



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

---

*Committee on Budgetary Control*

---

**2012/2016(BUD)**

31.5.2012

# **OPINION**

of the Committee on Budgetary Control

for the Committee on Budgets

on the mandate for the trilogue on the 2013 Draft Budget  
(2012/2016(BUD))

Rapporteur: Christofer Fjellner

PA\_NonLeg

## SUGGESTIONS

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

- A. whereas Europe is faced with a severe economic, financial and budget crisis, and whereas all measures should be taken to use the EU budget in the most efficient way possible with a view to economic recovery;
- B. whereas one of the most challenging tasks in the current difficult situation is to create growth and jobs, in particular in SMEs and for young people;
- C. regrets the fact that Parliament has never received annual summaries from the Member States as provided for in Article 44 of the Interinstitutional Agreement on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (2006/C 139/01), jointly signed by Parliament, the Council and the Commission; expects the Commission to officially forward the annual summaries from 2007 onwards to Parliament;
- D. whereas the collection of VAT and customs duties directly affects both the economies of the Member States and the EU budget;
  - 1. Recalls that outstanding budgetary commitments are commitment appropriations made but not used, and that these derive mainly from multiannual programmes (e.g. Cohesion) in which commitments are made in the earlier years of the programming period, while the corresponding payments are made gradually over the whole programming period;
  - 2. Notes that a high level of outstanding commitments could indicate that, as a consequence of the economic crisis, Member States are having difficulty absorbing the amounts allocated;
  - 3. Notes that in 2010 the European Court of Auditors found that these outstanding commitments had increased by nearly 10 % to EUR 194 billion, representing nearly three years of spending at the current rate (Annual Report 2010, point 1.43);
  - 4. Believes that the question of outstanding commitments should be dealt with thoroughly in the 2013 budget and in the negotiations on the next multiannual financial framework in order to ensure that the budget is implemented as efficiently and effectively as possible;
  - 5. Notes that different types of income have different adverse effects, and calls on the Commission to consider the opportunity costs of revenue collection for the different sources of income.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	30.5.2012
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 20 -: 2 0: 2
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Marta Andreasen, Jean-Pierre Audy, Inés Ayala Sender, Zigmantas Balčytis, Andrea Češková, Tamás Deutsch, Martin Ehrenhauser, Jens Geier, Ingeborg Gräßle, Cătălin Sorin Ivan, Iliana Ivanova, Jan Mulder, Eva Ortiz Vilella, Crescenzo Rivellini, Paul Rübig, Petri Sarvamaa, Theodoros Skylakakis, Bart Staes, Michael Theurer
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Zuzana Brzobohatá, Jorgo Chatzimarkakis, Derk Jan Eppink, Véronique Mathieu
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote</b>	Joachim Zeller