



Committee on Budgetary Control

2017/0219(COD)

23.11.2017

POSITION IN THE FORM OF AMENDMENTS

of the Committee on Budgetary Control

for the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) No. 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and the Council of 22 October 2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations (COM(2017)0481 – C8-0307/2017 – 2017/0219(COD))

For the Committee on Budgetary Control: Ingeborg Gräßle (Chair)

PA_LegPosition

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Budgetary Control presents the following amendments to the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, as the committee responsible:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation Recital 11 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(11a) The material scope of competences of the EPPO is limited to criminal offences affecting the financial interests of the Union in accordance with the Regulation establishing the Office. The tasks of the EPPO should thus be to investigate, prosecute and bring to judgement the perpetrators of offences against the Union's financial interests under Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017^{1a}, and offences, which are inextricably linked to them.

^{1a} 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).

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation Recital 11 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(11 b) In order to ensure compliance with the obligations laid down by this Regulation regarding the funding and expenditure of European political parties and European political foundations and regarding other matters, it is necessary to

establish effective control mechanisms. To that end, the Authority, the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament and the Member States should cooperate and exchange all necessary information. They should also agree on practical arrangements that include some common rules on how to protect whistle-blowers. Mutual cooperation amongst Member States' authorities should be also encouraged in order to ensure the effective and efficient control of obligations stemming from applicable national law. The involvement of OLAF and the EPPO in the information sharing is required when the decision of the Authority is to be followed up.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a directive

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 4 a (new)

Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014

Article 25 – paragraph 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4a) In In Article 25, the following paragraph is added:

(7a) When criminal offenses affecting the financial interests of the Union , within the meaning of Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017, are perpetrated in one or more Member States that are participating in enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the EPPO, the EPPO shall be called to investigate in accordance with the conditions laid down in Regulation (EU) No xxx/xxxx [OJ, please insert the number of the Regulation on the EPPO];

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 5 a (new)
Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014
Article 28 – paragraph 2

Present text

(2) They shall also agree on practical arrangements for such exchange of information, including the rules regarding the disclosure of confidential information or evidence and the cooperation among Member States.

Amendment

(5a) In Article 28, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

(2) They shall also agree on practical arrangements for such exchange of information, including the rules regarding the disclosure of confidential information or evidence, ***the protection of whistle-blowers*** and the cooperation among Member States.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 5 b (new)
Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014
Article 28 – paragraph 4

Present text

(4) The Authority shall inform the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament of any decision it has taken in relation to sanctions, in order to enable him or her to draw the appropriate consequences under the Financial Regulation.

Amendment

(5b) In Article 28, paragraph 4 is replaced by the following:

(4) The Authority shall inform the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament of any decision it has taken in relation to sanctions, in order to enable him or her to draw the appropriate consequences under the Financial Regulation. ***Where appropriate, the authority shall also inform OLAF and the EPPO, in order to enable those bodies to proceed with the relevant investigation accordingly;***

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point 5 c (new)
Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014
Article 30 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph

Present text

Amendment

In the event of such termination, payments by the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament shall be limited to the **eligible** expenditure **actually** incurred by the European political party or European political foundation up to the date when the termination decision takes effect.

(5c) In Article 30(2), the second subparagraph is replaced by the following:

In the event of such termination, payments by the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament shall be limited to the **reimbursable** expenditure incurred by the European political party or **the eligible expenditure incurred by** European political foundation up to the date when the termination decision takes effect.

Justification

The reference to reimbursable expenditure is the expression used in the Financial Regulation Article 204g and in article 17, 4 and 5 of Regulation 1141/2014, and is the adequate concept to use in the recovery.

Amendment 7

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 a (new)**

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 2a

However, the provisions of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, applicable prior to the entry into force of this Regulation, shall continue to apply in their original versions to acts done and commitments made in respect of the funding of political parties and political foundations at European level for the budget year 2018.

Justification

To ensure legal certainty. Procedures already started in 2017 should be submitted to the existing Regulation before its revision.

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Title	Statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations						
References	COM(2017)0481 – C8-0307/2017 – 2017/0219(COD)						
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	AFCO 2.10.2017						
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	CONT 2.10.2017						
Rapporteur Date appointed	Ingeborg Gräßle 16.10.2017						
Previous rapporteur	Ingeborg Gräßle						
Date adopted	26.10.2017						
Result of final vote	<table> <tr> <td>+: </td><td>17</td></tr> <tr> <td>–: </td><td>7</td></tr> <tr> <td>0: </td><td>5</td></tr> </table>	+:	17	–:	7	0:	5
+:	17						
–:	7						
0:	5						
Members present for the final vote	Nedzhmi Ali, Jonathan Arnott, Inés Ayala Sender, Ryszard Czarnecki, Dennis de Jong, Ingeborg Gräßle, Cătălin Sorin Ivan, Jean-François Jalkh, Arndt Kohn, Georgi Pirinski, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, Petri Sarvamaa, Claudia Schmidt, Bart Staes, Hannu Takkula, Indrek Tarand, Derek Vaughan, Tomáš Zdechovský						
Substitutes present for the final vote	Richard Ashworth, Brian Hayes, Andrey Novakov, Julia Pitera						
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Jean-Paul Denanot						

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

11	+
ALDE	Nedzhmi Ali, Hannu Takkula
PPE	Ingeborg Gräßle, Brian Hayes, Andrey Novakov, Julia Pitera, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, Petri Sarvamaa, Claudia Schimdt, Tomáš Zdechovský
Greens	Bart Staes

7	-
S&D	Inés Ayala Sender, Jean-Paul Denanot, Cătălin Sorin Ivan, Arndt Kohn, Georgi Pirinski, Derek Vaughan
ENF	Jean-François Jalkh

5	0
ECR	Richard Ashworth, Ryszard Czarnecki
EFDD	Jonathan Arnott
GUE/NGL	Dennis de Jong
Greens	Indrek Tarand

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention