



**2020/0103(COD)**

29.7.2020

**\*\*\*I**

## **DRAFT REPORT**

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council  
establishing a Technical Support Instrument  
(COM(2020)0409 – C9-0148/2020 – 2020/0103(COD))

Committee on Budgets  
Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Rapporteur: Alexandra Geese, Othmar Karas, Dragoş Pişlaru

(Joint committee procedure – Rule 58 of the Rules of Procedure)

### ***Symbols for procedures***

- \* Consultation procedure
- \*\*\* Consent procedure
- \*\*\*I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- \*\*\*II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- \*\*\*III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

### ***Amendments to a draft act***

#### **Amendments by Parliament set out in two columns**

Deletions are indicated in ***bold italics*** in the left-hand column. Replacements are indicated in ***bold italics*** in both columns. New text is indicated in ***bold italics*** in the right-hand column.

The first and second lines of the header of each amendment identify the relevant part of the draft act under consideration. If an amendment pertains to an existing act that the draft act is seeking to amend, the amendment heading includes a third line identifying the existing act and a fourth line identifying the provision in that act that Parliament wishes to amend.

#### **Amendments by Parliament in the form of a consolidated text**

New text is highlighted in ***bold italics***. Deletions are indicated using either the ▬ symbol or strikeout. Replacements are indicated by highlighting the new text in ***bold italics*** and by deleting or striking out the text that has been replaced.

By way of exception, purely technical changes made by the drafting departments in preparing the final text are not highlighted.

## CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION .....	5



## DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

**on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council  
establishing a Technical Support Instrument  
(COM(2020)0409 – C9-0148/2020 – 2020/0103(COD))**

**(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2020)0409),
  - having regard to Article 294(2) and Articles 175(3) and 197(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C9-0148/2020),
  - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
  - having regard to the joint deliberations of the Committee on Budgets and the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs under Rule 58 of the Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to Rule 59 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to the opinions of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets and the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (A9-0000/2020),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
  2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it replaces, substantially amends or intends to substantially amend its proposal;
  3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

### **Amendment 1**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(1) In accordance with Articles 120 and

(1) In accordance with Articles 120 and

121 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ('the Treaty'), Member States are required to conduct their economic policies with a view to contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the Union and in the context of the broad guidelines that the Council formulates. *Under* Article 148 of the Treaty Member States *shall* implement employment policies that take into account the guidelines for employment. The coordination of the economic policies of the Member States is therefore a matter of common concern.

121 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ('the Treaty'), Member States are required to conduct their economic policies with a view to contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the Union and in the context of the broad guidelines that the Council formulates. Article 148 of the Treaty *provides that* Member States *will* implement employment policies that take into account the guidelines for employment. The coordination of the economic policies of the Member States is therefore a matter of common concern.

Or. en

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) *The outbreak of* the COVID-19 *pandemic* in early 2020 changed the economic outlook for the years to come in the *EU* and in the world. In the Union, new priorities have emerged, linked with the crisis, specifically focussing on recovery and resilience. *They* require an urgent and coordinated response from the Union in order to cope with the economic consequences for Member States as well to mitigate the social and economic fallouts. The current COVID-19 pandemic as well as the previous economic and financial crisis have shown that developing sound and resilient economies and financial systems built on strong economic and social structures helps Member States to respond more efficiently to shocks and recover more swiftly from them. Growth enhancing reforms and investments to address structural weaknesses of the economies and strengthen their resilience will therefore be essential to set the

*Amendment*

(3) The COVID-19 *outbreak* in early 2020 changed the economic outlook for the years to come in the *Union* and in the world. In the Union, new priorities have emerged, linked with the crisis, specifically focussing on recovery and resilience. *Those priorities* require an urgent and coordinated response from the Union in order to cope with the economic, *social and health related* consequences for Member States as well to mitigate the social and economic fallouts. The current COVID-19 pandemic as well as the previous economic and financial crisis have shown that developing sound and resilient economies and financial systems built on strong *sustainable* economic and social structures helps Member States to respond more efficiently to shocks and recover more swiftly from them. *The Five Presidents' Report of 22 June 2015 emphasised the need to strengthen and complete the Economic and Monetary*

economies and societies back on a sustainable recovery path and **overcome the economic, social and territorial divergences in the Union.**

**Union's economic and institutional architecture. In particular, it highlighted the importance of overcoming the economic, social and territorial divergence witnessed during the economic and financial crisis of 2008 and embarking on a new convergence process. Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic has again clearly demonstrated the need to urgently deepen the Economic and Monetary Union and to improve the resilience of Member States' economies. In this context, it is crucial to continue the push for the "virtuous triangle" of firstly, boosting investment, secondly, pursuing effective reforms that foster sustainable, smart, socially responsible and inclusive growth, and thirdly, adopting sound fiscal policies.** Growth enhancing, **sustainable and resilience-enhancing** reforms and investments to address structural weaknesses of the economies and strengthen their resilience will therefore be essential to set the economies and societies back on a sustainable recovery path and **to boost growth potential, strengthen the adjustment capacity, create jobs, foster investment and support the process of upward economic, social and territorial convergence.**

Or. en

### Amendment 3

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Recital 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) At Union level, the European Semester of economic policy coordination is the framework to identify national reform priorities and monitor **their** implementation. Member States develop their own national multiannual investment strategies in support of **those** reform

*Amendment*

(4) At Union level, the European Semester of economic policy coordination is the framework to identify **challenges and** national reform priorities and monitor **the** implementation **of those priorities. As part of the European Semester, Parliament has stated that socially**

priorities. Those strategies are presented alongside the yearly National Reform Programmes as a way to outline and coordinate priorities to be supported by national and/or Union funding. They should also serve to use Union funding in a coherent manner and to maximise the added value of the financial support to be received notably from the programmes supported by the Union under the structural and cohesion funds, and from other programmes.

***responsible reforms must be based on solidarity, integration, social justice and a fair distribution of wealth, thereby creating a model that ensures equality and social protection, protects vulnerable groups and improves living standards for all citizens, key principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights.*** Member States develop their own national multiannual investment strategies in support of ***the*** reform priorities ***in the context of the European Semester.*** Those strategies are presented alongside the yearly National Reform Programmes as a way to outline and coordinate priorities to be supported by national and/or Union funding. They should also serve to use Union funding in a coherent manner; ***to achieve the objectives set by this Regulation*** and to maximise the added value of the financial support to be received notably from the programmes supported by the Union under the structural and cohesion funds, and from other programmes.

Or. en

#### Amendment 4

##### Proposal for a regulation Recital 4 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(4 a) In that context, the country-specific recommendations issued within the framework of the European Semester have still not been sufficiently implemented by the Member States. While Member States implemented on average just 53% of the country-specific recommendations between 2012 and 2018, the potential positive spill-over effects of better coordination of fiscal policy represent around 0,2% to 0,3% of GDP, or between EUR 30 and EUR 45 billion***

*per year, according to 2017 estimates by the European Central Bank and the Commission's 2018 estimates. In that context, the Technical Support Instrument as well as its capacity and size should be understood as an investment in the future with a high added value.*

Or. en

## Amendment 5

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 5

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(5) Regulation (EU) 2017/825 of the European Parliament and the Council<sup>15</sup> established the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) for the period 2017 to 2020, with a budget of EUR 142 800 000. The SRSP was established to strengthen the capacity of Member States to prepare and implement growth-sustaining administrative and structural reforms, including through assistance for the efficient and effective use of the Union funds. Technical support under *that* programme is provided by the Commission, upon request from a Member State, and can cover a wide range of policy areas. This Regulation is designed as a continuation of that programme which has been positively received by the Member States.

---

<sup>15</sup> Regulation (EU) 2017/825 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020 and amending Regulations (EU) No 1303/2013 and (EU) No 1305/2013 (OJ L 129, 19.5.2017, p. 1).

*Amendment*

(5) Regulation (EU) 2017/825 of the European Parliament and the Council<sup>15</sup> established the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) for the period 2017 to 2020, with a budget of EUR 142 800 000. The SRSP was established to strengthen the capacity of Member States to prepare and implement growth-sustaining administrative and structural reforms, including through assistance for the efficient and effective use of the Union funds. Technical support under *the SRSP* programme is provided by the Commission, upon request from a Member State, and can cover a wide range of policy areas. This Regulation is designed as a continuation of that programme which has been positively received by the Member States.

---

<sup>15</sup> Regulation (EU) 2017/825 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020 and amending Regulations (EU) No 1303/2013 and (EU) No 1305/2013 (OJ L 129, 19.5.2017, p. 1).

Or. en

## Amendment 6

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 6

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) Member States have increasingly taken up technical support under the SRSP *in the past*, therefore, *through* this Regulation, a technical support instrument *should be established* with a view to continuing *to* support Member States in the implementation of reforms.

*Amendment*

(6) Member States have increasingly taken up technical support under the SRSP. Therefore, this Regulation *should establish* a technical support instrument with a view to continuing *and significantly enhancing the* support *for* Member States in the implementation of reforms. *That instrument should also constitute an important element of a sustainable and fair COVID-19 Union recovery and should be endowed with sufficient financial resources to fulfil its intended objectives.*

Or. en

## Amendment 7

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 7

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) Reflecting the European Green Deal as Europe's growth strategy and the translation of the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, the technical support instrument will contribute to mainstreaming climate actions and to the achievement of an overall target of **25%** of the **EU** budget *expenditures* supporting climate objectives. Relevant actions should be identified during the *instrument's* preparation and implementation, and reassessed in the context of the relevant evaluations and review processes. *This*

*Amendment*

(7) Reflecting the European Green Deal as Europe's growth strategy and the translation of the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, the technical support instrument will contribute to mainstreaming climate actions and to the achievement of an overall target of **30%** of the **Union** budget supporting climate objectives. *Acknowledging the importance of digitisation across all areas of the Union economy and society, the Technical Support Instrument should support Member States in ensuring a digital*

should also tackle broader environmental and social challenges within the Union, including the protection of natural capital and the support to the circular economy and be in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

*recovery via reforms and investments in digital infrastructure and skills that will contribute to the aim of creating a Digital Single Market. The Technical Support Instrument should also contribute to the implementation of the commitments of the Union and of Member States in the context of the European Pillar of Social Rights.* Relevant actions should be identified during the preparation and implementation *of the Technical Support Instrument*, and reassessed in the context of the relevant evaluations and review processes. *These relevant actions* should also tackle broader environmental, *digital* and social challenges within the Union, including the protection of natural capital and the support to the circular economy and *should* be in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, *including its 5th goal concerning gender equality.*

Or. en

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 8

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) The general objective of the technical support instrument should be to promote the Union's economic, social and territorial cohesion by supporting Member States efforts to implement reforms necessary to achieve *economic and social recovery*, resilience and convergence. *To that effect, it should* support the strengthening of the administrative capacity of the Member States to implement Union law, in relation to challenges faced by institutions, governance, public administration, and economic and social sectors.

*Amendment*

(8) The general objective of the Technical Support Instrument should be to promote the Union's economic, social and territorial cohesion by supporting Member States' efforts to implement reforms *and investments that will support a sustainable and fair economic, social and gender-equal recovery beyond the COVID-19 pandemic* necessary to achieve resilience and convergence, *to effectively address the country-specific recommendations adopted in the context of the European Semester and to* support the strengthening of the administrative capacity of the Member States to implement Union law, in

relation to challenges faced by institutions, governance, public administration, and economic and social sectors.

Or. en

## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 9

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(9) *The specific objectives* of the technical support *instrument* should be to *assist* national authorities in their endeavours to design, develop and implement reforms, including through exchange of good practices, appropriate processes and methodologies and a more effective and efficient human resources management.

*Amendment*

(9) *For the purpose of achieving the general objective* of the Technical Support *Instrument, specific objectives should be defined. These specific objectives should be to support the efforts of the* national authorities in their endeavours to design, develop and implement reforms, *such as the preparation, implementation, revision and improvement of national recovery and resilience plans pursuant to Regulation on Recovery and Resilience Facility*, including through exchange of good practices, appropriate processes and methodologies and a more effective and efficient human resources management.

Or. en

## Amendment 10

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 10

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(10) With a view to helping Member States address reform needs in all the key economic and societal areas, technical support should continue to be provided by the Commission, upon request from a Member State, in a broad range of policy domains, which include areas related to

*Amendment*

(10) With a view to helping Member States address reform needs in all the key economic and societal areas, technical support should continue to be provided by the Commission, upon request from a Member State, in a broad range of policy domains, which include areas related to

public financial and asset management, institutional and administrative reform, business environment, the financial sector, markets for products, services and labour, education and training, sustainable development, public health and social welfare. Specific emphasis should be given to the actions that foster the green and digital transitions.

public financial and asset management, institutional and administrative reform, business environment, the financial sector, markets for products, services and labour, education and training, sustainable development, public health and social welfare ***and child care, as well as the development of infrastructure in these domains***. Specific emphasis should be given to the actions that foster the green and digital transitions. ***The Technical Support Instrument should also encourage the convergence towards the accession to the euro area of the Member States whose currency is not the euro.***

Or. en

## Amendment 11

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 12

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(12) In order to cater for additional needs under the Technical Support Instrument, Member States should have the possibility to transfer to the budget of that instrument resources programmed in shared management under the Union funds, in accordance with the procedure thereof. Transferred resources should be implemented in accordance with the rules of that instrument and should be used exclusively for the benefit of the Member State concerned. The Commission should provide feedback to the Member State concerned on the use of the additional voluntary contributions.

#### *Amendment*

(12) In order to cater for additional needs under the Technical Support Instrument, Member States should have the possibility to transfer to the budget of that instrument resources programmed in shared management under the Union funds, in accordance with the procedure thereof ***with a maximum limit of 5% of the budgetary envelope of the Member State concerned under shared management for the 2021-2027 period***. Transferred resources should be implemented in accordance with the rules of that instrument and should be used exclusively for the benefit of the Member State concerned. The Commission should provide feedback to the Member State concerned on the use of the additional voluntary contributions. ***Those additional resources should be used under the rules and for the purpose of the Technical Support Instrument in accordance with***

*this Regulation.*

Or. en

## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 13

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) The Technical Support Instrument should be provided on request, in order to support the implementation of reforms undertaken at the initiative of the Member States, reforms in the context of economic governance processes or actions related to the implementation of Union law, and reforms in relation to the implementation of economic adjustment programmes. ***It*** should also provide technical support for the preparation ***and*** implementation of recovery plans to be undertaken under Regulation (EU) No YYY/XX.

*Amendment*

(13) The Technical Support Instrument should be provided on request, in order to support the implementation of reforms ***that are*** undertaken at the initiative of the Member States ***and that are in line with the objectives of the instrument***, reforms in the context of economic governance processes ***that address effectively the country-specific recommendations issued in the context of the European Semester*** or actions related to the implementation of Union law, and reforms in relation to the implementation of economic adjustment programmes. ***The Technical Support Instrument*** should also provide technical support for the preparation, implementation, ***revision and improvement*** of recovery plans to be undertaken under Regulation ***on Recovery and Resilience Facility***.

Or. en

## Amendment 13

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 14

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(14) In line with the rules and practice ***already existing*** under ***the previous programme***, the SRSP, a ***light*** process for the submission of requests for technical

*Amendment*

(14) In line with the ***existing*** rules and practice under the SRSP, a ***simple*** process for the submission of requests for technical support should be established. For ***that***

support should be established. For *this* reason, requests by Member States should be submitted by 31 October of a calendar year. Respecting the overarching principle of equal treatment, sound financial management and transparency, appropriate criteria for the analysis of the requests submitted by Member States should be laid down. Those criteria should be based on the urgency, the severity and extent of the problems, as well as on the support needs identified in respect of the policy areas where technical support is envisaged.

reason, requests by Member States should be submitted by 31 October of a calendar year, ***except requests made with the purpose to amend or replace the recovery and resilience plans, in accordance with Regulation on Recovery and Resilience Facility, which may be submitted at any time***. Respecting the overarching principle of equal treatment, sound financial management and transparency, appropriate criteria for the analysis of the requests submitted by Member States should be laid down. Those criteria should be based on the urgency, the severity and extent of the problems, as well as on the support needs identified in respect of the policy areas where technical support is envisaged.

Or. en

## Amendment 14

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 14 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(14 a) The Commission should encourage Member States with high support needs to use the Technical Support Instrument. In order for the reforms pursued to gather wide support and ownership, government of Member States wishing to benefit from the Technical Support Instrument should consult, where appropriate, as part of the request for technical support, relevant stakeholders, such as local and regional authorities, businesses, the social partners and civil society, in line with the relevant provisions of the Code of Conduct on Partnership under cohesion policy, as well as their national parliaments.***

Or. en

## Amendment 15

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 16

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(16) For the purposes of accountability, transparency and to ensure visibility of the Union action, subject to certain conditions that protect sensitive information, the cooperation and support plans should be provided to the European Parliament and the Council and communication activities should be carried out by the Commission as appropriate.

