



**2023/2018(INI)**

15.9.2023

# **COMPROMISE AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 6**

**Draft opinion**

**Beata Kempa**

(PE749.019v01-00)

Implementation of the European Solidarity Corps programme 2021-2027  
(2023/2018(INI))

AM\_Com\_NonLegCompr

**Amendment 1**  
**Beata Kempa**

Compromise amendment replacing Amendment(s): 5, 6, 7, 16

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Emphasises the importance of volunteering in humanitarian aid operations in promoting European values, along with the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence;

*Amendment*

1. Emphasises the importance of volunteering in humanitarian aid operations in promoting European values, along with the ***fundamental*** humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, ***the ‘do no harm’ approach and based on the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid which provides the framework for EU responses to humanitarian crises; recalls that as defined in the Grand Bargain, EU volunteering programmes in humanitarian contexts must work in line with the localisation agenda;***

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Beata Kempa**

Compromise amendment replacing Amendment(s): 10, 11, 12, 13, 18

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

*Draft opinion*

2. Welcomes the high number of young people interested in the humanitarian aid strand, with over 42 000 expressions of interests received by May 2023; strongly supports the efforts to increase engagement among young people with fewer opportunities; calls for concrete action to ensure these young people are included in a meaningful way, ***such as*** targeted communication campaigns and the appropriate design of compulsory training

*Amendment*

2. Welcomes the high number of young people interested in the humanitarian aid strand, with over 42 000 expressions of interests received by May 2023; strongly supports ***as effectively as possible*** the efforts to increase engagement among ***vulnerable*** young people ***with particular attention to the most disadvantaged in society, including those with disabilities and*** with fewer opportunities; calls for concrete action to

programmes and the subsequent placements;

ensure these young people are included in a meaningful way, ***in particular by offering training and language courses, insurance, administrative and post-activity support to participants as well as the validation of the knowledge, skills and competences acquired through their European Solidarity Corps experience; stresses in this regard the importance of*** targeted communication campaigns ***to create more awareness*** and the appropriate design of compulsory training programmes ***including capacity building to reinforce their impact*** and the subsequent placements, ***making sure that both are accessible to all citizens; underlines the need to support the facilitation of networking between organisations working with vulnerable young people and participating organisations under the European Solidarity Corps as well as the transition of volunteers into the labour market; emphasises in this regard the need to increase the resources for long-term support and capacity-building when engaging vulnerable volunteers;***

Or. en

### **Amendment 3** **Beata Kempa**

Compromise amendment replacing Amendment(s): 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26

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

#### *Draft opinion*

3. Is concerned about the lengthy volunteer selection procedure, in particular with regard to waiting times for mandatory in-person training, which could lead to candidates dropping out and losing interest; underlines that humanitarian operations require adequate training;

#### *Amendment*

3. Is concerned about the lengthy volunteer selection procedure, in particular with regard to waiting times for mandatory in-person training, which could lead to candidates dropping out and losing interest; ***stresses that volunteers should be able to complete their mandatory training at the beginning of their deployment to be operational faster; underlines however***

*that the selection procedure shall be carried out respecting the principles of non-discrimination and equality; stresses the need to ensure efficient selection, training and deployment of volunteers in order to respond faster to local needs and improve support to local organisations; underlines that humanitarian operations require an adequate learning and training phase tailored to the local context, being in line with humanitarian aid principles and linked to projects in which volunteers will be involved to the benefit of both volunteers and hosting organizations; emphasises in this respect the value of local staff and volunteers to ensure continuity of the work in the organisations; insists that humanitarian volunteers should not replace or duplicate national staff in host organisations or roles that could be filled by local volunteers, but rather strengthen them;*

Or. en

**Amendment 4**  
**Beata Kempa**

Compromise amendment replacing Amendment(s): 25, 27, 39

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3 a.** *Recognises the need to carefully and properly check the organisations taking part in the programme, both for the safety of participants and the provision of quality skills training; calls on the Commission to allow organisations which were holders of a label certificate under the EU Aid Volunteers initiative and organisations which are signatories to a framework partnership agreement (FPA) between NGOs and DG ECHO of the Commission to benefit from a simplified procedure for obtaining the*

*Quality label required by the new programme; takes note of the complexity of the Quality Label application, in particular for the Humanitarian Strand and for organisations not familiar with EU funding programmes; underlines the need to facilitate the administrative procedure in particular for smaller organisations and organisations that have not yet handled European programmes; calls on the Commission to issue further detailed guidance and technical assistance for applicants, in view of not discouraging organisations from engaging with the programme ;*

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Beata Kempa**

Compromise amendment replacing Amendment(s): 29, 31, 33

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

*Draft opinion*

4. Notes that most applicants are between 19 and 23 years old; *invites the Commission to remove* the age limit to allow more experienced candidates to participate without significantly affecting youth engagement in humanitarian operations;

*Amendment*

4. Notes that most applicants are between 19 and 23 years old; *is of the opinion that* the age limit *should be removed* to allow more experienced candidates *with proven skills and experience in the field of humanitarian aid* to participate without significantly affecting youth engagement in humanitarian operations; *insists that the initiative should be accessible for any EU citizen or long-term resident of 18 years or over; invites the Commission to re-evaluate the age limit in this regard during the interim evaluation of the programme;*

Or. en

**Amendment 6**  
**Beata Kempa**

Compromise amendment replacing Amendment(s): 35, 36, 37

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

*Draft opinion*

5. Notes that around two thirds of the selected projects for 2023 are development-centred; calls for a more balanced humanitarian-centred approach for future selections; calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of revising the regulation to allow volunteering in safe zones of conflict-affected countries, subject to clear security and safety protocols and the fulfilment of the duty of care for volunteers.

*Amendment*

5. Notes that around two thirds of the selected projects for 2023 are development-centred; calls for a more balanced humanitarian-centred approach for future selections; calls on the Commission to consider the possibility of revising the regulation to allow volunteering in safe zones of conflict-affected countries, subject to clear security and safety protocols, ***appropriate training, background checks or other measures with a view to ensure volunteers' safety*** and the fulfilment of the duty of care for volunteers ***during all stages of the volunteering activity; insists that the deployment of volunteers be focused on pre-disaster preparedness and post-disaster recovery settings, where the conditions are more favourable for access and impact without risking to affect negatively the support offered by regular humanitarian staff to affected populations;***

Or. en