



2023/0264(BUD)

26.7.2023

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Culture and Education

for the Committee on Budgets

on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2024 –
all sections

(COM((2023)0300) – C9-0xxx/2023 – 2023/0264(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Morten Løkkegaard

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Culture and Education calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Highlights that Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, which contributed to high inflation in many Member States, has emphasized the need to support the cultural and creative sectors and industries and the educational sector; in this regard, calls for significant increases for important EU programmes focussing on European citizens, including the youth, culture and education, namely Erasmus+ and Creative Europe;
2. Highlights that Creative Europe, as the only EU Programme directly supporting the cultural and creative sector and industries, needs a significant reinforcement to fulfil its goals in 2024, including ensuring the sector's full recovery after the pandemic, its resilience against the currently high inflation, which also undermines European citizen's purchasing power;
3. Reiterates the need to support editorial and news media to help counter the constant and intensifying information warfare, which is threatening the public debate in European democracies and their elections, including the elections of the European Parliament in 2024; therefore, insists that the Cross-Sectoral strand under Creative Europe should be reinforced with an additional EUR 15 million; furthermore, recalls the need to increase support for the cultural and creative sectors and industries to align the programme with the objectives of the 2018 New European Agenda for Culture, and the priorities and corresponding actions of the EU Work Plan for Culture 2023-2026; therefore, the cultural strand should be reinforced with an additional EUR 15 million; additionally, underlines the need to strengthen the media strand with an additional EUR 13 million to support the audio-visual sector;
4. Underlines the importance of Erasmus+ Programme in promoting European values and forming European identities through education and learning in different Member States; therefore, calls for a significant increase of EUR 60 million for the Erasmus+ Programme;
5. Believes that a budgetary increase will help ensure the continued greening and digitalisation of the Erasmus+ Programme as well as further inclusion measures to allow the participation of more disadvantaged young Europeans and more learners; furthermore, emphasizes the need to support sport, including Esport and the gamification of educational material, under Erasmus+ to promote the role of sport for improving health and social inclusion while also fighting discrimination;
6. Calls for a slight increase for the European Solidarity Corps to support young people engaged in civic engagement and solidarity actions; emphasizes the need to strengthen the humanitarian strand to improve the programme's efforts related to the consequences of Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine.