



**2020/1998(BUD)**

17.9.2020

# **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on Budgets

on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2021 – all sections  
(2020/1998(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Charles Goerens

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## SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Firmly opposes the European Council's cut to the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) and deplores its rejection of the additional EUR 10, 5 bn for the NDICI and EUR 5 bn for Humanitarian Aid from NextGenerationEU for a COVID-19 response; emphasises that this is illogical and unacceptable in the face of the pandemic which particularly hits the most vulnerable and has devastating repercussions on the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals, including on the eradication of poverty and the reduction of inequality, and of the humanitarian crises and the relentlessly aggravating climate crisis, the latter calling for stronger support for the global implementation of the Paris Agreement and for giving strong substance to the European Green Deal's external dimension;
2. Insists on the need for a differentiated set of NDICI budget lines providing transparency, predictability, accountability and proper Parliament influence;
3. Emphasises the urgent need to step up development cooperation on health and adaptation to climate change, as well as on nutrition and food security, as the pandemic worsens the upward trend in global hunger; affirms that a much higher sum for the people, planet, prosperity and partnership lines than the figure for the Global Challenges line in the draft budget is indispensable;
4. Notes that the increase in the humanitarian aid chapter still leaves a huge gap to the final figure in 2019; points out that pandemic-related and other needs will increase, not shrink;
5. Emphasises the need for safeguards against the crowding out of internal or external use of the Solidarity and Emergency Aid Reserve;
6. Stresses the need for parliamentary oversight over the global challenges and priorities cushion, insists that this cushion can only exist in the annual budget under the condition that decisions on the mobilisation of funds are taken by delegated acts.