



2020/2190(DEC)

5.3.2021

AMENDMENTS

1 - 60

Draft report
Ryszard Czarnecki
(PE657.249v01-00)

2019 discharge: General budget of the EU - 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th EDFs
(2020/2190(DEC))

Amendment 1

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Proposal for a decision 1

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. ***Grants the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh European Development Funds for the financial year 2019*** / Postpones its decision on granting the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh European Development Funds for the financial year 2019;

Amendment

1. Postpones its decision on granting the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh European Development Funds for the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 2

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh

Proposal for a decision 1

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. ***Grants the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh European Development Funds for the financial year 2019*** / Postpones its decision on granting the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh European Development Funds for the financial year 2019;

Amendment

1. Postpones its decision on granting the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh European Development Funds for the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 3

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Proposal for a decision 2

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. ***Approves the closure of the accounts of the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh European Development Funds for the financial year 2019*** / Postpones the closure of the accounts of the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh European Development Funds for the financial year 2019;

Amendment

1. Postpones the closure of the accounts of the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh European Development Funds for the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 4

José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Recital A a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Aa. whereas Parliament will only be able to exercise properly its role as discharge authority if it is kept regularly and comprehensively updated by the Commission, with detailed information regarding EDF-funded projects and their recipients;

Or. pt

Amendment 5

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Recital A a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

A a. Whereas Parliament is not involved in establishing and allocating EDF resources compared to other development instruments;

Or. en

Amendment 6

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Recital A b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

A b. Whereas effective pre-conditionalities and regular checks are key components in ensuring the effectiveness and sound financial management of the EDF

Or. en

Amendment 7

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Recital B

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

B. whereas it is crucial to ensure that development aid is used in accordance with its original purpose as stated in Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, with due consideration for aid and development effectiveness principles;

B. whereas it is crucial to ensure that development aid is used in accordance with its original purpose, ***meaning to reduce and ultimately to eradicate poverty***, as stated in Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, with due consideration for aid and development effectiveness principles;

Amendment 8
Arnaud Danjean

Motion for a resolution
Recital B a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

B a. Whereas European development aid and public investments should promote joint priorities and policy objectives including eradicating poverty, climate and environmental action, economic and trade policies, migration management and be fully aligned with the principles of fundamental human rights, democracy and good governance;

Or. en

Amendment 9
José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Recital C

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C. whereas the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are core objectives to be pursued in cooperation instruments;

C. whereas the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are core objectives to be pursued in cooperation instruments ***in both the public and private sector;***

Or. pt

Amendment 10
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Recital C

Motion for a resolution

C. whereas the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are core objectives to be pursued in cooperation instruments;

Amendment

C. whereas the **17** Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are core objectives to be pursued in cooperation instruments;

Or. en

Amendment 11

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Recital C a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C a. Whereas the prerequisite for sustainable development is a transparent, inclusive and efficient participatory policy framing process;

Or. en

Amendment 12

José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Recital E

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

E. whereas the alignment of Union development cooperation with partner countries' own development priorities is a key element of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

E. whereas the alignment of Union development cooperation with partner countries' own development priorities is a key element of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; ***whereas cultural and linguistic affinities between Member States and partner countries may encourage adherence to the SDGs set out in the 2030 Agenda;***

Or. pt

Amendment 13

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Recital E

Motion for a resolution

E. whereas the alignment of Union development cooperation with partner countries' own development priorities is a key element of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Amendment

E. whereas the alignment of Union development cooperation with partner countries' own development priorities ***should be always and fully respected and*** is a key element of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Or. en

Amendment 14

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Recital F

Motion for a resolution

F. whereas policy coherence and complementarity of various external policies should be carefully looked at, especially when several policies are being implemented in a single partner country, with the view to promoting synergies and trade-offs between existing policies and to avoiding as much as possible unnecessary administrative burden;

Amendment

F. whereas policy coherence and complementarity of various external policies should be carefully looked at, especially when several policies are being implemented in a single partner country, with the view to promoting synergies and trade-offs between existing policies and to avoiding ***possible damaging consequences of one single EU policy on an area otherwise dealt with by another policy and,*** as much as possible, unnecessary administrative burden;

Or. en

Amendment 15
José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Recital F

Motion for a resolution

F. whereas policy coherence and complementarity of various external policies should be carefully looked at, especially when several policies are being implemented in a single partner country, with the view to promoting synergies and trade-offs between existing policies and *to* avoiding as much as possible unnecessary administrative burden;

Amendment

F. whereas policy coherence and complementarity of various external policies should be carefully looked at, especially when several policies are being implemented in a single partner country, with the view to promoting ***cooperation between the public and private sectors, encouraging*** synergies and trade-offs between existing policies and avoiding as much as possible unnecessary administrative burden;

Or. pt

Amendment 16
José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Recital G a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment 17
Michèle Rivasi
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
Younous Omarjee
on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution
Recital I

Amendment

Ga. whereas the standardisation of communication channels between partner countries, EDF-funded entities and the EU would facilitate Commission monitoring activity;

Or. pt

Motion for a resolution

I. whereas budget support, while playing a key role in driving change and in addressing the main development challenges, carries a considerable governance risk and should be granted only if the beneficiary state is able to demonstrate a sufficient level of transparency, accountability and human rights prior to receiving budget support assistance;

Amendment

I. whereas budget support, while playing a key role in driving change and in addressing the main development challenges, carries a considerable governance risk and should be granted only if the beneficiary state is able to demonstrate a sufficient level of transparency, accountability, ***respect for the Rule of Law*** and human rights prior to receiving budget support assistance, ***followed by thorough ex-post checks***;

Or. en

Amendment 18

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Recital I

Motion for a resolution

I. whereas budget support, while playing a key role in driving change and in addressing the main development challenges, carries a considerable governance risk and should be granted only if the beneficiary state is able to demonstrate a sufficient level of transparency, accountability and human rights prior to receiving budget support assistance;

Amendment

I. whereas budget support ***for sustainable development*** while playing a key role in driving change and in addressing the main development challenges, carries a considerable governance risk and should be granted only if the beneficiary state is able to demonstrate a sufficient level of transparency, accountability and human rights prior to receiving budget support assistance;

Or. en

Amendment 19

Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 7

Motion for a resolution

7. Expresses **its growing** concern over the adverse opinion of the Court on the legality and regularity of expenditure due to the fact that the expenditure accepted in the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019 is materially affected by error;

Amendment

7. Expresses concern over the adverse opinion of the Court on the legality and regularity of expenditure due to the fact that the expenditure accepted in the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019 is materially affected by error;

Or. en

Amendment 20

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 8

Motion for a resolution

8. Is concerned that the estimated level of error surpassed the materiality threshold, with 3,5 % of expenditure affected for the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh EDF (compared to 5,2 % for 2018, 4,5 % in 2017, 3,3 % in 2016, 3,8 % in 2014 and 2015, 3,4 % in 2013 and 3 % in 2012); notes that the growing trend of the estimated level of error has stopped; expects, nevertheless, that the Commission reflect on the root causes of the succession of adverse opinions and take all steps necessary to further reduce the estimated level of error;

Amendment

8. Is concerned that the estimated level of error surpassed the materiality threshold, with 3,5 % of expenditure affected for the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh EDF (compared to 5,2 % for 2018, 4,5 % in 2017, 3,3 % in 2016, 3,8 % in 2014 and 2015, 3,4 % in 2013 and 3 % in 2012); notes that the growing trend of the estimated level of error has **temporary** stopped; expects, nevertheless, that the Commission reflect on the root causes of the succession of adverse opinions and take all steps necessary to further reduce the estimated level of error;

Or. en

Amendment 21

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 12 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12 a. Agrees with the Court of Auditors that the controls carried out abroad remain insufficient;

Or. en

Amendment 22

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 b (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12 b. Regrets that, as in previous years, the Commission made more errors in transactions relating to estimates, grants, contribution agreements concluded with international organisations and delegation agreements concluded with the cooperation agencies of the EU Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 23

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 c (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12 c. Strongly regrets that additional measures are not being taken to increase ex ante controls;

Or. en

Amendment 24
José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 5

Motion for a resolution

Effectiveness of the monitoring and assurance systems

Amendment

Transparency and effectiveness of the monitoring and assurance systems

Or. pt

Amendment 25
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13

Motion for a resolution

13. Notes with concern that out of the 28 payments with quantifiable errors, in 9 cases (32 %) the Commission had sufficient information to prevent, or to detect and correct, the error before accepting the expenditure; calls on the Commission to substantially improve its processes to verify legality and regularity of transactions and to make sure the verifications are properly followed-up;

Amendment

13. Notes with concern that out of the 28 payments with quantifiable errors, in 9 cases (32 %) the Commission had sufficient information to prevent, or to detect and correct, the error before accepting the expenditure; calls on the Commission to substantially improve its processes to verify legality and regularity of transactions and to make sure the verifications are properly followed-up;
Regrets to note that this lack of verification is similar to previous years.

Or. en

Amendment 26
José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

13a. Considers that monitoring

*activities will be more effective if
Commission intelligence is regularly
published and shared with the discharge
authority in advance;*

Or. pt

Amendment 27
José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14

Motion for a resolution

14. Notes that the Court found that the Commission and its implementing partners committed more errors in transactions relating to programme estimates, grants, contribution agreements with international organisations and delegation agreements with Member States' cooperation agencies than they did with other forms of support, such as those covering works, supply and service contracts; notes that of the 65 transactions of that type examined by the Court, 25 (38 %) contained quantifiable errors, which accounted for 71,7 % of the estimated level of error; calls on the Commission to enhance its risk-based approach and invest control capacity in areas that are more error prone;

Amendment

14. Notes that the Court found that the Commission and its implementing partners committed more errors in transactions relating to programme estimates, grants, contribution agreements with international organisations and delegation agreements with Member States' cooperation agencies than they did with other forms of support, such as those covering works, supply and service contracts; notes that of the 65 transactions of that type examined by the Court, 25 (38 %) contained quantifiable errors, which accounted for 71,7 % of the estimated level of error; calls on the Commission to ***publish comprehensive, updated and detailed information regarding funded projects and recipients***, enhance its risk-based approach and invest control capacity in areas that are more error prone;

Or. pt

Amendment 28
José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

14a. Calls on the Commission to proceed with a pre-established format for communication between partner countries, EDF beneficiaries and the EU with a view to reducing the errors found by the Court;

Or. pt

Amendment 29
José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

15. Notes the Court's observation, as in previous years, that the frequency of identified errors, including some contained in final claims which had been subject to ex-ante external audits and expenditure verifications, points to weaknesses in those checks; notes that this is not only problematic in terms of the effectiveness of the checks but also in terms of the efficiency of the management and control system because the checks performed did not prevent or correct the error; calls on DG INTPA to continue efforts to improve the assessment of both effectiveness and efficiency of its control system by identifying key performance indicators for both, to set realistic and ambitious targets and to monitor and improve its control system;

Amendment

15. Notes the Court's observation, as in previous years, that the frequency of identified errors, including some contained in final claims which had been subject to ex-ante external audits and expenditure verifications, points to weaknesses in those checks; notes that this is not only problematic in terms of the effectiveness of the checks but also in terms of the efficiency of the management and control system because the checks performed did not prevent or correct the error; calls on DG INTPA to continue efforts to improve the assessment of both effectiveness and efficiency of its control system by identifying key performance indicators for both, to set realistic and ambitious targets and to monitor and improve its control system; ***calls, furthermore, on the Commission to set up a platform covering EDF-funded projects by country, focusing on the final recipients, general and specific project goals and, above all, their practical results in terms of the desired increase in development indices;***

Or. pt

Amendment 30

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

15. *Notes* the Court's observation, as in previous years, that the frequency of identified errors, including some contained in final claims which had been subject to ex-ante external audits and expenditure verifications, points to weaknesses in those checks; notes that this is not only problematic in terms of the effectiveness of the checks but also in terms of the efficiency of the management and control system because the checks performed did not prevent or correct the error; calls on DG INTPA to continue efforts to improve the assessment of both effectiveness and efficiency of its control system by identifying key performance indicators for both, to set realistic and ambitious targets and to monitor and improve its control system;

Amendment

15. *Is worried about* the Court's observation, as in previous years, that the frequency of identified errors, including some contained in final claims which had been subject to ex-ante external audits and expenditure verifications, points to weaknesses in those checks; notes *with concern* that this is not only problematic in terms of the effectiveness of the checks but also in terms of the efficiency of the management and control system because the checks performed did not prevent or correct the error; *reiterates its expectation that the control system should be more rigorous and* calls on DG INTPA to continue efforts to improve the assessment of both effectiveness and efficiency of its control system by identifying key performance indicators for both, to set realistic and ambitious targets and to monitor and improve its control system;

Or. en

Amendment 31

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 16

Motion for a resolution

16. Notes DG INTPA's eighth RER study, which resulted in an RER of 1,13 % , up from 0,85 % in 2018 and below the 2

Amendment

16. Notes DG INTPA's eighth RER study, which resulted in an RER of 1,13 % , up from 0,85 % in 2018 and below the

% materiality threshold fixed by the Commission; notes the Court's observation that four major factors distort the RER, namely the insufficient coverage of certain aspects of procurement procedures, the very low number of on-the-spot-checks in the country of project implementation, which is deemed insufficient to detect errors that are not apparent in documents, the method for determining the RER, which results in a rate that does not necessarily reflect the actual residual errors, and possible overreliance on previous control work; calls on DG INTPA, as in previous years, to liaise with the Court and to address those issues in an update of the methodology and in a more thorough performance of next year's RER study;

2 % materiality threshold fixed by the Commission; notes the Court's observation that four major factors distort the RER, ***contributing to the underestimation of the residual error rate***, namely the insufficient coverage of certain aspects of procurement procedures, the very low number ***of on-the-spot-checks*** in the country of project implementation, which is deemed insufficient to detect errors that are not apparent in documents, the method for determining the RER, which results in a rate that does not necessarily reflect the actual residual errors, and possible overreliance on previous control work, ***which is contrary to the purpose of the RER study, namely to identify the errors that have evaded precisely those controls***; calls on DG INTPA, as in previous years, to liaise with the Court and to address those issues in an update of the methodology and in a more thorough performance of next year's RER study;

Or. en

Amendment 32

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 17

Motion for a resolution

17. Notes with concern the Court's statement that the absence of reservations in the 2019 annual activity report is unjustified; further notes the Court's consideration that it results partly from the limitations of the RER study and partly from the introduction of a 'de minimis rule', which states that a reservation is not needed if the individual spending area it would cover represents less than 5 % of total payments and has a financial impact

Amendment

17. Notes with concern the Court's statement that the absence of reservations in the 2019 annual activity report is unjustified; further notes the Court's consideration that it results partly from the limitations of the RER study and partly from the introduction of a 'de minimis rule', which states that a reservation is not needed if the individual spending area it would cover represents less than 5 % of total payments and has a financial impact

of less than EUR 5 million; recalls that a reservation is a keystone in the accountability construction and therefore constitutes a preventive and transparency instrument within the assurance building of DG INTPA, reflecting ongoing challenges or remaining and recurring weaknesses faced at headquarters or within Union delegations;

of less than EUR 5 million; ***consequently, reservations are no longer made in some cases where they were made in previous years, even if corresponding risks remains and the errors remain the same;*** recalls that a reservation is a keystone in the accountability construction and therefore constitutes a preventive and transparency instrument within the assurance building of DG INTPA, reflecting ongoing challenges or remaining and recurring weaknesses faced at headquarters or within Union delegations;

Or. en

Amendment 33

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 21

Motion for a resolution

21. Notes the continued commitment of the United Kingdom to pay all its obligations under the current multiannual financial framework and previous financial perspectives as if it were still a Member State, as expressed in the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community (the ‘Withdrawal Agreement’); notes furthermore that the Withdrawal Agreement states that the United Kingdom is to remain party to the EDF until the closure of the eleventh EDF and all previous unclosed EDFs, and is to, in this respect, assume the same obligations as the Member States under the Internal Agreement by which it was set up, as well as the obligations resulting from previous EDFs until their closure and that the United

Amendment

21. Notes ***with satisfaction*** the continued commitment of the United Kingdom to pay all its obligations under the current multiannual financial framework and previous financial perspectives as if it were still a Member State, as expressed in the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community (the ‘Withdrawal Agreement’); notes furthermore that the Withdrawal Agreement states that the United Kingdom is to remain party to the EDF until the closure of the eleventh EDF and all previous unclosed EDFs, and is to, in this respect, assume the same obligations as the Member States under the Internal Agreement by which it was set up, as well as the obligations resulting from previous

Kingdom may participate, as an observer, without voting rights, in the EDF Committee;

EDFs until their closure and that the United Kingdom may participate, as an observer, without voting rights, in the EDF Committee;

Or. en

Amendment 34

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 23 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

23 a. Reiterates the necessity to ensure full transparency and access to data, in accordance with existing Union legislation, on projects implemented by international organisations and civil society organisations, as well as providing clear rules on governing control and monitoring;

Or. en

Amendment 35

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 24

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

24. **Recalls** that entities entrusted with the implementation of Union funds must, as a general principle, respect the principles of sound financial management and transparency; stresses that any entity must fully contribute to the protection of the financial interests of the Union and must, as a condition for receiving the funds, grant the necessary rights and access required for that the authorising officer

24. ***underlines*** that entities entrusted with the implementation of Union funds must, as a general principle, respect the principles of sound financial management and transparency; stresses that any entity must fully contribute to the protection of the financial interests of the Union and must, as a condition for receiving the funds, grant the necessary rights and access required for that the authorising officer

responsible, for the Court and for the European Anti-Fraud Office; notes, in that regard, the difficulty faced by the Court in getting visas for a duly announced and planned on-the-spot-visit to projects in Burundi and the resulting limitations faced by the Court; calls on the Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS) to raise that issue and remind their counterparts in Burundi of their obligations as recipients of Union funding;

responsible, for the Court and for the European Anti-Fraud Office; notes, in that regard, the difficulty faced by the Court in getting visas for a duly announced and planned on-the-spot-visit to projects in Burundi and the resulting limitations faced by the Court; calls on the Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS) to raise that issue and remind their counterparts in Burundi of their obligations as recipients of Union funding;

Or. en

Amendment 36

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 24 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

24 a. Recalls on the Commission to:

- strictly respect and make applicable in contribution and framework agreements the aforementioned responsibilities of entities implementing Union funds and the obligation to provide the Court and OLAF with any requested document needed for audit completion;

- pay regular attention to the pillar assessment requirements and reports of the international organisations and NGOs concerned by this lack of cooperation to review the appropriateness of their accountability tools; to reconsider related provisions or terms of reference when the pillar assessment methodology is to be reviewed to comply with the EDF Financial Regulation; calls for an adaptation, where necessary, of the existing delegation agreements in force with those international entities;

Amendment 37

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 24 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

24 b. *Notes that there is still a need for a more systematic approach to the communication of Union's grant-funded activities to enhance Union's visibility, and to strengthen transparency, accountability and human rights due-diligence along the chain of funding; calls on the Commission to introduce in the framework agreements the obligation for the leading Agency to ensure the visibility of the Union in multi-donor projects; calls on the Commission to carry out sample-based on-the-spot controls years after the completion of the co-financed projects to check the continued impact of the EDF interventions and to take the necessary steps to ensure the long-term impacts of its operations;*

Or. en

Amendment 38

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 25 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

25 a. *Regrets that the Union is still practicing budget support to third Countries which is regulated by legal provisions of a broad scope creating a risk*

of loose interpretation by the Commission regarding the meeting of general conditions; that the Court cannot cover what happens beyond the moment the Commission pays aid to the recipient country, since these funds then merge with that country's own budget resources;

Or. en

Amendment 39

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 26

Motion for a resolution

26. Notes with appreciation that sub-Saharan Africa is still the largest recipient of budget support with a share of 36 %; observes *furthermore* that the share of low income countries decreased to 32 % (compared to 38% in 2018) and that lower middle income countries, with 47 % of the total ongoing commitments, represent the largest beneficiaries of budget support;

Amendment

26. Notes with appreciation that sub-Saharan Africa is still the largest recipient of budget support with a share of 36 %; observes *with concern* that the share of low income countries decreased to 32 % (compared to 38% in 2018) and that lower middle income countries, with 47 % of the total ongoing commitments, represent the largest beneficiaries of budget support;

Or. en

Amendment 40

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 26

Motion for a resolution

26. *Notes with appreciation* that sub-Saharan Africa is still the largest recipient of budget support with a share of 36 %; observes furthermore that the share of low income countries decreased to 32 %

Amendment

26. *Regrets* that sub-Saharan Africa is still the largest recipient of budget support with a share of 36 %; observes furthermore that the share of low income countries decreased to 32 % (compared to 38% in

(compared to 38% in 2018) and that lower middle income countries, with 47 % of the total ongoing commitments, represent the largest beneficiaries of budget support;

2018) and that lower middle income countries, with 47 % of the total ongoing commitments, represent the largest beneficiaries of budget support;

Or. en

Amendment 41

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 26 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

