



**2021/2018(INI)**

23.6.2021

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 43**

**Draft opinion**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**  
(PE691.375v01-00)

European political parties – report 2021  
(2021/2018(INI))



**Amendment 1**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph -1 (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***-1. Emphasises that EU political parties and foundations contribute to forming European political awareness and to express the will of citizens of the Union, as enshrined in Article 10(4) TEU and Article 12(2) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union; stresses, furthermore, the importance of EU political parties and foundations in bringing together the European civil society and the Union institutions;***

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

1. Highlights that the funding awarded under Regulation ***(EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014*** is part of the general budget of the European Union and should therefore be implemented in accordance with the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046);

1. ***Recalls that Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of EU political parties and foundations is the legal framework establishing their rights and obligations; highlights that the funding awarded under this Regulation is part of the general budget of the European Union and should therefore be implemented in accordance with the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046), with an emphasis on the general principle of sound financial management; recalls the role of further instances of financial control within their respective mandates, namely the European Court of Auditors,***

*the European Anti-Fraud Office and the  
European Public Prosecutor's Office;*

Or. en

**Amendment 3**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1 a. Welcomes the announcement by the Commission of a new European Democracy Action Plan, including a legislative proposal to ensure greater transparency on paid political advertising and the review of the legislation on the financing of European political parties;*

Or. en

**Amendment 4**  
**Alin Mituța, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1 a. Calls on the Commission to present a proposal aiming at revising Regulation 1141/2014 by mid 2022.*

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

**1 b. Recommends a harmonised timeframe for the reporting and controls carried out respectively by the EU political parties, the APPF and the Parliament in order to avoid having to recalculate the final amounts of the funding, while taking into account the deadlines imposed by relevant rules;**

Or. en

## Amendment 6

Isabel García Muñoz

### Draft opinion

#### Paragraph 2

#### Draft opinion

2. Welcomes the 2019 Annual Activity Report presented by the Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations (APPF); notes that the APPF performed the first review of the accounts of EU parties and foundations in the context of the European elections, ensuring their compliance with the Financial Regulation;

#### Amendment

2. Welcomes the 2019 Annual Activity Report presented by the Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations (APPF); **takes note of the main activities and challenges encountered during 2019;** notes that the APPF performed the first review of the accounts of EU parties and foundations in the context of the European elections ensuring their compliance with the Financial Regulation; **welcomes that the APPF did not have to impose any sanction on an EU political party or foundation in 2019; takes note that, additionally, the APPF intervened in proceedings before the General Court of the European Union, and liaised with Member States to set up a network of National Contact Points and data protection authorities;**

Or. en

## Amendment 7

Alin Mituța, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Welcomes the 2019 Annual Activity Report presented by the Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations (APPF); notes that the APPF performed the first review of the accounts of EU parties and foundations in the context of the European elections, ensuring their compliance with the Financial Regulation;

*Amendment*

2. ***Notes that 2018 was the first year of implementation of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014;*** Welcomes the 2019 Annual Activity Report presented by the Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations (APPF); notes that the APPF performed the first review of the accounts of EU parties and foundations in the context of the European elections, ensuring their compliance ***Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, while the Directorate General for Finance of the European Parliament ensures the compliance*** with the Financial Regulation;

Or. en

**Amendment 8**  
**Marian-Jean Marinescu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2 a. Notes the Authority has wide powers with registering, controlling, and, in case of non-compliance, sanctioning European political parties and foundations, observe that while the Authority has broad powers with regards to the scrutiny of the formal requirements set out in Regulation 1141/2014, its powers are more limited with regard to verifying whether a registered party or foundation is in breach of the EU's fundamental values where a complex procedure that involves the Parliament and the Council takes place***

Or. en

**Amendment 9**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Welcomes the fact that the APPF developed a set of principles to render operational the right of EU political parties to campaign in European elections; highlights that the first review of the accounts identified possible improvements, particularly regarding the level of detail and comparability of the requested information;

*Amendment*

3. ***Acknowledges that the right to campaign in conjunction with the prohibition of funding other political parties, in particular national parties or candidates, may create uncertainty for EU political parties; stresses their major role in European elections to run European campaigns; welcomes the fact that the APPF, together with the Directorate-General for Finance of the European Parliament, developed a set of principles to render operational the right of EU political parties to campaign in European elections, while at the same time setting out its limits; asks the Commission to insert these principles in Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014;***

***Highlights that the first review of the accounts identified possible improvements, particularly regarding the level of detail and comparability of the requested information provided by EU parties and foundations; welcomes the introduction of templates to facilitate the process in 2020; takes note that in 2019 most of the resources of the EU political parties and foundations went to personnel, meetings and information costs;***

Or. en

**Amendment 10**  
**Alin Mituța, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Welcomes the fact that the APPF developed a set of principles to render operational the right of EU political parties to campaign in European elections; highlights that the first review of the accounts identified possible improvements, particularly regarding the level of detail and comparability of the requested information;

*Amendment*

3. Welcomes the fact that the APPF developed a set of principles to render operational the right of EU political parties to campaign in European elections; highlights that the first review of the accounts identified possible improvements, particularly regarding the level of detail and comparability of the requested information; ***underlines that the authority should provide information covering the registration and financial situation of European political parties and foundations, to the greatest extent possible, and should make this information publicly available in a user-friendly, complete and updated manner;***

Or. en

**Amendment 11**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3 a. Recalls that, in its Resolution of 26 November 2020 on the stocktaking of European elections, the Parliament proposed to amend Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 “to allow European political parties and foundations to fully participate in the European political space, to campaign, to be able to use campaign funds and stand in European elections, to increase the transparency of their funding, especially as regards the management of funds from the EU budget and when funding comes from member parties, and to prohibit donations from private and public bodies from non-EU countries”;***

Or. en



**Amendment 12**  
**Younous Omarjee**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3 a. Expresses concern about the budgetary dependence of the APPF on the budget of the European Parliament; calls for full budgetary autonomy for this Authority in order to ensure the highest level of neutrality;**

Or. fr

**Amendment 13**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

4. Recalls that Article 38 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 requires Parliament to adopt a report by the end of 2021, and the Commission to present a report on the same matter six months after that, probably accompanied by a legislative proposal to amend the regulation;

4. Recalls that Article 38 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 requires Parliament to adopt a report ***on the application of the Regulation*** by the end of 2021 and the Commission to present a report on the same matter six months after that, probably accompanied by a legislative proposal to amend the Regulation; ***takes note that the evaluation will focus on tightening the financial and enforcement rules, reducing the administrative burden, enhancing transparency, and strengthening the genuine electoral representation of European citizens;***

Or. en

**Amendment 14**  
**Alin Mituța, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Recalls that Article 38 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 requires Parliament to adopt a report by the end of 2021, and the Commission to present a report on the same matter six months after that, **probably** accompanied by a legislative proposal to amend the regulation;

*Amendment*

4. Recalls that Article 38 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 requires Parliament to adopt a report by the end of 2021, and the Commission to present a report on the same matter six months after that, **which shall be** accompanied, **if appropriate**, by a legislative proposal to amend the regulation;

Or. en

**Amendment 15**  
**Mikuláš Peksa**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**4 a. Welcomes the Commission's intention to review Regulation N° 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations, at the end of 2021, with a view to go beyond the current objective of addressing financing and transparency rules and ease the registration conditions under Article 3 and open membership to all EU citizens to provide for a more inclusive representation of political parties active at the European level;**

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Marian-Jean Marinescu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4 a. Notes that, following Brexit, there is an increased need to revise different categories of party membership and on allowing the affiliation of members from candidate countries, from the European Economic Area and the European Free Trade Association, from EU neighbourhood countries, and from former Member States, from which membership fees can be legally collected***

Or. en

**Amendment 17**  
**Mikuláš Peksa**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4 b. Recalls the recommendations of academics presented during the European Parliament AFCD committee hearing on 25th May 2021, namely lowering the threshold for registration and introducing citizen support as an alternative to parliamentary support to fulfil representational criterion;***

Or. en

**Amendment 18**  
**Mikuláš Peksa**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 c (new)**

**4 c. Notes with concern that several existing trans-national political parties active in European politics and represented in the European Parliament are not permitted to register officially as European political parties due to requirements listed in Regulation N°1141/2014, consequently hindering the democratic representation of smaller political parties at the European level; suggests that in this view the European Commission should make an ambitious reform proposal by the end of 2021;**

Or. en

**Amendment 19**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5**

## Draft opinion

5. Highlights that the funding of EU political parties and foundations must be transparent, not open to abuse and exclusively support political activities in line with the founding principles of the Union expressed in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union; highlights that Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 introduced a procedure for assessing compliance, and unfulfillment can entail a decision to deregister an EU party;

## Amendment

5. Highlights that the funding of EU political parties and foundations must be transparent, not open to abuse, and exclusively support political **programmes** **and** activities in line with the founding principles of the Union expressed in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union; highlights that Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 introduced a procedure for assessing compliance, and unfulfillment can entail **financial sanctions or** a decision to deregister an EU party; **underlines that stronger controls together with clear and proportional sanctions are indispensable to ensure their efficiency in terms of enforceability; points out that the Authority has never triggered the values compliance procedure thus far; calls for a reinforcement of the current administrative set-up of the APPF in order to better monitor the compliance with the relevant rules and the**

*implementation of the sanctions;*

Or. en

**Amendment 20**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Draft opinion*

5. Highlights that the funding of EU political parties and foundations must be ***transparent, not open to abuse and exclusively support political activities*** in line with the founding principles of the Union expressed in ***Article 2*** of the ***Treaty on European Union***; ***highlights that Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 introduced a procedure for assessing compliance, and unfulfillment can entail a decision to deregister an EU party;***

*Amendment*

5. Highlights, that the funding of EU political parties and foundations must be in line with the founding principles of the Union expressed in ***Art. 2 TEU***; ***compliance to these principles and to the requirements of the regulation of European political parties and foundations should be safeguarded and their breaches sanctioned in a three-fold-approach, one addressing some essential formal requirements monitored by public authorities and reported to official public files, the other left to the concrete judgement of the public on the adequacy of the concrete positions and activities of the European parties, and finally to the judgement of the members of a European Party on the appropriate use of the party budget.***

Or. en

**Amendment 21**  
**Marian-Jean Marinescu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 – subparagraph 1 (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Mentions the request to drop the requirement to submit the accounts according to the International Financial Reporting Standards as they do not***

*correspond to the nature of the European political parties and foundations; Notes that the European Public Sector Accounting Standards (EPSAS), once implemented in all Member States, has the potential to improve public financial management and accountability through delivering on fiscal transparency*

Or. en

**Amendment 22**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5 a.** *Takes note that the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) were initially developed for companies and don't represent an administrative added value in the framework of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014; suggests reviewing and facilitating the required IFRS procedure for EU political parties and foundations;*

Or. en

**Amendment 23**  
**Markus Pieper, Monika Hohlmeier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5 a.** *Notes that all major political parties and foundations have pointed to an unnecessary bureaucratic burden of the status quo which requires them to deliver their accounts in two formats; requests the suppression of the obligation to submit the parties' and foundations'*

*accounts according to the International Financial Reporting Standards, supplementary to the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles; emphasises that the IFRS are intended and adequate for large profit-oriented global companies and are therefore not fit for the accounts of European political parties and foundations, which do not have a seat in one Member State, are not listed at any stock exchange and are not profit-oriented;*

Or. en

**Amendment 24**

**Mikuláš Peksa**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5 a.** *Highlights that funding of European Political Parties and European Political Foundations is inherently linked to registration criteria listed in Regulation N° 1141/2014, meaning that both issues will need to be addressed in the legislative proposal of the Commission to amend the Regulation;*

Or. en

**Amendment 25**

**Alin Mituța, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5 a.** *Believes that the funding of European political parties and European political foundations from the general*

*budget of the European Union shall not be used to finance referenda in Member States, except where the referenda deal with issues related to the European Union;*

Or. en

**Amendment 26**  
**Marian-Jean Marinescu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5 a. Notes that the scope of revision of the Regulation 1141/2014 by the European Commission rests upon the impact assessment and stakeholder consultation due on 22 June 2021; notes that the revision should focus on tightening the funding provisions to promote transparency with regard to indirect funding from third countries to reduce the risk of foreign interference, and to enhance the rules regarding sanctions for the infringement of data protection rules*

Or. en

**Amendment 27**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5 b. Welcomes the efforts made by the APPF to make accessible for the citizens a wide array of information on its website; suggests, however, to make the documents published in its website more user friendly;*



**Amendment 28**

**Mikuláš Peksa**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 5 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5 b. Requests that every European party's application for EU funding is made publicly-available on the Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations' website, ahead of the European Parliament's decision to approve the application; notes that the vast majority of European parties' funding comes from public sources and, therefore, requires the highest level of transparency and accountability;***

Or. en

**Amendment 29**

**Alin Mituța, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 5 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5 b. Believes that European political parties and European political foundations shall make greater use of new technologies, which can improve transparency and traceability of donations and expenditures;***

Or. en

**Amendment 30**

**Markus Pieper, Monika Hohlmeier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5 b. Is in favour of raising transparency in the financing of European political parties and foundations by creating an obligation of the European Parliament to publish the annual financial statements of the parties and foundations received by them;**

Or. en

**Amendment 31**  
**Alin Mituța, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5 c. Underlines that cooperation with national parties and political groups in the European Parliament should be encouraged, as a way to better reach and engage citizens;**

Or. en

**Amendment 32**  
**Markus Pieper, Monika Hohlmeier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5 c. Is of the opinion that the rules defining the limits to eligibility of expenditure are too narrow and that European political parties should be allowed to finance any activity which**

*contributes to forming European political awareness and to expressing the will of citizens of the Union;*

Or. en

**Amendment 33**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5 c. Notes that EU political parties are interested in developing relations with larger international organisations and partners from outside the EU through activities such as sending delegations to international events, organising fringe events within larger manifestations, and organising their own events outside of the EU; asks the creation of explicit provisions for activities with larger international organisations and partners from outside the EU;*

Or. en

**Amendment 34**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5 d. Recommends the Commission to strengthen the provisions on data protection by including references to the offences defined in Articles 3 to 6 of Directive 2013/40/EU on attacks against information systems; welcomes that the APPF established a network of national data protection authorities to render the new verification procedure fully*

*operational;*

Or. en

**Amendment 35**  
**Markus Pieper, Monika Hohlmeier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5 d. Proposes to submit expenditure of European political parties and foundations to a mechanism of self control accompanied by an internal audit system, an external auditor, the European Court of Auditors and the control by the public;***

Or. en

**Amendment 36**  
**Markus Pieper, Monika Hohlmeier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5 e. Welcomes the idea to base the distribution of the EU funds on the number of votes collected by the European political party in the last European elections, taking into account the consideration that possible under-allocations compared to the current legal/regulatory framework do not have disruptive and distortive effects in the run-up to the 2024 elections***

Or. en

**Amendment 37**

**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5 e. Asks the Commission to detail rules related to ceilings, tender procedures and other means related to EU political parties and foundations' personnel and meetings costs to ensure a sound financial management of EU funds;**

Or. en

**Amendment 38**  
**Isabel García Muñoz**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

6. Acknowledges that the co-funding level can be challenging for EU political parties; believes that reducing the required own resources for EU parties to 5 % of the eligible expenditure could help to address this issue;

6. Acknowledges that the co-funding level can be challenging for EU political parties; believes that reducing the required own resources for EU parties to 5 % of the eligible expenditure, ***as is the case for foundations already***, could help to address this issue; ***asks the Commission to establish stricter rules on ceiling, thresholds and reporting of donations to improve the transparency and accountability of the EU political parties and foundations;***

Or. en

**Amendment 39**  
**Markus Pieper, Monika Hohlmeier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 a.** *Is of the opinion that the introduction of a general obligation to report publicly on any donation received regardless of its value would contribute to the transparency of any external influence on European political parties;*

Or. en

**Amendment 40**  
**Markus Pieper, Monika Hohlmeier**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 b.** *Welcomes the creation of further categories of revenue, in order to cover all kinds of income of political parties other than contributions or donations;*

Or. en

**Amendment 41**  
**Alin Mituța, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 7**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

7. Recalls that Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 requires national parties to display the logo, the political programme and the website link of their EU party of affiliation on their websites as a condition for ***accessing*** funds; calls on the Commission to clearly define the requirements related to the visibility of the European party of affiliation.

7. Recalls that Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 requires national parties to display the logo, the political programme and the website link of their EU party of affiliation on their websites as a condition for ***the European political party to access*** funds; calls on the Commission to clearly define the requirements related to the visibility of the European party of affiliation.

Or. en

## Amendment 42

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### Draft opinion

#### Paragraph 7

##### *Draft opinion*

7. Recalls that Regulation (**EU, Euratom**) No 1141/2014 requires national parties to display the logo, the political programme and the **website link** of their EU party of affiliation on their websites as a condition **for** accessing funds; calls on the Commission to clearly define the requirements related to the visibility of the European party of affiliation.

##### *Amendment*

7. Recalls that **the** Regulation N° 1141/2014 requires national **members** parties to display the logo, the political programme and the **websitelink** of their EU party of affiliation on their websites as a condition **of** accessing funds; **is concerned that, according to the logos project<sup>1a</sup>, national member parties overwhelmingly fail to properly implement the Regulation's display requirement, as only 15% of member parties display the logo in a clear and user-friendly manner**; calls on the Commission to clearly define **and provide more specific display** the requirements, **as well as detailed guidelines**, related to the visibility of the European party of affiliation.

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<sup>1a</sup> <https://eudemocracy.eu/logos-project>

Or. en

## Amendment 43

Isabel García Muñoz

### Draft opinion

#### Paragraph 7

##### *Draft opinion*

7. Recalls that Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 requires national parties to display the logo, the political programme and the website link of their EU party of affiliation on their websites as a condition for accessing funds; calls on

##### *Amendment*

7. Recalls that Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 requires national parties to display the logo, the political programme and the website link of their EU party of affiliation on their websites **"in a clear visible and user-friendly**

the Commission to clearly define the requirements related to the visibility of the European party of affiliation.

*manner*” as a condition for accessing funds; calls on the Commission to clearly define the requirements related to the visibility of the European party of affiliation;

Or. en