



**2022/2051(INL)**

13.2.2023

# **OPINION**

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

Proposals of the European Parliament for the amendment of the Treaties  
(2022/2051(INL))

Rapporteur for opinion: Nils Ušakovs

(Initiative – Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure)

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Budgets calls on the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, as the committee responsible:

- to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:
  1. Underlines that the challenges and socio-economic consequences resulting from recent events, including the COVID-19 crisis, the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, rising inflation affecting cost of living and the purchasing power of the budget and the unprecedented energy crisis have limited the Union's ability to provide itself with the means necessary to attain its objectives and carry through its policies;
  2. Recalls that following the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe of 9 May 2022, Parliament has already submitted to the Council proposals for the amendment of the Treaties under the ordinary revision procedure laid down in Article 48 TEU, including in order to provide Parliament with full co-decision rights on the Union budget, as well as the right to initiate legislation; recalls that the three Institutions have committed to following up effectively on the conclusions of the Conference;
  3. Calls therefore for the revision of the TFEU, in particular its Title II, to ensure that the Union is able to fulfil its objectives and commitments, including under the European Pillar of Social Rights and the European Green Deal, and react agilely, effectively and in a timely manner to challenges and to achieve better democratic accountability and transparency of the Union budget, notably by promoting the Community method and reinforcing Parliament's role and powers in all aspects of budgetary decision-making and scrutiny, as regards both expenditure and revenue;
  4. Until Treaty revision takes place, calls for the full use of the TFEU possibilities with a view to improving Council decision-making and ensuring that the Union is able to react in a more efficient and transparent way to challenges, while achieving greater democratic accountability in respect of the Union budget; calls, in that regard, on the European Council to activate the passerelle clause in Article 312(2) TFEU to allow for the adoption of the regulation laying down the multiannual financial framework by qualified majority;
- to incorporate the following recommendations into the annex to its motion for a resolution:
  5. Article 122 TFEU shall be amended so that temporary measures to address severe or exceptional economic situations are adopted by the European Parliament and the Council acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure, without prejudice to other procedures provided for in the Treaties;
  6. Provisions as regards revenue shall be amended to allow for multiple sources of funding, including through common borrowing; a new Article 122a shall be inserted to allow the establishment of a permanent special instrument over and above the ceilings of the multiannual financial framework for the Union budget to better adapt and quickly react to crises and their social and economic effects; the decision for the establishment and

relevant implementing measures shall be adopted by the European Parliament and the Council acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure;

7. Article 311 TFEU shall be amended so that the decision laying down the provisions relating to the system of own resources of the Union and the implementing measures for that system are adopted by the European Parliament and the Council acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure;
8. Article 312(2) TFEU shall be amended so that the regulation laying down the multiannual financial framework is adopted by the European Parliament and the Council acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure;
9. A new paragraph 2a shall be added to Article 312 TFEU to stipulate that each multiannual financial framework shall encompass, as horizontal principles, the objectives of climate and biodiversity protection, social convergence and gender equality. Specific spending targets shall be set for expenditure contributing to climate protection, halting and reversing the decline of biodiversity, promoting upward social convergence and gender equality, as well as rights and equal opportunities for all;
10. Article 312(3) TFEU shall be amended to clarify that commitment appropriations are to be included into categories of expenditure, and hence subject to annual ceilings, only if they relate to Union policies or the corresponding administrative expenditure, while other financial means to allow the Union to fulfil its legal obligations in respect of third parties, including the repayment of any interest due, are not to be included into categories or subject to ceilings;
11. Article 322(2) TFEU shall be amended so that the methods and procedure whereby the budget revenue provided under the arrangements relating to the Union's own resources shall be made available to the Commission, and the measures to be applied, if need be, to meet cash requirements, are adopted by the European Parliament and the Council acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure.

## INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Date adopted</b>	9.2.2023
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 31 -: 4 0: 1
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Rasmus Andresen, Pietro Bartolo, Olivier Chastel, Andor Deli, Pascal Durand, José Manuel Fernandes, Matteo Gazzini, Alexandra Geese, Vlad Gheorghe, Francisco Guerreiro, Valérie Hayer, Niclas Herbst, Hervé Juvin, Moritz Körner, Pierre Larrouturou, Camilla Laureti, Janusz Lewandowski, Margarida Marques, Siegfried Mureşan, Dimitrios Papadimoulis, Bogdan Rzońca, Eleni Stavrou, Nils Ušakovs, Rainer Wieland
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Anna-Michelle Asimakopoulou, Fabienne Keller, Petros Kokkalis, Jan Olbrycht, Eva Maria Poptcheva, Monika Vana
<b>Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote</b>	Asim Ademov, Alexander Bernhuber, Jonás Fernández, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Alicia Homs Ginell, Ivan Štefanec

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

31	+
PPE	Asim Ademov, Anna-Michelle Asimakopoulou, Alexander Bernhuber, José Manuel Fernandes, Niclas Herbst, Janusz Lewandowski, Siegfried Mureşan, Jan Olbrycht, Eleni Stavrou, Ivan Štefanec, Rainer Wieland
Renew	Olivier Chastel, Vlad Gheorghe, Valérie Hayer, Fabienne Keller, Eva Maria Poptcheva
S&D	Pietro Bartolo, Pascal Durand, Jonás Fernández, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Alicia Homs Ginel, Pierre Larrourou, Camilla Laureti, Margarida Marques, Nils Ušakovs
The Left	Petros Kokkalis, Dimitrios Papadimoulis
Verts/ALE	Rasmus Andresen, Alexandra Geese, Francisco Guerreiro, Monika Vana

4	-
ECR	Bogdan Rzońca
ID	Matteo Gazzini
NI	Andor Deli, Hervé Juvin

1	0
Renew	Moritz Körner

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention