



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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*Committee on Constitutional Affairs*

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**2013/2145(BUD)**

4.9.2013

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

for the Committee on Budgets

on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2014 - all sections  
(2013/2145(BUD))

Rapporteur: Morten Messerschmidt

PA\_NonLeg

## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Constitutional Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

- A. whereas many Member States face severe budgetary difficulties and the Union budget needs to reflect that; and whereas the Union budget represents, among other things, a prime instrument that can act as a catalyst for investment, which should be stepped up at a time of crisis;
  - B. whereas the changes introduced into the budgetary procedure by the Lisbon Treaty must be respected.
1. Stresses that 2014 is an election year, which calls for a coherent budgetary approach to the provision of information about the European elections; calls for a campaign to inform citizens about their electoral rights, the impact of the Union on their daily life and the role of the European Parliament as the institution, to be provided in all languages of the Union;
  2. Calls for an evaluation of the communication strategy for the 2009 elections and stresses the need for a similar evaluation for the 2014 elections;
  3. Notes that 2013 is the European year of Citizens and asks that the appropriation in the 2014 budget be also used for a thorough assessment of that initiative;
  4. Regrets the continued problems with the European Citizens' Initiative and emphasises the need for priority in the budget not only for the initiatives themselves, but also for their communication; notes that the logistical problems have been immense and that these need to be solved in order to improve the popularity and trustworthiness of the European Citizens' Initiative;
  5. Takes the view that openness must be a horizontal keyword in the budgetary process of all EU institutions; regrets that it has still not been possible to reach an agreement on full transparency.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	4.9.2013						
<b>Result of final vote</b>	<table><tr><td>+:                   </td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>–:                   </td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>0:                   </td><td>0</td></tr></table>	+:	14	–:	3	0:	0
+:	14						
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<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Andrew Henry William Brons, Ashley Fox, Roberto Gualtieri, Enrique Guerrero Salom, Gerald Häfner, Stanimir Ilchev, Constance Le Grip, Paulo Rangel, Søren Bo Søndergaard, Indrek Tarand, Rafał Trzaskowski, Luis Yáñez-Barnuevo García						
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Zuzana Brzobohatá, Dimitrios Droutsas						
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote</b>	Marino Baldini, Susy De Martini, Andrej Plenković						