#### *Amendment*

(16) For the purposes of accountability, transparency and to ensure visibility of the Union action, subject to certain conditions that protect sensitive information, the cooperation and support plans should be provided ***simultaneously*** to the European Parliament and the Council ***without undue delay*** and communication activities should be carried out by the Commission as appropriate, ***including through joint communication activities with the national authorities and the representation offices of the European Parliament and of the Commission in the Member State concerned.***

Or. en

## Amendment 16

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 17

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(17) Provisions on the implementation of the Technical Support Instrument should be laid down, in particular the management modes, the forms of funding for the technical support measures and the content of work programmes, which should be adopted by way of ***implementing*** acts. In view of the importance of sustaining the efforts of Member States in pursuing and implementing reforms, it is necessary to allow for a co-financing rate for grants of up to 100% of the eligible costs. To allow for a rapid mobilisation of technical support in case of urgency, provision should be made for the adoption of special

#### *Amendment*

(17) Provisions on the implementation of the Technical Support Instrument should be laid down, in particular the management modes, the forms of funding for the technical support measures and the content of work programmes, which should be adopted by way of ***delegated*** acts. In view of the importance of sustaining the efforts of Member States in pursuing and implementing reforms, it is necessary to allow for a co-financing rate for grants of up to 100% of the eligible costs. To allow for a rapid mobilisation of technical support in case of urgency, provision should be made for the adoption of special

measures for a limited period of time. To that effect, a limited amount of the budget within the work programme of the Technical Support Instrument should be set aside for special measures.

measures for a limited period of time. To that effect, a limited amount of the budget within the work programme of the Technical Support Instrument, **not exceeding 10% of the yearly allocation<sup>1a</sup>**, should be set aside for special measures.

---

*1a*

***[https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/annual\\_work\\_programme\\_of\\_the\\_structural\\_reform\\_support\\_programme.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/annual_work_programme_of_the_structural_reform_support_programme.pdf)***

Or. en

## **Amendment -17**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 18**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(18) In order to ensure an efficient and coherent allocation of funds from the Union budget and to respect the principle of sound financial management, actions under this Regulation should be consistent with and be complementary to ongoing Union programmes, whilst avoiding double funding for the same expenditure. In particular, the Commission and the Member State should ensure, in all stages of the process, effective coordination in order to safeguard the consistency, coherence, complementarity and synergy among sources of funding, including technical assistance thereof.

##### *Amendment*

(18) In order to ensure an efficient and coherent allocation of funds from the Union budget and to respect the principle of sound financial management, actions under this Regulation should be consistent with and be complementary to ongoing Union programmes, whilst avoiding double funding for the same expenditure. In particular, the Commission and the Member State should ensure, in all stages of the process, effective coordination in order to safeguard the consistency, coherence, complementarity and synergy among sources of funding ***between the Technical Support Instrument and other Union programmes and instruments, and in particular with measures financed by the Union funds***, including technical assistance thereof, ***to avoid any duplications or overlaps throughout.***

Or. en

## Amendment 18

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 20

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(20) ***It is opportune that*** Commission ***provides an annual*** report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of this Regulation. An independent mid-term evaluation, looking at the achievement of the objectives of the instrument established by this Regulation, the efficiency of the use of its resources and its added value should be carried out. An independent ex-post evaluation should, ***in addition***, deal with the long-term impact of the instrument.

*Amendment*

(20) ***The Commission should provide a biannual*** report ***simultaneously*** to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of this Regulation. ***In addition***, an independent mid-term evaluation, looking at the achievement of the objectives of the instrument established by this Regulation, the efficiency of the use of its resources and its added value should be carried out. An independent ex-post evaluation should deal with the long-term impact of the instrument.

Or. en

## Amendment 19

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 21

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(21) The work programmes for the implementation of technical support should be established. In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Horizontal financial rules adopted by the European Parliament and the Council on the basis of Article 322 of the Treaty apply to this Regulation. ***These*** rules are laid down in Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council (the Financial Regulation)<sup>17</sup> and determine in particular the procedure for establishing and implementing the budget through grants, procurement, prizes, indirect implementation, and provide for checks on the responsibility of financial

*Amendment*

(21) The work programmes for the implementation of technical support should be established. In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Horizontal financial rules adopted by the European Parliament and the Council on the basis of Article 322 of the Treaty apply to this Regulation. ***Those*** rules are laid down in Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council (the 'Financial Regulation')<sup>17</sup> and determine in particular the procedure for establishing and implementing the budget through grants, procurement, prizes, indirect implementation, and provide for checks on

actors. Rules adopted on the basis of Article 322 TFEU also concern the protection of the Union's budget in case of generalised deficiencies as regards the rule of law in the Member States, as the respect for the rule of law is an essential precondition for sound financial management and effective EU funding.

the responsibility of financial actors. Rules adopted on the basis of Article 322 TFEU also concern the **rules necessary for the** protection of the Union's budget in case of generalised deficiencies as regards the rule of law in the Member States **in accordance with Regulation (EU) YYY/XX of the European Parliament and of the Council [Rule of Law Mechanism in the MFF]**, as the **full** respect for the rule of law is **an essential prerequisite for the legitimacy of the European project as a whole, a basic condition for building citizens' trust in the Union and ensuring the effective implementation of its policies as well as** an essential precondition for sound financial management and effective EU funding.

---

<sup>17</sup> 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).

---

<sup>17</sup> 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).

Or. en

## Amendment 20

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 22

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(22) In accordance with the Financial Regulation, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>18</sup>, Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2988/95<sup>19</sup>, Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96<sup>20</sup>

##### *Amendment*

(22) In accordance with the Financial Regulation, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>18</sup>, Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2988/95<sup>19</sup>, Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96<sup>20</sup>

and Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939<sup>21</sup>, the financial interests of the Union are to be protected through proportionate measures, including the prevention, detection, correction and investigation of irregularities **and** fraud, the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used and, where appropriate, the imposition of administrative **sanctions**. In particular, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 and Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) **may** carry out administrative investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections, with a view to establishing whether there has been fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union. **In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/1939**, the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) **may** investigate and prosecute fraud and other criminal offences affecting the financial interests of the Union as provided for in Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>22</sup>. In accordance with the Financial Regulation, any person or entity receiving Union funds is to fully cooperate in the protection of the **Union's** financial interests, **to** grant the necessary rights and access to the Commission, OLAF, the **EPPO and the European Court of Auditors** **and to** ensure that any third parties involved in the implementation of Union funds grant equivalent rights **to the Commission, OLAF, the EPPO and the European Court of Auditors**.