26 a. Recalls that budget support aims at strengthening the partnership with the Union partner countries, to promote sustainable development, eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities, and consolidate peace and democracy, ultimately to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals; notes that the Union budget support shall be guided by the internationally agreed Busan effectiveness principles such as Ownership by partner countries, Results focus, Inclusiveness and accountability; highlights that, as it fosters transparency and good governance, budget support contributes also to the fight against corruption and fraud;

Or. en

Amendment 42

José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 27

Motion for a resolution

27. Notes that, in terms of relative contribution to the SDGs, budget support programmes strongly contribute to SDG 16 (peace, justice and governance), SDG 17 (partnerships), SDG 5 (gender equality) and SDG 1 (no poverty); welcomes the strong multi-dimensional scope of budget support programmes;

Amendment

27. Notes that, in terms of relative contribution to the SDGs, budget support programmes strongly contribute to SDG 16 (peace, justice and governance), SDG 17 (partnerships), SDG 5 (gender equality) and SDG 1 (no poverty); welcomes the strong multi-dimensional scope of budget support programmes ***and considers that they should support entrepreneurship and private initiative in order to leverage economic and social development as advocated in SDG 9 (build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation) and 17 (strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development)***;

Or. pt

Amendment 43

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 28 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

28 a. Recalls on DG INTPA, however, to strictly assess in its policy dialogue the risks related to corporate tax avoidance, tax evasion and illicit financial flows affecting particularly developing countries; encourages DG INTPA to assess the fiscal impact and to help to the definition of oriented investment objectives;

Or. en

Amendment 44
José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 29

Motion for a resolution

29. Welcomes the results achieved as regards the intention for inclusive public policies to promote shared growth and to help tackle social or geographical disparities (SDG 10), where statistics indicate that the income share of the bottom 40 % of the population in countries receiving Union budget support increased from 15.6 % to 17.4 % of gross national income between 2004 and 2019, while it decreased slightly in other developing or emerging countries;

Amendment

29. Welcomes the results achieved as regards the intention for inclusive public policies to promote shared growth and to help tackle social or geographical disparities (SDG 10), where statistics indicate that the income share of the bottom 40 % of the population in countries receiving Union budget support increased from 15.6 % to 17.4 % of gross national income between 2004 and 2019, while it decreased slightly in other developing or emerging countries; ***considers it also essential to raise awareness among local interlocutors about the growing importance of private partners in economic, social and territorial development;***

Or. pt

Amendment 45
José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 32

Motion for a resolution

32. Calls for close monitoring and thorough policy dialogue with partner countries regarding objectives, progress towards agreed results and performance indicators; calls once more on the Commission to better define and measure expected development impact and, especially, to improve the control mechanism with regard to the conduct of the beneficiary state in the areas of corruption, respect for human rights, good governance and democracy; remains

Amendment

32. Calls for close monitoring and thorough policy dialogue with partner countries regarding objectives, progress towards agreed results and performance indicators; calls once more on the Commission to better define and measure expected development impact and, especially, to improve the control mechanism with regard to the conduct of the beneficiary state in the areas of corruption, respect for human rights, good governance and democracy; ***stresses the***

deeply concerned about the use that could be made of Union budget support in recipient countries where there is no or only limited democratic control;

need to include the private sector in this strategic dialogue; remains deeply concerned about the use that could be made of Union budget support in recipient countries where there is no or only limited democratic control;

Or. pt

Amendment 46

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 32 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

32 a. Reiterates its call on the Commission to carry out an evaluation on a country-by-country basis of the long-term on-going EDF financed projects in order to demonstrate the true impact of decades-long Union investment on the ground and how it has effectively helped beneficiary countries' economic, social and sustainable development;

Or. en

Amendment 47

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 32 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

32 b. Asks the Commission to carry out an evaluation on a country-by-country approach of the long-time on-going EDF financed projects in order to demonstrate their impact on the economic, social and

sustainable development of the country and calls the Commission to limit and/or terminate further funding of ineffective projects;

Or. en

Amendment 48

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 b. Calls on the Commission to encourage international institutions, in particular in the case of co-funded and multi-donor initiatives, to approximate their results management frameworks with the Union;

Or. en

Amendment 49

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 a. Believes that a better focus on local SMEs, private sector and civil society organisations should be a core axis of cooperation in the management of the Union delegations' pipelines of projects; stresses that, given the funding gap required to reach the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals, strategic dialogue with the private sector and civil society organisations must play a crucial role for the development of local economies;

