



2020/1998(BUD)

23.9.2020

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

2021 Budget
(2020/1998(BUD))

Committee on Constitutional Affairs

Rapporteur: Antonio Tajani

AB

[ZPATH]

2/7

PE[ZNRPE][ZNRV]

EN

Draft amendment 3

=== AFCO/6425 ===

Tabled by Committee on Constitutional Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Article 07 06 02 — Promote citizens engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
07 06 02			33 425 000	10 976 000	33 425 000	10 976 000	37 517 000	12 320 000	70 942 000	23 296 000
Reserve										
Total			33 425 000	10 976 000	33 425 000	10 976 000	37 517 000	12 320 000	70 942 000	23 296 000

Justification:

The levels of the appropriations for this line need to be significantly increased, in line with Parliament's amendments to the Commission proposal establishing the Rights and Values programme (https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-8-2019-0040_EN.html). It is vital to intensify the participatory democracy processes in the EU and to build citizens' trust and understanding for European policies and politics as well as nurture historical memory. Therefore the Rights and Values programme, should be equipped with adequate funding to meet its objectives.

Draft amendment 4

=== AFCO/6426 ===

Tabled by Committee on Constitutional Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 07 20 04 02 — Executive and corporate communication services

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
07 20 04 02	42 065 180	41 717 996	47 105 200	39 676 000	47 105 200	39 676 000	3 373 016	10 385 595	50 478 216	50 061 595
Reserve										
Total	42 065 180	41 717 996	47 105 200	39 676 000	47 105 200	39 676 000	3 373 016	10 385 595	50 478 216	50 061 595

Remarks:

After paragraph:

Corporate communication products and services are achieving a better image of the Commission and the EU.

Amend text as follows:

This appropriation is intended to cover expenditure incurred within the Union for online multimedia and written information and other communication tools concerning the Union, for the purpose of providing all citizens with general information on the work of the Union institutions, the decisions taken and the stages in the building of the European Union. This is a public service task. Online and other communication tools make it possible to gather citizens' questions or reactions on European *topics, with a special focus on topics discussed in the course of the Conference on the Future of Europe*. These tools must be made accessible to people with disabilities, in accordance with Web Accessibility Initiative guidelines.

Justification:

It is important to further increase the level of the appropriations for this line. The EU budget should provide the European Institutions with the necessary means to ensure proper communication with citizens and encourage their interest and involvement in Union matters, especially in view of the forthcoming Conference on the Future of Europe, which will require constant communication between the leadership of the EU Institutions and the citizens on the future of the EU. Furthermore increased funding is needed to fight against disinformation and against the spreading of fake news.

Draft amendment 5

==== AFCO/6427 ====

Tabled by Committee on Constitutional Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 07 20 04 03 — Commission Representations

Amend figures as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
07 20 04 03	27 427 000	25 744 650	27 356 000	23 497 000	27 356 000	23 497 000	2 813 700	4 822 115	30 169 700	28 319 115
Reserve										
Total	27 427 000	25 744 650	27 356 000	23 497 000	27 356 000	23 497 000	2 813 700	4 822 115	30 169 700	28 319 115

Justification:

It is important to increase the level of the appropriations for this line with 10 percent compared to the Budget 2020. Commission Representations play an important role in informing citizens about the EU's activities and fostering public debate on European matters, in particular they raise awareness of the European Citizens Initiative. They are also responsible for countering disinformation at local level. Their scope of activities and the workload will soon further increase through their direct engagement in the Conference on the Future of Europe.

Draft amendment 6

==== AFCO/6428 ====

Tabled by Committee on Constitutional Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Item 07 20 04 04 — Communication services for citizens

Amend figures and remarks as follows:

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
07 20 04 04	23 906 820	23 293 354	32 228 600	28 943 000	32 228 600	28 943 000	1 240 948	1 338 360	33 469 548	30 281 360
Reserve										
Total	23 906 820	23 293 354	32 228 600	28 943 000	32 228 600	28 943 000	1 240 948	1 338 360	33 469 548	30 281 360

Remarks:

After paragraph:

Communication actions can be organised in partnership and communication activities on the European Union.

