AMENDMENTS
1 - 15

Draft opinion
Antonio Tajani
(PE696.302v02-00)

Draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022 -
General Introduction - Total expenditure - General statement of revenue -
Statement of revenue and expenditure by section
(2021/0227(BUD))
Amendment 1
Domènec Ruiz Devesa

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

1. Welcomes the proposed 18% increase in commitment appropriations and 104% increase in payment appropriations of the 2022 Draft Budget as compared to the 2021 budget for the ‘Promoting citizens engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union’; recalls that the participation in the democratic life of the Union is a fundamental right of the EU’s citizens laid down in Article 10.3 of the TEU; therefore believes that a further increase is necessary to secure enough financial means for the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme and adequate support of the European Citizens' Initiative, among else, and consequently proposes a further 5% increase for this budgetary line;

Amendment
1. Welcomes the proposed 18% increase in commitment appropriations and 104% increase in payment appropriations of the 2022 Draft Budget as compared to the 2021 budget for the ‘Promoting citizens engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union’; recalls that the participation in the democratic life of the Union is a fundamental right of the EU’s citizens laid down in Article 10.3 of the TEU; therefore believes that a further increase is necessary to secure enough financial means for the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme and adequate support of the European Citizens' Initiative, among else, and consequently proposes a further 5% increase for this budgetary line; likewise, welcomes the implementation and the commitment appropriations for the Pilot Project BELE - Building Europe with Local Entities, as a way to enhance the participation of EU towns and villages beyond Member States' capitals in the democratic life of the Union;

Or. en

Amendment 2
Victor Negrescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion
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of the 2022 Draft Budget as compared to the 2021 budget for the ‘Promoting citizens engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union’; recalls that the participation in the democratic life of the Union is a fundamental right of the EU’s citizens laid down in Article 10.3 of the TEU; therefore believes that a further increase is necessary to secure enough financial means for the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme and adequate support of the European Citizens' Initiative, among else, and consequently proposes a further 5% increase for this budgetary line;

Amendment 3
Domènech Ruiz Devesa

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 a. Highlights the importance of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme for the promotion of European citizenship education and calls for a budget line on demonstrative and voluntary primary and secondary curriculum for EU and global citizenship education;

Or. en
Amendment 4
Domènec Ruiz Devesa

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Disagrees with the Council’s position to reduce by 3.6% funding proposed on the draft budget for the line on ‘Commission Representations’; proposes a 5% increase for this line as compared to the Commission’s proposal in the 2022 Draft Budget and deems this increase necessary for the purpose of encouraging proactive dialogues on EU matters with citizens in the Member States, including virtual and hybrid formats, organising events in the context of the Conference on the Future of Europe as well as developing communication activities to fight disinformation;

Amendment

2. Disagrees with the Council’s position to reduce by 3.6% funding proposed on the draft budget for the line on ‘Commission Representations’; proposes a 5% increase for this line as compared to the Commission’s proposal in the 2022 Draft Budget and deems this increase necessary for the purpose of encouraging proactive dialogues on EU matters with citizens in the Member States, including virtual and hybrid formats, organising events in the context of the Conference on the Future of Europe as well as developing communication activities to fight foreign interferences and disinformation; considers that Parliament should also guarantee appropriate resources for its Liaison Offices for this purpose;

Or. en

Amendment 5
Domènec Ruiz Devesa

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

2 a. Insists on the importance of an adequate increase in payment appropriations for taking into account the goals of the Conference on the Future of Europe, as set out in the European Parliament’s position;

Amendment

2 a. Insists on the importance of an adequate increase in payment appropriations for taking into account the goals of the Conference on the Future of Europe, as set out in the European Parliament’s position;

Or. en
Amendment 6
Victor Negrescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Regards as insufficient the proposed levels of increase by 0.9% in commitment appropriations and by 3% in payment appropriations for ‘Communication services for citizens’ compared to the 2021 budget; consequently, opposes the Council’s position to reduce by 3,1% funding for this budgetary line; points out that communication services for citizens ought to be state of the art in order to reach EU citizens and engage with them through different communication channels, substantially rendering the Union’s policies more visible; therefore proposes a 5% increase compared to the 2022 Draft Budget levels for ‘Communication services for citizens’ inter alia in view of funding awareness raising and information activities on the European Citizens’ Initiative in cooperation with the Commission Representations and local Europe Direct Centres in the Member States;

Amendment

3. Regards as insufficient the proposed levels of increase by 0.9% in commitment appropriations and by 3% in payment appropriations for ‘Communication services for citizens’ compared to the 2021 budget; consequently, opposes the Council’s position to reduce by 3,1% funding for this budgetary line; points out that communication services for citizens ought to be state of the art in order to reach EU citizens and engage with them through different communication channels, substantially rendering the Union’s policies more visible; therefore proposes a 5% increase compared to the 2022 Draft Budget levels for ‘Communication services for citizens’ inter alia in view of funding awareness raising and information activities on the European Citizens’ Initiative in cooperation with the Commission Representations and local Europe Direct Centres in the Member States; underlines the importance of involving smaller NGOs, local authorities and stakeholders in communication strategies and actions; calls for making content available in all EU languages and provide native language content to Europeans living in other EU countries;

Or. en

Amendment 7
Victor Negrescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)
3 a. Calls for the financing of a specific strategy and initiative focused on citizenship and civic education; calls for the creation within the 2022 EU Budget of a new Agency focusing on citizenship and civic education;

3 b. Calls for an EU inclusive budget that helps Europeans deal with the digital and just green transitions, improves access and the quality of education and healthcare across the Union, enables the creation of high-quality jobs, offers life prospects for young people, integrates seniors and disadvantaged communities, and delivers on our global commitments;

3 c. Regrets the cuts proposed by the Council to the EU Budget 2022 and recalls the need to keep the commitments agreed upon at interinstitutional level on the MFF; underlines that any set-backs could put into danger the fragile
consensus and reminds the Council and the Commission that the year 2022 should be a full implementation year for the EU budget and the Recovery and Resilience Facility; calls upon the Commission to speed-up the implementation of the EU programmes and recommends to Member States to accelerate the preparations and the deployment of EU funded initiatives and projects;

Amendment 10
Victor Negrescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 d (new)

3 d. Stresses that the role of the EU budget is to achieve EU strategic objectives such as cohesion, reducing the disparities between and within Member States and upward convergence, high-quality employment and up-skilling and re-skilling of workers, green economy and innovation, education and healthcare;

Amendment 11
Victor Negrescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 e (new)

3 e. Underlines the risks of politicization of EU funding and calls upon special supervision of potential government-led politicization of EU funds;
Amendment 12
Victor Negrescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 f (new)

3 f. Reiterates the need for the EU to respect its international commitments and regrets the Council proposal to reduce the funding for external action programs; recalls the importance of using the EU budget actively in order to help our international partners affected by the pandemic and remain active and visible in the neighbouring regions, especially in the Western Balkans and the Eastern Partnership areas;

Amendment 13
Victor Negrescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 g (new)

3 g. Underlines the importance of pilot projects and preparatory actions in the framework of the EU budget and calls upon the Commission to show more flexibility in the evaluation and reassessment of the proposals made by the EU budget; calls for a bigger allocation to such initiatives by integrating part of the 'C' evaluated projects considered important by the European Parliament;
Amendment 14
Victor Negrescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 h (new)

Draft opinion

3 h. Calls upon the Commission to come up with a more rigorous approach towards decommitments and to reallocate and reuse the unspent funds to finance the priority objectives and areas agreed upon at interinstitutional level, especially in areas related to the pandemic management, education, healthcare, innovation and social policies;

Or. en

Amendment 15
Victor Negrescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 i (new)

Draft opinion

3 i. Reconfirms the support given by the European Parliament for the allocation of EU funds in order to make Covid-19 testing widely available for EU citizens and underlines the importance for the Commission and the Council to deliver on this objective as fast as possible in the context of a potential fourth wave; calls upon the Commission and the Council to speed-up vaccination, the accurate information about the vaccination and the preparations in order to prevent and manage any potential new Covid-19 wave;

Or. en