.fr/sites/hauts-de-

- a. Advisory services and vocational guidance: the workers will be accompanied and oriented towards their projects for redeployment as workers or selfemployed persons. The participants will receive job-to-job counselling and guidance, job search support, coaching, information on available training, and promotion of entrepreneurship. Within this measure, workers will be provided with outplacement opportunities resulting from active job-search carried out by specialists.
- b. <u>Psychological support unit</u>: Face-to-face and online psychological support will be provided by specialists in psychosocial risk prevention in reorganisation contexts.
- c. <u>Training</u>: the workers will be offered a variety of trainings tailored to their needs, as identified by the counsellors providing the advisory services. Some examples of possible vocational trainings are: landscaper in eco-gardening, CPA Butcher, CPA Cook, cook assistance, technician in industrial maintenance, thermal and sanitary installer, smart (connected) building technician, road freight transport driver licensing, SDC construction machinery and SDC crane, CPA concierge-building care-taker, etc. Training in business creation is also foreseen for the workers willing to become self-employed.
- d. <u>Contribution to business creation</u>: Workers returning into employment as self-employed persons will receive up to EUR 6 000 to cover setting-up costs, investment in assets, etc. The contribution will be paid in two instalments of EUR 3 000. The first payment upon presentation of the proof of registration of the business or the declaration of registration of the self-employed person. The second payment after proving to have been in business for at least 12 months.
- e. <u>Job search allowance</u>: this monthly allowance amounts to 65% of the worker's last gross salary. This amount is calculated based on the workers' full-time participation in active labour market measures; if participation is lower, the EGF will co-finance only the allowance proportionate to the actual participation.
- f. <u>Allowance for quick reemployment</u>. Workers who return quickly to employment will receive an allowance equivalent to 20-30% of the job search allowance¹⁵ they would have received if they had not found the job.
- g. Outplacement incentive: this monthly allowance (up to 6 months) aims to compensate for the possible loss of income when a displaced worker accepts a new job (permanent or fixed term of at least six months) with a lower salary. The allowance will be 80% of the difference with the previous salary, up to EUR 200 per month, for the first three months, and 50% of the difference, up to EUR 100 per month, for the next three months.
- h. Contribution to moving and installation costs: the workers who after accepting a job at 60 km or more from home or involving more than 90 minutes of commuting time, move closer to their new working place (in terms of distance or commuting time) may receive a contribution to moving costs up to EUR 2 000. A contribution to installation costs (EUR 500 per adult and EUR 200 per child of the household) is also foreseen.

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¹⁵ If reemployment within the first three months of redeployment leave, 30%. If between the 4th and 6th month, 20%.

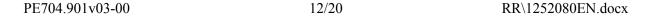
According to the Commission, the described measures constitute active labour market measures within the eligible actions set out in Article 7 of the EGF Regulation and do not substitute passive social protection measures.

France provided the required information on actions that are mandatory for the enterprises concerned by virtue of national law or pursuant to collective agreements. They confirmed that a financial contribution from the EGF will not replace such actions.

Procedure

In order to mobilise the Fund, the Commission has submitted to the Budgetary Authority a request to transfer a global amount of EUR 4 074 296 from the EGF reserve (30 04 02) to the EGF budget line (16 02 02).

According to an internal agreement, the Employment and Social Affairs and Regional Development Committees should be associated to the process, in order to provide constructive support and contribute to the assessment of the applications from the Fund.



LETTER OF THE COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Mr Johan Van Overtveldt Chair Committee on Budgets BRUSSELS

Subject: Opinion on Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund –

EGF/2021/007 FR/Selecta - France (2022/0023(BUD))

Dear Mr Chair,

Under the procedure referred to above, the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs has been asked to submit an opinion to your committee. At its meeting of 8 February 2022, the committee decided to send the opinion in the form of a letter.

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs considered the matter at its meeting of 3rd of March 2022. At that meeting, it decided to call on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution.

Yours sincerely,

Dragoş Pîslaru

SUGGESTIONS

The deliberations of the EMPL committee are based on the following considerations:

- A. Whereas on 12 October 2021 France submitted application EGF/2021/007 FR/Selecta for a financial contribution from the EGF, following 294 displacements in the economic sector classified under the NACE Revision 2 division 46 (Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles) in all French NUTS level 2 regions in mainland, except Limousin (FRI2), within a reference period for the application from 1 June 2021 to 1 October 2021;
- B. Whereas the application relates to 294 displaced workers whose activity in the company Selecta has ceased during the reference period, while 179 workers were displaced before or after the reference period as a consequence of the same events that triggered the cessations of activity of the displaced workers during the reference period and will thus also be considered eligible beneficiaries;
- C. Whereas the Commission deemed the application admissible under the intervention criteria of Article 4(2)(a) of the EGF Regulation, which requires the cessation of activity of at least 200 displaced workers over a reference period of four months in an enterprise in a Member State, including workers displaced in suppliers and downstream producers and/or self-employed persons whose activity has ceased;
- D. Whereas on 7 February 2022, the Commission adopted a proposal for a decision on the mobilisation of the EGF to support the reintegration in the labour market of 473 targeted beneficiaries, and communicated it to the Parliament and the Council on the same day;
- E. Whereas the vending machines industry has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic in Europe, due to the closure of sites where the machines were located (business and public places such as airports, railway stations, etc.) and a decline in consumers using vending machines due to mobility restrictions and telework; whereas in the Île-de-France region, the vending machine businesses lost 70 % of turnover (September 2020 year-on-year)¹;
- F. Whereas, according to Selecta, despite the recovery of activity in summer 2020, the replenishment of the machines was down by 47 %, compared to February 2020, the last pre-pandemic month; whereas despite re-negotiating contracts in an attempt to curb loss-making, exacerbated by fixed cost and falling sales, Selecta recorded operating losses of EUR 60 million in 2020², resulting in the enterprise drawing up a plan to reorganise its activities and laid off 473 workers;
- G. Whereas the EGF shall not exceed a maximum annual amount of EUR 186 million (in 2018 prices), as laid down in Article 8 of Council Regulation (EU, Euratom)

 No 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework

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¹ NAVSA. Report on the situation of the sector. September 2020

² https://www.droits-salaries.com/552014201-selecta/55201420101907-/T09321007764-accord-relatif-a-la-mise-en-place-d-un-dispositif-specifique-d-activite-partielle-longue-duree-apld--autres-temps-de-travail.shtml

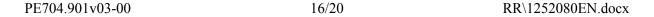
for the years 2021 to 2027³;

Therefore, the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to integrate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

- 1. Considers that financial contributions from the EGF should be primarily directed at active labour market policy measures and personalised services that aim to reintegrate beneficiaries rapidly into decent and sustainable employment within or outside their initial sector of activity, while preparing them for a greener and more digital European economy;
- 2. Agrees with the Commission that the conditions set out in Article 4(2), point (a), of the EGF Regulation are met and that France is entitled to a financial contribution of EUR 4 074 296 under that Regulation, which represents 85 % of the total cost of EUR 4 793 290, comprising expenditure for personalised services of EUR 4 766 930 and, in accordance with Article 7(5) of the EGF Regulation, expenditure for implementing the EGF of EUR 26 360;
- 3. Notes that all the procedural requirements were met; welcomes the social partners' involvement in the package of measures for which the EGF co-financing is requested; underlines the need for transparency at every step of the procedure and calls for social partners' involvement in the package of service's implementation and evaluation;
- 4. Stresses that the French authorities have confirmed that the eligible actions will not receive assistance from other Union funds or financial instruments;
- 5. Notes that the application relates in total to 473 displaced workers whose activity has ceased; welcomes the fact that France expects that all of the eligible beneficiaries will participate in the measures ('targeted beneficiaries'); stresses that 29,8 % of the targeted beneficiaries have a lower secondary education or less with 18,8% aged over 54 years; further stresses the specific needs of these groups should be taken into account when providing personalised services;
- 6. Recalls that the redundancies are expected to impact regions across mainland France, in particular in the region Île-de-France and the city of Lille, where respectively 32 and 13 % of the displacements took place;
- 7. Notes that France started providing personalised services to the targeted beneficiaries on 1 April 2021 and that the period of eligibility for a financial contribution from the EGF will therefore be from 1 April 2021 until 24 months after the date of the entry into force of the financing decision; recalls that personalised services to be provided to the workers consist of the following measure: advisory services and vocational guidance, psychological support, training, contributions to business creation, job search allowances, allowances for quick reemployment, outplacement incentives, and a contribution to moving and installation costs; reiterates in this context the important role the Union should play in providing the necessary qualifications for the just transformation in line with the European Green Deal;

³ OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 11.

- 8. Recalls the possibility for special time-limited measures within the coordinated package including, inter alia, to pay childcare allowances, as provided in Article 7.2 b of the EGF regulation to facilitate job seekers' participation in the activities proposed;
- 9. Reminds that the objective of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF) is to demonstrate solidarity with and support beneficiaries and to rapidly reintegrate them into decent and sustainable employment within or outside their initial sector of activity;
- 10. Reiterates that assistance from the EGF must not replace actions that are the responsibility of companies, by virtue of national law or collective agreements.



LETTER OF THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr Johan VAN OVERTVELDT Chair Committee on Budgets WIE 05U012

Subject: Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund – EGF/2021/007

FR/ Selecta (2022/0023(BUD))

Dear Mr Van Overtveldt,

The European Commission has transmitted to the European Parliament its proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund following an application from France (COM(2022)0035) following displacements in Selecta in France.

I understand that it is intended that a report on this proposal will be soon adopted in the Committee on Budgets.

The application relates to 473 displaced workers whose activity has ceased in Selecta. This enterprise operates in the economic sector classified under the NACE Revision 2 division 46 (Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles). The redundancies are spread throughout mainland France. All 473 displaced workers are expected to participate in the measures.

Sales by vending machines have been hit hard by the economic and financial consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. In April 2020, 58% of the vending machine operators in Europe declared turnover losses between 61% and 99%, year-on-year. In September, 48% of the operators declared a reduction in turnover between 21% and 40% year-on-year.

In France there are about 600 000 vending machines, 70% in businesses and 30% in public places. According to NAVSA, the French Organization for Automatic Sales and Services, although vending machines were allowed to continue operating during the pandemic, the sector found itself in a situation of inactivity/limited functioning. Once the lockdown was softened, machine/site access was eased. However, sanitary measures still lead to interruption or restriction of sales by vending machine (e.g. ban on selling non-essential items; recommendation not to drink or eat in the public transport network; etc.). Furthermore, massive teleworking caused a sharp drop in consumption at the workplaces.

The personalised services to be provided to displaced workers consist of the following measures: Advisory services and vocational guidance; Psychological support unit; Training; Contribution to business creation; Job search allowance; Allowance for quick reemployment; Outplacement incentive; Contribution to moving and installation costs.

The estimated total costs are EUR 4 793 290, comprising expenditure for personalised services of EUR 4 766 930 and expenditure for preparatory, management, information and publicity, control and reporting activities of EUR 26 360. The total financial contribution requested from the EGF is EUR 4 074 296 (85 % of total costs). The national pre-financing and co-funding is provided by Selecta.

The rules applicable to financial contributions from the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF) are laid down in Regulation (EU) 2021/691 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013.

The committee coordinators have assessed this proposal, and asked me to write to you reporting that the majority of this committee has no objection to this mobilisation of the EGF to allocate the above-mentioned amount as proposed by the Commission.

Yours sincerely,

Younous Omarjee

INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

Date adopted	16.3.2022
Result of final vote	+: 39 -: 0 0: 1
Members present for the final vote	Rasmus Andresen, Anna Bonfrisco, Olivier Chastel, Lefteris Christoforou, David Cormand, Paolo De Castro, Andor Deli, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Vlad Gheorghe, Valentino Grant, Elisabetta Gualmini, Francisco Guerreiro, Valérie Hayer, Eero Heinäluoma, Niclas Herbst, Monika Hohlmeier, Moritz Körner, Joachim Kuhs, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Hélène Laporte, Pierre Larrouturou, Janusz Lewandowski, Margarida Marques, Siegfried Mureşan, Victor Negrescu, Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos, Andrey Novakov, Jan Olbrycht, Dimitrios Papadimoulis, Karlo Ressler, Bogdan Rzońca, Nicolae Ștefănuță, Nils Torvalds, Nils Ušakovs, Johan Van Overtveldt, Rainer Wieland, Angelika Winzig
Substitutes present for the final vote	Henrike Hahn, Petros Kokkalis

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

39	+
ECR	Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Bogdan Rzońca, Johan Van Overtveldt
ID	Anna Bonfrisco, Valentino Grant, Hélène Laporte
NI	Andor Deli, Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos
PPE	Lefteris Christoforou, José Manuel Fernandes, Niclas Herbst, Monika Hohlmeier, Janusz Lewandowski, Siegfried Mureşan, Andrey Novakov, Jan Olbrycht, Karlo Ressler, Rainer Wieland, Angelika Winzig
Renew	Olivier Chastel, Vlad Gheorghe, Valérie Hayer, Moritz Körner, Nils Torvalds, Nicolae Ştefănuță
S&D	Paolo De Castro, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Elisabetta Gualmini, Eero Heinäluoma, Pierre Larrouturou, Margarida Marques, Victor Negrescu, Nils Ušakovs
The Left	Petros Kokkalis, Dimitrios Papadimoulis
Verts/ALE	Rasmus Andresen, David Cormand, Francisco Guerreiro, Henrike Hahn

0	-
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1	0
ID	Joachim Kuhs

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour
- : against
0 : abstention