---

<sup>18</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council

and Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939<sup>21</sup>, the financial interests of the Union are to be protected through proportionate measures, including **measures relating to** the prevention, detection, correction and investigation of irregularities, **including** fraud, **to** the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used, and, where appropriate, the imposition of administrative **penalties**. In particular, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 and Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) **has the power to** carry out administrative investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections, with a view to establishing whether there has been fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union. The European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) **is empowered, in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/1939, to** investigate and prosecute fraud and other criminal offences affecting the financial interests of the Union as provided for in Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>22</sup>. In accordance with the Financial Regulation, any person or entity receiving Union funds is to fully cooperate in the protection of the financial interests **of the Union**, grant the necessary rights and access to the Commission, OLAF, the Court of Auditors, **and, in respect of those Member States participating in enhanced cooperation pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2017/1939, the EPPO, and** ensure that any third parties involved in the implementation of Union funds grant equivalent rights.

---

<sup>18</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council

and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999,(OJ L248, 18.9.2013, p. 1)

<sup>19</sup> Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.95, p.1)

<sup>20</sup> Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L292,15.11.96, p.2)

<sup>21</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO') (OJ L283, 31.10.2017,, p.1)

<sup>22</sup> Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29)

and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999,(OJ L248, 18.9.2013, p. 1)

<sup>19</sup> Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.95, p.1)

<sup>20</sup> Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L292,15.11.96, p.2)

<sup>21</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO') (OJ L283, 31.10.2017,, p.1)

<sup>22</sup> Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29)

Or. en

## Amendment 21

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 23

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(23) Since the objective of this Regulation cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States *alone*, but can rather be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond that which is necessary to achieve that objective.

##### *Amendment*

(23) Since the objective of this Regulation cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, but can rather be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond that which is necessary to achieve that objective.

## Amendment 22

### Proposal for a regulation Article 1 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

It lays down the objectives of the instrument, the budget for the period 2021 – 2027, the forms of Union funding and the rules for providing such funding.

*Amendment*

It lays down the **general and specific** objectives of the instrument, the budget for the period 2021 – 2027, the forms of Union funding and the rules for providing such funding.

Or. en

## Amendment 23

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) ‘technical support’ means measures that help Member States to carry out institutional, administrative and growth-sustaining and resilience-enhancing reforms;

*Amendment*

(1) ‘technical support’ means measures that help Member States, **including their national authorities**, to carry out **and implement** institutional, administrative and growth-sustaining, **sustainable** and resilience-enhancing reforms, **including those in the context of the Union recovery from COVID-19**;

Or. en

## Amendment 24

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 4 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(4 a) ‘European Semester of economic policy coordination’ or ‘European**

*Semester' means the process set out in Article 2-a of Council Regulation (EC) No 1466/97 of 7 July 1997<sup>1a</sup>*

---

*<sup>1a</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 1466/97 of 7 July 1997 on the strengthening of the surveillance of budgetary positions and the surveillance and coordination of economic policies (OJ L 209, 2.8.1997, p.1).*

Or. en

## Amendment 25

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 4 b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(4 b) 'country-specific recommendations' means the Council recommendations addressed to each Member State in accordance with Articles 121(2) and 148(4) TFEU in the context of the European Semester.*

Or. en

## Amendment 26

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

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

The general objective of the instrument shall be to promote the Union's economic, social and territorial cohesion by supporting Member States efforts to implement reforms necessary to achieve *economic and social recovery*, resilience and upward economic and social convergence, and to support Member

The general objective of the instrument shall be to promote the Union's economic, social and territorial cohesion by supporting Member States efforts to implement reforms *and encourage investment that will support a sustainable and fair economic, social and gender equal recovery beyond the COVID-19*

States' efforts to strengthen their administrative capacity to implement Union law in relation to challenges faced by institutions, governance, public administration, and economic and social sectors.

*pandemic* necessary to achieve resilience and upward economic and social convergence, ***to effectively address the country-specific recommendations adopted in the context of the European Semester***, and to support Member States' efforts to strengthen their administrative capacity to implement Union law in relation to challenges faced by institutions, governance, public administration, and economic and social sectors ***and to implement policy objectives in line with the commitments of the Union and of Member States in the context of the Paris Agreement, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the European Pillar of Social Rights.***

Or. en

## Amendment 27

### Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 1

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

To achieve the general objective set out in Article 3, the instrument shall have the specific objectives of ***assisting*** national authorities in improving their capacity to design, develop and implement reforms, including through exchange of good practices, appropriate processes and methodologies and a more effective and efficient human resources management. Those specific objectives shall be pursued in close cooperation with the Member States concerned.

#### *Amendment*

To achieve the general objective set out in Article 3, the instrument shall have the specific objectives of ***supporting the efforts of*** national authorities in improving their capacity to design, develop and implement reforms, ***such as the preparation, implementation, revision and improvement of national recovery and resilience plans pursuant to Regulation (EU) No YYYY/XXXX [Regulation on Recovery and Resilience Facility]***, including through exchange of good practices, appropriate processes and methodologies and a more effective and efficient human resources management. Those specific objectives shall be pursued in close cooperation with the Member States concerned.

Or. en

## Amendment 28

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 5 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The specific objectives set out in Article 4 shall refer to policy areas related to cohesion, competitiveness, education, productivity, research and innovation, smart, fair, sustainable, and inclusive growth, jobs and investment, with specific emphasis to actions that foster the green and digital transitions, and *in particular to* one or more of the following:

##### *Amendment*

The specific objectives set out in Article 4 shall refer to policy areas related to cohesion, competitiveness, education, productivity, research and innovation, smart, fair, sustainable, and inclusive growth, jobs and investment, with specific emphasis to actions that foster the green and digital transitions, and ***shall focus on*** one or more of the following:

Or. en

## Amendment 29

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point a

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) public financial and asset management, budget process, macro-fiscal framework, debt and cash management, expenditure and tax policy, tax compliance, aggressive tax planning, tax fraud and evasion and revenue administration and customs union;

##### *Amendment*

(a) ***modern and effective administrative structures and information management systems for*** public financial and asset management, budget process, ***including gender budgeting***, macro-fiscal framework, debt and cash management, expenditure and tax policy, tax compliance, ***for fighting*** aggressive tax planning, tax fraud and evasion and revenue administration and customs union;

Or. en

## Amendment 30

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) institutional reform and efficient and service-oriented functioning of public administration and e-government, including, where appropriate, through the simplification of rules, effective rule of law, reform of the justice systems and reinforcement of the fight against fraud, corruption and money laundering;

*Amendment*

(b) institutional reform and efficient and service-oriented functioning of public administration and e-government, including ***the digitisation of public administration and***, where appropriate, through the simplification of rules, effective rule of law, reform of the justice systems, ***through well-equipped competition and antitrust authorities*** and reinforcement of the fight against fraud, corruption and money laundering;

Or. en

**Amendment 31**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) business environment, including for small and medium-sized enterprises and social economy enterprises, re-industrialisation, private sector development, product and service markets, investment, public participation in enterprises, ***privatisation processes***, trade and foreign direct investment, competition and public procurement, sustainable sectoral development and support for research and innovation and digitisation;

*Amendment*

(c) business environment, including for small and medium-sized enterprises, ***self-employed persons, entrepreneurs***, and social economy enterprises, re-industrialisation, private sector development, product and service markets, investment, public participation in enterprises, trade and foreign direct investment, competition and public procurement, sustainable sectoral development, ***including the relocation of production***, and support for research and innovation and digitisation;

Or. en

**Amendment 32**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point d**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) education and training, labour market policies, including social dialogue, for the creation of jobs, up- **and re-skilling**, in particular digital skills, media literacy, active citizenship, the fight against poverty and excessive income inequality, gender equality, the promotion of social inclusion, **adequate** and inclusive social security and social welfare systems, accessible and affordable public health **and** healthcare systems, as well as cohesion, asylum, migration and border policies;

*Amendment*

(d) education, **life-long learning** and training, **youth policies**, labour market policies, including social dialogue, for the creation of jobs, up- and re-skilling, in particular digital skills, media literacy, active citizenship, the fight against poverty and excessive income inequality, gender equality, the promotion of social inclusion, **accessible** and inclusive social security and social welfare systems, accessible and affordable public health, healthcare systems **and child care**, as well as cohesion, asylum, migration and border policies;

Or. en

**Amendment 33**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point e**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(e) policies for implementing the digital and the green transitions, e-government solutions, e-procurement, connectivity, data access and governance, e-learning, use of Artificial Intelligence based solutions, the environmental pillar of sustainable development and environmental protection, climate action, mobility, promoting the circular economy, energy and resource efficiency, renewable energy sources, achieving energy diversification and ensuring energy security, and for the agricultural sector, soil and biodiversity protection, fisheries and the sustainable development of rural areas; **and**

*Amendment*

(e) policies **for the mitigation of climate change and** for implementing the digital and the green transitions, e-government solutions, e-procurement, connectivity, data access and governance, e-learning, use of **sustainable** Artificial Intelligence based solutions, the environmental pillar of sustainable development and environmental protection, climate action, mobility, promoting the circular economy, energy and resource efficiency, renewable energy sources, achieving energy diversification and ensuring energy security, and for the agricultural sector, soil and biodiversity protection, fisheries and the sustainable development of rural **and remote** areas;

Or. en

## Amendment 34

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point f a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(f a) policies for further development of infrastructure in the sectors of political, economic, administrative, digital, security, housing, health, transport, environment, procurement, and education systems and tools;***

Or. en

## Amendment 35

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point f b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(f b) policies that are relevant for the preparation for euro-area membership of the Member States, as well as policies encouraging nominal and real convergence towards the accession to the euro area of the Member States whose currency is not the euro; and***

Or. en

## Amendment 36

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point f c (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(f c) policies on early detection and coordinated response capabilities to react in case of substantial risks to public health or security as well as on advancing business and service continuity solutions***

*for essential public and private institutions and sectors.*

Or. en

## **Amendment 37**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The financial envelope for the implementation of the instrument for the period 2021-2027 shall be EUR **864 406 000** in current prices.

*Amendment*

1. The **overall** financial envelope for the implementation of the instrument for the period 2021-2027 shall be EUR **1 450 000 000 in current prices. For the period 2021-2024, the financial envelope shall be EUR 1 000 000 000 in current prices. For the period 2025-2027, the financial envelope shall be EUR 450 000 000 in current prices.**

Or. en

## **Amendment 38**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be transferred to the instrument. The Commission shall implement those resources directly in accordance with point (a) of Article 62(1) of the Financial Regulation or indirectly in accordance with point (c) of that Article. Those resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned.

*Amendment*

3. Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be transferred to the instrument **with a maximum limit of 5% of the budgetary envelope of the Member State concerned under shared management for the 2021-2027 year period.** The Commission shall implement those resources directly in accordance with point (a) of Article 62(1) of the Financial Regulation or indirectly in accordance with point (c) of that Article. Those resources shall be used **under the rules and for the purpose of the instrument in accordance**

*with this Regulation* for the benefit of the Member State concerned.

Or. en

## **Amendment 39**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 6 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### *Article 6 a*

#### *Contribution of additional resources to the budget*

*1. In addition to the budget set out in Article 6, Member States may, at their request, transfer additional resources to the budget of the instrument.*

*2. The additional resources shall constitute external assigned revenue in addition to the cases listed in Article 21(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation. Article 22(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation shall apply to those additional resources.*

*3. The additional resources shall be used to finance actions set out in Article 7 and shall be used exclusively for the benefit of the Member State concerned.*

Or. en

## **Amendment 40**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point c – point i**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(i) seminars, conferences and workshops;

(i) seminars, conferences and workshops *with a broad range of stakeholders through different fora,*

*including women's organisations and representatives of vulnerable groups;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 41**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point d**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) collection of data and statistics, development of common methodologies and, where appropriate, indicators or benchmarks;

*Amendment*

(d) collection of data and statistics, ***including gender disaggregated data, monitoring of eligible reforms,*** development of common methodologies, ***including gender and climate mainstreaming and tracking,*** and, where appropriate, indicators or benchmarks;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 42**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point e**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(e) organisation of local operational support in areas such as asylum, migration and border control;

*Amendment*

(e) organisation of local operational support in areas such as asylum, migration and border control ***and integration;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 43**

##### **Proposal for a regulation**

##### **Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point g**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(g) studies, research, analyses and

*Amendment*

(g) studies, research, analyses and

surveys, evaluations and impact assessments, and the development and publication of guides, reports and educational material;

surveys, *feasibility studies*, evaluations and *impact assessments, including gender impact assessments, technical projects and documentation* and the development and publication of guides, reports and educational material;

Or. en

#### Amendment 44

##### Proposal for a regulation

##### Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point j

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(j) any other relevant activity in support of the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4.