Add following text:

This appropriation could also serve to fund specific communication actions in the framework of the Conference on the Future of Europe.

Justification:

The funding for this budget line has been increased significantly but a further increase is needed in 2021 in order to finance specific actions in the course of the Conference on the Future of Europe. The Commission is invited to present the necessary proposals, in case further appropriations will be needed.

Draft amendment 7

==== AFCO/6429 ====

Tabled by Committee on Constitutional Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 01

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 01							1 200 000	500 000	1 200 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 200 000	500 000	1 200 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — BELE – Building Europe with Local Entities

Remarks:

Add following text:

This project will offer financing to facilitate the identification in local governments of a councilman or councilwoman responsible for disseminating not only the programs and projects financed by the European Union in that municipality but also communicating to the citizens of his municipality the general political initiatives and measures carried out by the Union through periodical declarations to local media, debates and seminars.

European values and policies need to be disseminated to the widest audience, particularly in the context of the Conference on the Future of Europe. Once we will count with the Interinstitutional Agreement that will open up the Conference on the Future of Europe, this Pilot Project will complement the perimeter of this important event and will be adapted to this goal.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

This proposal, by involving in a permanent and systematic way potentially all local entities in the EU, can provide a substantial and measurable impact in terms of educating the public about the integration process, so often unknown or misunderstood, during the Conference on the Future of Europe. No other current EU program has this profile. The use of impact evaluation can be easily deployed in order to assess the success of this Pilot Project.

=====
Draft amendment 8

==== AFCO/6430 ====

Tabled by Committee on Constitutional Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 02

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 02							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000
Reserve										
Total							1 000 000	500 000	1 000 000	500 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Learning European and Global Citizenship

Remarks:

Add following text:

This pilot project has the objective of deepening the European and global citizenship's dimension in the EU education systems. Through the development of a demonstrative curriculum in these areas, the next generation of Europeans should gain a better understanding of the European project and their belonging to the global community. Students in primary and secondary education should learn the history and heritage of the European Union, its institutions and functioning, how to work and live in multicultural environments, how to actively participate in European affairs, as well as understand their rights and obligations as European citizens. In an increasingly globalised world, it is also important that they gain knowledge of the international and multilateral architecture, particularly in times where international cooperation is under pressure. European history and values should be integrated within a global perspective and avoid Eurocentric biases. Moreover, as the economy is increasingly globalised, learning to work with others at an international level will be a fundamental skill for the next generations.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

More than a democratic deficit, the EU and international institutions face a knowledge deficit. There is a lack of understanding on how to teach and assess European and global citizenship given the multiple dimensions involved (heritage, history, institutions, etc.) and soft skills (working in diversity, active citizenship, etc.). This project seeks to overcome this deficit by bringing together a global community of European and international academics, policy makers, students and teachers to design and test a demonstrative European and global citizenship curriculum.

=====
Draft amendment 9

==== AFCO/6431 ====

Tabled by Committee on Constitutional Affairs

SECTION III — COMMISSION

Add: PP 07 21 03

	Budget 2020		Draft budget 2021		Council's position 2021		Difference		New amount	
	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments	Commitments	Payments
PP 07 21 03							3 000 000	1 800 000	3 000 000	1 800 000
Reserve										
Total							3 000 000	1 800 000	3 000 000	1 800 000

Heading:

Pilot project — Temporary citizens' assemblies: transforming societal consensus into a way of acting and establishing best practices to engage citizens more in EU public life

Remarks:

Add following text:

The number of significant crises the Union has undergone demonstrates that EU needs to involve citizens more closely in a bottom-up exercise. Citizens' assemblies are exercises in deliberative democracy which bring together a cross-section of society to debate and advise on specific societal challenges. Although EU citizens' dialogues took place in the past, those temporary assemblies would be a rare chance for citizens to take the reins from their representatives and hash out the issues for themselves. If formulated correctly, citizens can transform consensus on important issues to consensus on a way to act better. Positive outcomes would help bring citizens closer to the EU.

Legal basis:

Add following text:

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Justification:

The Pilot project aims at creating temporary randomly selected EU-wide citizens' assemblies to discuss one or several important societal questions that are relevant for the EU and at establishing best practices to engage citizens more in EU public life.