Amendment 50

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

***The European Union Trust Fund for
Africa***

Amendment 51

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

***35 a. Is concerned that as a follow-up to
the EDF's 2018 discharge report the
Commission hasn't properly implemented
Parliament's numerous recommendations
related to the EUTF;***

Amendment 52

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 b. Recalls Parliament's regular stance that the Commission should ensure that any trust fund established as a new development tool must always be in line with the Union's overall strategy and development policy objectives, i.e. the reduction and eradication of poverty, and must, in particular, ensure that the security interests of European countries do not override the needs of the recipient populations; encourages the Commission to consider limiting financial aid to EUTF projects deflecting from this centreline;

Or. en

Amendment 53

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 c. Stresses that in order to meet the policy objectives, the EUTF must address the root causes of destabilisation, forced displacement and irregular migration by promoting resilience, economic opportunities, equal opportunities, security of populations, and human and social development; observes with great concern that to the opposite of helping to address these causes of destabilisation, the EU funds in 2019 were increasingly being spent to help close borders, stiffen migration and push for returns of migrants back to Africa;

Or. en

Amendment 54

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 d. Recalls that EUTF funding lines must not be used for security measures jeopardising migrants' rights; calls the Commission to put in place tangible guarantees that migration-related EUTF projects are not used by the implementing authorities to violate migrants basic human rights; in that respect is appalled to learn that 91,3million EUR were paid for a border control project in Libya, which is planned to run until end of 2021, and includes training and the equipment for the Libyan Coast Guard which recently was accused^{1a} of sending migrants to detention centres and subject them to torture, abuse and extortion;[1]

^{1a} Complaint to the ECA concerning the mismanagement of EUTF funds IBM Libya Programme, Global legal action network, Association for juridical studies on immigration, Italian recreational and cultural association.

Or. en

Amendment 55

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 e (new)

35 e. *Reiterates its calls on the Commission to follow-up on the 2018 EDF Discharge report regarding the project “Reconnecting Eritrea and Ethiopia through rehabilitation of the main arterial roads in Eritrea”, funded by the EUTF and managed by the United Nations Office for Project Services, which finances Eritrean national construction companies using forced labour via national service; notes with great concern that EUTF paid their first tranche of EUR 20 million in 2019, followed by additional EUR 60 million 2020 despite the clear opposition by the Parliament; also notes the answer by the commissioner responsible for international partnerships from 15 September 2020 where she informed the parliament that the Commission adopted the “no more roads” approach for Eritrea and has reallocated the remaining funds to other programs; demands that the Commission presents the full report on the case to the discharge authority;*

Or. en

Amendment 56

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 f. *Considers that due care is needed to ensure better communication among the Commission, Parliament and Member States concerning the implementation of the EUTF and sufficient public reporting, oversight and audit of their operations*

and performance; invites the Court to consider an audit of the impact of the implementation of the EUTF for Africa on Union development policy both from a budgetary and results point of view; calls therefore on the Commission to draw conclusions from the audit and ensure that EUTF projects that have been inefficiently implemented are terminated or greatly limited in funding;

Or. en

Amendment 57

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 g. Risks and challenges related to the EDF aid implementation

Or. en

Amendment 58

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 h. Recalls that good governance, the rule of law and the respect for human rights are unavoidable preconditions concurring to the effectiveness of aid; calls upon the Commission to set the rule of law and the respect for human rights as the ultimate precondition for approving financial aid; invites the Commission to

make more stringent use of the clause included into the financial agreements with partner countries that enables the Commission to suspend or to terminate the agreement in case of breach of an obligation relating to respect for human rights, democratic principles and the rule of law e (art. 26.1 of the General conditions);

Or. en

Amendment 59

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 i. Is concerned by the Commission rejection of Parliament recommendation to include in the next annual activity report a structured assessment of the impact of the activities of the EDF; invites the Commission to revise its position and respond positively to the Parliament specific request;

Or. en

Amendment 60

Michèle Rivasi

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Younous Omarjee

on behalf of the The Left Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 j (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 j. Reiterates its concerns about the

inconsistency between the budgetary process of the EDF where the EP is not involved in establishing and allocating EDF resources, and the necessary accountability process where the Parliament is the discharge authority, except for the Investment Facility, which is managed by the EIB and therefore outside the scope of the audit;

Or. en