



21.11.2018

OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council
establishing the Internal Security Fund
(COM(2018)0472 – C8-0267/2018 – 2018/0250(COD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Urmaz Paet

PA_Legam

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

Increasingly diverse and complex threats to our security know no borders and a coordinated response at the EU level and reinforced financial and technical support to Member States is crucial.

The Rapporteur therefore supports the Commission proposal, which proposes for the period 2021-2027 to more than double the financial envelope of the Internal Security Fund, the Union's instrument set up to facilitate cross-border cooperation and joint operations, intensify exchange of information and strengthen capabilities to prevent and combat organised crime and cybercrime, and to tackle terrorism and radicalisation. The Rapporteur would like to stress the importance of crisis management including prevention, preparedness, resilience and consequence management, which needs to be added to the policy objectives of the new Fund as these are essential components for ensuring internal security.

Taking into consideration the results of the interim evaluation of the current ISF-P, the main challenge for the next period is to ensure greater flexibility and efficiency of the Fund and to reduce the administrative burden to the minimum. The Rapporteur considers this the key priority and welcomes the Commission proposals as a step in the right direction. The proposed amendments are aimed at increasing flexibility with regard to the implementation measures and actions. It is equally important to ensure that the reporting requirements are proportionate, relevant and do not add to administrative burden of beneficiaries and administrating authorities.

Security is a cross-cutting issue and, as proposed by the Commission, increased synergies and coherence of the ISF with other EU instruments are welcomed and necessary. In the same vein, security on global level and actions beyond the EU borders have a direct impact on the Union's internal security. Therefore, measures in relation to third countries should be continued and supported through the Fund and must at the same time compliment the Union's internal security priorities and external policy objectives in those countries.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Budgets calls on the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) The Union's objective of ensuring a high level of security within an area of freedom, security and justice pursuant to Article 67(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union

Amendment

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(TFEU) should be achieved, among others, through measures to prevent and combat crime as well as through measures for coordination and cooperation between law enforcement authorities and other national authorities of Member States, including with relevant Union agencies and other relevant Union bodies, and with relevant third countries and international organisations.

(TFEU) should be achieved, among others, through measures to prevent and combat crime as well as through measures for coordination and cooperation between law enforcement authorities and other national authorities of Member States, including with relevant Union agencies and other relevant Union bodies, and with relevant third countries and international organisations, **and civilian crisis management.**

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) To achieve this objective, actions should be taken at Union level to protect people and goods from increasingly transnational threats and to support the work carried out by Member States' competent authorities. Terrorism, serious and organised crime, itinerant crime, drug trafficking, corruption, cybercrime, trafficking in human beings and arms, among others, continue to challenge the internal security of the Union.

Amendment

(5) To achieve this objective, actions should be taken at Union level to protect people and goods from increasingly transnational threats and to support the work carried out by Member States' competent authorities. Terrorism, serious and organised crime, itinerant crime, drug trafficking, corruption, cybercrime, **hybrid threats**, trafficking in human beings and arms, among others, continue to challenge the internal security of the Union.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) In line with the shared priorities identified at Union level to ensure a high level of security in the Union, the Fund will support actions aimed at addressing the main security threats and in particular tackling terrorism and radicalisation, serious and organised crime and cybercrime and assisting and protecting victims of crime. The Fund will ensure that

Amendment

(11) In line with the shared priorities identified at Union level to ensure a high level of security in the Union, the Fund will support actions aimed at addressing the main security threats and in particular tackling terrorism and radicalisation, serious and organised crime and cybercrime and assisting and protecting victims of crime. The Fund will ensure that

the Union and its Member States are well equipped also to address evolving and emerging threats with a view to implementing a genuine security union. This should be pursued through financial assistance to support better information exchange, increase operational cooperation and improve national and collective capabilities.