*Amendment*

(j) any other relevant activity in **full** support of the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4.

Or. en

#### Amendment 45

##### Proposal for a regulation

##### Article 8 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. A Member State wishing to receive technical support under the instrument shall submit a request for technical support to the Commission, identifying the policy areas and the priorities for support within the scope as set out in Article 5. **These** requests shall be submitted by 31 October of a calendar year. The Commission may provide guidance on the main elements to be included in the request for support.

*Amendment*

1. A Member State wishing to receive technical support under the instrument shall submit a request for technical support to the Commission, identifying the policy areas and the priorities for support within the scope as set out in Article 5. **Such** requests shall be submitted by 31 October of a calendar year. The Commission may provide guidance on the main elements to be included in the request for support **and may further promote and encourage the use of the instrument by Member States with high support needs.**

Or. en

## Amendment 46

### Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1 a. In order for the reforms pursued to gather wide support and ownership, Member States wishing to benefit from the instrument shall consult, where appropriate as part of the request for technical support, relevant stakeholders.***

Or. en

## Amendment 47

### Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(a) the implementation of reforms by Member States, undertaken on their own initiative, in particular to support recovery [in line with Regulation (EU) No YYY/XX], achieve sustainable economic growth and job creation and enhance resilience;

(a) the implementation of reforms by Member States, undertaken on their own initiative ***and in line with the general and specific objectives set out in Articles 3 and 4 of this Regulation***, in particular to support recovery [in line with Regulation (EU) XXXX/YYYY ***on Recovery and Resilience Facility***], achieve sustainable economic growth and ***high-quality*** job creation and enhance resilience;

Or. en

## Amendment 48

### Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point a a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(a a) the implementation of growth-sustaining and resilience-enhancing reforms in the context of the economic governance processes, effectively addressing the country-specific recommendations issued in the context of the European Semester or actions related to the implementation of Union law;*

Or. en

*Justification*

*current point c transferred before b*

#### **Amendment 49**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(c) the implementation of growth-sustaining and resilience-enhancing reforms in the context of economic governance processes, in particular the country-specific recommendations issued in the context of the European Semester or actions related to the implementation of Union law;*

*deleted*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 50**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point d a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(d a) the revision and improvement of recovery and resilience plans pursuant to Regulation (EU) No XXXX/YYYY [Regulation on Recovery and Resilience Facility];*

## Amendment 51

### Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 2 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Member States may at any time submit requests that fall under point (e) of paragraph 2 of this Article with a view to amending or replacing their proposals in accordance with Article 18 of Regulation on Recovery and Resilience Facility.**

Or. en

## Amendment 52

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

1. The Commission shall transmit, with the consent of the Member State concerned, the cooperation and support plan to the European Parliament and the Council without undue delay. ***The Member State concerned may refuse to give such consent in the case of sensitive or confidential information, the disclosure of which would jeopardise public interests of the Member State.***

1. The Commission shall transmit, with the consent of the Member State concerned, the cooperation and support plan ***simultaneously*** to the European Parliament and the Council without undue delay.

Or. en

## Amendment 53

### Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

2. *Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, the Commission shall transmit the cooperation and support plan to the European Parliament and the Council in the following circumstances:*

*deleted*

*(a) as soon as the Member State concerned has redacted all sensitive or confidential information, the disclosure of which would jeopardise public interests of the Member State;*

*(b) after a reasonable period of time, when the disclosure of relevant information would not adversely affect the implementation of the support measures, and in any case no later than two months after the delivery of such measures under the cooperation and support plan.*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 54**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

3. The Commission *may* engage in communication activities to ensure the visibility of *the* Union funding for the support measures envisaged in the cooperation and support plans, including through joint communication activities with the national authorities concerned.

3. The Commission *shall* engage in communication activities to ensure the visibility of Union funding for the support measures envisaged in the cooperation and support plans, including through joint communication activities with the national authorities *and the representation offices of the European Parliament and of the Commission in the Member State* concerned.

Or. en

#### **Amendment 55**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 12 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission shall implement the instrument in accordance with the Financial Regulation.

*Amendment*

1. The Commission shall implement the instrument in accordance with the Financial Regulation, ***including full compliance with the rules for the protection of the Union’s budget in the case of generalised deficiencies as regards the rule of law in the Member States in accordance with Regulation (EU) YYY/XX of the European Parliament and of the Council [Rule of Law Mechanism in the MFF]<sup>1a</sup>***

---

<sup>1a</sup> OJ C , , p . .

Or. en

**Amendment 56**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 12 – paragraph 6 – subparagraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

In order to implement the technical support, the Commission shall adopt work programmes by way of ***implementing acts, and inform the European Parliament and the Council thereof.***

*Amendment*

In order to implement the technical support, the Commission shall adopt work programmes by way of ***delegated acts in accordance with Article 16a.***

Or. en

**Amendment 57**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 12 – paragraph 7 – subparagraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

To ensure timely availability of resources,

*Amendment*

To ensure timely availability of resources,

a limited part of the work programme shall be reserved for special measures in the event of unforeseen and duly justified grounds of urgency requiring an immediate response, including a serious disturbance in the economy or significant circumstances seriously affecting the economic or social conditions in a Member State going beyond its control.

a limited part of the work programme, **not exceeding 10% of the yearly allocation<sup>1a</sup>** shall be reserved for special measures in the event of unforeseen and duly justified grounds of urgency requiring an immediate response, including a serious disturbance in the economy or significant circumstances seriously affecting the economic or social conditions in a Member State going beyond its control.

---

*1a*

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/annual\\_work\\_programme\\_of\\_the\\_structural\\_reform\\_support\\_programme.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/annual_work_programme_of_the_structural_reform_support_programme.pdf)

Or. en

## Amendment 58

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 13 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission and the Member States concerned shall, in a measure commensurate to their respective responsibilities, foster synergies and ensure effective coordination between the **technical support** instrument and other Union programmes and instruments, and in particular with measures financed by the Union funds. For that purpose, they shall:

##### *Amendment*

1. The Commission and the Member States concerned shall, in a measure commensurate to their respective responsibilities, foster synergies and ensure effective coordination, **complementarity and coherence** between the instrument and other Union programmes and instruments, and in particular with measures financed by the Union funds, **to avoid any duplications or overlaps**. For that purpose, they shall:

Or. en

## Amendment -59

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 14 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The performance reporting system shall ensure that data for monitoring the implementation of the instrument and results are collected efficiently, effectively, and in a timely manner. To that end, proportionate reporting requirements shall be imposed on recipients of Union funding.

*Amendment*

2. The performance reporting system shall ensure that data for monitoring the implementation of the instrument and results are collected efficiently, effectively, and in a timely manner ***and, whenever possible, in a gender-disaggregated form.*** To that end, proportionate reporting requirements shall be imposed on recipients of Union funding.

Or. en

**Amendment 60**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 15 – title**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Annual* report

*Amendment*

***Biannual*** report

Or. en

**Amendment 61**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 15 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission shall provide ***an annual*** report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of this Regulation.

*Amendment*

1. The Commission shall provide ***a biannual*** report ***simultaneously*** to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of this Regulation.

Or. en

**Amendment 62**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 15 – paragraph 2 – introductory part**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The **annual** report shall include information on:

*Amendment*

2. The **biannual** report shall include information on:

Or. en

### **Amendment 63**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) cooperation and support plans referred to in Article 8(3);

*Amendment*

(c) cooperation and support plans **as** referred to in Article 8(3);

Or. en

### **Amendment 64**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2 – point e**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(e) implementation of support measures.

*Amendment*

(e) **the** implementation of support measures.

Or. en

### **Amendment 65**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Article 15 a**

***Reform support dialogue***

***In order to enhance the dialogue between the Union institutions, in particular the***

***European Parliament, the Council and the Commission, and to ensure greater transparency and accountability, the competent committee of the European Parliament may invite representatives of the Council and the Commission to appear before it to discuss all measures taken pursuant to this Regulation, including the biannual report pursuant to Article 15.***

Or. en

## **Amendment 66**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. Four years after the entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall provide the European Parliament, **and** the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions with an independent mid-term evaluation report on the implementation of this Regulation. The Commission shall also provide those institutions with an independent ex post evaluation report no later than three years after the end of the period specified in Article 1.

*Amendment*

1. ***No later than*** four years after the entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall provide the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions with an independent mid-term evaluation report on the implementation of this Regulation. The Commission shall also provide those institutions with an independent ex post evaluation report no later than three years after the end of the period specified in Article 1.

Or. en

## **Amendment 67**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The mid-term evaluation report shall, in particular, assess to which ***extent***

*Amendment*

2. The mid-term evaluation report shall, in particular, assess ***the extent*** to

the objectives of the instrument referred to Articles 3 and 4 have been achieved, the efficiency of the use of resources *and* the European added value. It shall also consider the continued relevance of all objectives and actions.

which the objectives of the instrument referred to Articles 3 and 4 have been achieved, the efficiency of the use of resources, the European added value *and the communication activities that have been established to ensure the visibility of Union funding*. It shall also consider the continued relevance of all objectives and actions.

Or. en

## **Amendment 68**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**3 a. If appropriate, the mid-term or ex-post evaluation reports shall be accompanied by legislative proposals for amending this Regulation.**

Or. en

## **Amendment 69**

### **Proposal for a regulation Chapter 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### **CHAPTER IIIA**

#### **Exercise of delegation**

#### **Article 16a**

#### **Exercise of the delegation**

- 1. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in this Article.**
- 2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Article 12(6) shall be conferred on the Commission until 31**

*December 2028.*

*3. The delegation of power referred to in Article 12(6) may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of the power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.*

*4. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making.*

*5. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.*

*6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 12(6) shall enter into force if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or by the Council within a period of three months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by three months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.*

Or. en

**Amendment 70**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 17 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The recipients of Union funding shall acknowledge the origin and ensure the visibility of the Union funding, in particular when promoting the actions and their results, by providing coherent, effective and proportionate targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media and the public.

*Amendment*

1. The recipients of Union funding shall acknowledge the origin ***of those funds*** and ensure the visibility of the Union funding, in particular when promoting the actions and their results, by providing coherent, effective and proportionate targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media and the public.

Or. en

**Amendment 71**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 17 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The Commission shall implement information and communication actions relating to the instrument, its actions and its results. Financial resources allocated to the instrument shall also contribute to the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, as far as they are related to the objectives referred to in Articles 3 and 4.

*Amendment*

2. The Commission shall implement information and communication actions relating to the instrument, its actions and its results, ***including through joint communication activities with the national authorities, and the representation offices of the European Parliament and the Commission in the Member State concerned.*** Financial resources allocated to the instrument shall also contribute to the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, as far as they are related to the objectives referred to in Articles 3 and 4.

Or. en

**Amendment 72**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 18 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. ***Where*** necessary, appropriations

*Amendment*

3. ***If*** necessary, appropriations may be

may be entered in the budget beyond 2020 to cover the expenses provided for in Article 6(2) relating to the management of actions not completed by 31 December 2020.

entered in the budget beyond 2020 to cover the expenses provided for in Article 6(2) relating to the management of actions not completed by 31 December 2020.

Or. en