the Union and its Member States are well equipped also to address evolving and emerging threats, *including hybrid threats*, with a view to implementing a genuine security union. This should be pursued through financial assistance to support better information exchange, increase operational cooperation and improve national and collective capabilities.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation Recital 12

Text proposed by the Commission

(12) Within the comprehensive framework of the Fund, the financial assistance provided through the Fund should in particular support police and judicial cooperation and prevention in the fields of serious and organised crime, illicit arms trafficking, corruption, money laundering, drug trafficking, environmental crime, exchange of and access to information, terrorism, trafficking in human beings, exploitation of *illegal* immigration, child sexual exploitation, distribution of child abuse images and child pornography, and cybercrime. The Fund should also support the protection of people, public spaces and critical infrastructure against security-related incidents and the effective management of security-related risks and crises, including through the development of common policies (strategies, policy cycles, programmes and action plans), legislation and practical cooperation.

Amendment

(12) Within the comprehensive framework of the Fund, the financial assistance provided through the Fund should in particular support police and judicial cooperation and prevention in the fields of serious and organised crime, illicit arms trafficking, corruption, money laundering, drug trafficking, environmental crime, exchange of and access to information, terrorism, trafficking in human beings, exploitation of *irregular* immigration, child sexual exploitation, distribution of child abuse images and child pornography, and cybercrime. The Fund should also support the protection of people, public spaces and critical infrastructure against security-related incidents and the effective management of security-related risks and crises, including through the development of common policies (strategies, policy cycles, programmes and action plans), legislation and practical cooperation.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation Recital 45

Text proposed by the Commission

(45) Reflecting the importance of tackling climate change in line with the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, this Fund will contribute to mainstream climate actions and to the achievement of an overall target of 25% of the EU budget expenditures supporting climate objectives. Relevant actions will be identified during the Fund's preparation and implementation, and reassessed in the context of the relevant evaluations and review processes.

Amendment

(45) Reflecting the importance of tackling climate change in line with the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, this Fund will contribute to mainstream climate actions and to the achievement of an overall target of 25% of the EU budget expenditures supporting climate objectives ***over the MFF 2021-2027 period and an annual target of 30 % as soon as possible and at the latest by 2027.*** Relevant actions will be identified during the Fund's preparation and implementation, and reassessed in the context of the relevant evaluations and review processes.

Amendment 6

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1**

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The policy objective of the Fund shall be to contribute to ensuring a high level of security in the Union, in particular by tackling terrorism and radicalisation, serious ***and organised*** crime ***and cybercrime*** and by assisting and protecting victims of crime.

Amendment

1. The policy objective of the Fund shall be to contribute to ensuring a high level of security in the Union, in particular by tackling terrorism and radicalisation, serious, ***organised and international*** crime, ***cybercrime, trafficking in drugs and human organs*** and by assisting and protecting victims of crime. ***The Fund shall also support preparedness for and management of security-related risk and crisis.***

Amendment 7

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point a**

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) to increase the exchange of information among and within the Union

Amendment

(a) to increase the exchange of information among and within the Union

law enforcement and other competent authorities and other relevant Union bodies as well as with third countries and international organisations;

law enforcement and other competent authorities and other relevant Union bodies, ***including external action and activities***, as well as with third countries and international organisations;

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) to support effort at strengthening the capabilities in relation to combatting and preventing crime including terrorism in particular through increased cooperation between public authorities, civil society and private partners across the Member States.

Amendment

(c) to support effort at strengthening the capabilities in relation to combatting and preventing crime including terrorism in particular through increased cooperation between public authorities, civil society and private partners across the Member States, ***and civilian crisis management***.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. Within the specific objectives set out in paragraph 2, the Fund shall be implemented through the implementation measures listed in Annex II.

Amendment

3. Within the specific objectives set out in paragraph 2, the Fund shall be implemented ***inter alia*** through the implementation measures listed in Annex II.

Justification

Implementation measures and actions listed in the Annexes II and III respectively should not be exhaustive but serve more as a guidance or set of examples, which are considered most desirable by the European Commission. However, if deemed necessary it should be possible for the Member States to select other relevant measures within the objectives of the Fund.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. Within the objectives referred to in Article 3 and in-line with the implementation measures listed in Annex II, the Fund shall in particular support the actions listed in Annex III.

1. Within the objectives referred to in Article 3 and, **where appropriate**, in-line with the implementation measures listed in Annex II, the Fund shall in particular support the actions listed in Annex III.

Justification

Implementation measures and actions listed in the Annexes II and III respectively should not be exhaustive but serve more as a guidance or set of examples, which are considered most desirable by the European Commission. However, if deemed necessary it should be possible for the Member States to select other relevant measures within the objectives of the Fund.

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. The financial envelope for the implementation of the Fund for the period 2021-2027 shall be EUR 2 500 000 000 in current prices.

1. The financial envelope for the implementation of the Fund for the period 2021-2027 shall be **EUR 2 209 725 000 in 2018 prices (EUR 2 500 000 000 in current prices)**.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) EUR 1 500 000 000 shall be allocated to the programmes implemented under shared management;

(a) **EUR 1 325 835 000 in 2018 prices (EUR 1 500 000 000 in current prices)** shall be allocated to the programmes implemented under shared management;

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) EUR 1 000 000 000 shall be allocated to the thematic facility.

(b) **EUR 883 890 in 2018 prices** (EUR 1 000 000 000 **in current prices**) shall be allocated to the thematic facility.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

5 a. The contribution from the Union budget may be increased to 100 % of the total eligible expenditure for technical assistance at the initiative of the Member States.

Justification

The implementing rules for DG HOME funds under the two previous financing periods included a possibility for the Member States to finance the technical assistance at the initiative of the Member States up to 100% from the Union budget. The current proposal does not foresee this option as the rules follow the CPR regulation. Considering, that the allocations under the DG HOME funds are very small compared to the structural and investment funds, but the administrative burden is according to the CPR proposal even higher in the next period, this provision should apply also to the 2021+ period.

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Title	Establishing the Internal Security Fund
References	COM(2018)0472 – C8-0267/2018 – 2018/0250(COD)
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	LIBE 2.7.2018
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	BUDG 2.7.2018
Rapporteur Date appointed	Urmas Paet 28.6.2018
Discussed in committee	25.9.2018
Date adopted	21.11.2018
Result of final vote	+: 25 –: 2 0: 1
Members present for the final vote	Nedzhmi Ali, Jean Arthuis, Richard Ashworth, Gérard Deprez, Manuel dos Santos, André Elissen, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Jens Geier, John Howarth, Bernd Kölmel, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Vladimír Maňka, Siegfried Mureşan, Jan Olbrycht, Urmas Paet, Răzvan Popa, Paul Rübig, Petri Sarvamaa, Jordi Solé, Patricija Šulin, Eleftherios Synadinos, Inese Vaidere, Daniele Viotti, Tiemo Wölken, Stanisław Żółtek
Substitutes present for the final vote	Karine Gloanec Maurin, Tomáš Zdechovský

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

25	+
ALDE	Nedzhmi Ali, Jean Arthuis, Gérard Deprez, Urmas Paet
ECR	Bernd Kölmel, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk
PPE	Richard Ashworth, José Manuel Fernandes, Siegfried Mureşan, Jan Olbrycht, Paul Rübig, Petri Sarvamaa, Patricija Šulin, Inese Vaidere, Tomáš Zdechovský
S&D	Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Jens Geier, Karine Gloanec Maurin, John Howarth, Vladimír Maňka, Răzvan Popa, Manuel dos Santos, Daniele Viotti, Tiemo Wölken
VERTS/ALE	Jordi Solé

2	-
ENF	André Elissen, Stanisław Żółtek

1	0
NI	Eleftherios Synadinos

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention