



2021/2226(BUI))

3.2.2022

POSITION IN THE FORM OF AMENDMENTS

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on Budgets

on Guidelines for the 2023 Budget - Section III
(2021/2226(BUI))

On behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs: Dragoş Pişlaru
(Chair)

PA_NonLegPosition

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs presents the following amendments to the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible:

Amendment 1

Motion for a resolution

Citation 8 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

— *having regard to the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR), proclaimed by the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission in November 2017, the Commission action plan on the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights of 4 March 2021 and the Porto declaration on social affairs adopted by the members of the European Council in May 2021,*

Amendment 2

Motion for a resolution

Citation 9 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

— *having regard to its resolution of [.....] on empowering European youth: post-pandemic employment and social recovery,*

Amendment 3

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1. Points to the economic recovery in 2021 and expected further growth in 2022; notes nonetheless uncertainty in the economic outlook, in the light of factors such as supply chain disruption, high energy prices, rising inflation and the

1. Points to the economic recovery in 2021 and expected further growth in 2022; notes *that 2023 will also be an important year for the social and economic recovery from the crisis following the COVID-19 pandemic;* notes nonetheless uncertainty in

continuing COVID-19 pandemic; recalls therefore that the 2023 Union budget will play an important role in strengthening the Union economy, ensuring that no one is left behind, and in fostering economic, social and territorial cohesion;

the economic outlook, in the light of factors such as supply chain disruption, high energy prices, rising inflation, ***significant social challenges such as rising unemployment and poverty*** and the continuing COVID-19 pandemic; ***notes that in this social landscape of growing inequalities, women, children, young people and the elderly are especially affected by the various precarious socio-economic situations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and are at risk of being left behind; stresses that social and employment-related challenges caused by the pandemic have had a disproportionate impact on some Member States, regions and social groups, and in particular the most vulnerable populations and labour markets***; recalls therefore that the 2023 Union budget will play an important role in strengthening the Union economy ***and competitiveness and ensuring a just transition, social justice and resilience*** so that no one is left behind, and in fostering economic, social and territorial cohesion ***and upward social convergence***;

Amendment 4
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 2

Motion for a resolution

2. Commits therefore to working ***to adopt a future-oriented*** budget that matches the Union's political priorities, ensuring a stronger Health Union, ***making a success of*** the green and digital transitions and fostering ***the*** recovery, including increased support for SMEs, promoting the rule of law and its application, contributing to greater opportunities for young people throughout the Union, and ensuring a stronger Europe;

Amendment

2. Commits therefore to working ***towards the adoption of a future- and investment-oriented*** budget ***with a strong social and economically sustainable dimension*** that matches the Union's political priorities, ***and the six pillars of the Recovery and Resilience Facility***; ***underlines that these priorities include*** ensuring a stronger Health Union, ***leaving no one behind in*** the green and digital transitions and fostering ***an inclusive, sustainable and resilient*** recovery, including ***through*** increased support for SMEs, promoting the rule of law and its application, ***investing in the younger***

generations and contributing to greater opportunities for young people and for the most deprived and other disadvantaged groups, such as children, LGBTIQ+ families, single-parent families, persons with disabilities, migrants and refugees and Roma people throughout the Union, adapting to imminent labour market changes with the support of well-equipped public employment services, preserving and creating quality and sustainable employment with full respect for labour rights and decent work and working conditions, thereby helping to combat poverty, reducing social exclusion, inequalities and discrimination, in particular with regard to children and young people, ensuring greater social inclusion of older people, and ensuring a stronger, more resilient and competitive Europe based on strategic autonomy and sovereignty;

Amendment 5
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

2a. *Highlights that as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to create economic uncertainty, it is important to continue financing the recovery and to address the social and employment-related challenges resulting from the pandemic, as well as support workers and businesses in the move towards a more solidarity-based, digital, greener and climate-neutral economy; stresses, therefore, that the EU budget is an opportunity to move towards a sustainability agenda driven by a reinforced commitment to promote sustainable growth, full employment and decent work by prioritising investments and policy actions that deliver for people, create quality jobs, protect workers and build stronger European institutions committed to solidarity and social*

progress;

Amendment 6
Motion for a resolution
Subheading 1 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ensuring full social, economic and territorial cohesion and achieving the highest standards on social and labour rights

Amendment 7
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 2 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

2b. Takes the view that, in the light of the further deterioration of working conditions, alarming poverty and social exclusion figures, worrying unemployment levels and continuing discrimination problems, an ambitious budgetary response is called for; calls therefore for robust allocations dedicated to ESF+;

Amendment 8
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 3

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

3. Welcomes the priority given to Union health policy and highlights in that connection the EU4Health programme and ***Cluster*** Health in Horizon Europe; notes that the budget for preparedness activities by the Health Emergency Response Authority is drawn from those programmes and from the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, and expresses deep concern that this could compromise the attainment

3. Welcomes the priority given to Union health policy and highlights in that connection the EU4Health programme and ***the Health cluster*** in Horizon Europe; ***acknowledges recent data^{1a} depicting how mental well-being has reached its lowest level across all age groups of Europeans since the beginning of the pandemic***; notes that the budget for preparedness activities by the Health Emergency Response

of other important health objectives;
stresses the need to ensure adequate
funding for the Beating Cancer Plan;

Authority is drawn from those programmes
and from the Union Civil Protection
Mechanism, and expresses deep concern
that this could compromise the attainment
of other important health objectives;
stresses the need to ensure adequate
funding for the Beating Cancer Plan **and
highlights in this context the importance
of EU legislation laying down minimum
standards in occupational health and
safety and in ensuring the highest
protection for workers that is technically
possible; stresses the need for the
Commission to secure sufficient staffing
in order to meet its tasks as regards health
and safety at work, and in particular to
prepare an action plan covering at least
25 additional occupational exposure
limits and ensure legislative follow up
without delay;**

1a

<https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/report/2021/living-working-and-covid-19-update-april-2021-mental-health-and-trust-decline-across-eu-as-pandemic>

Amendment 9
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4

Motion for a resolution

4. Recognises the importance of other Union programmes, including the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), in providing investment in **health measures and infrastructure** and stresses the need for synergies between those activities and EU4Health; recalls also the importance of steady implementation and access to technical assistance for Member States with low administrative capacity; emphasises that the decentralised health agencies should be adequately funded;

Amendment

4. Recognises the importance of other Union programmes, including the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), in providing investment in **preventive healthcare and resilient healthcare systems and infrastructures** and stresses the need for synergies between those activities and EU4Health; recalls also the importance of steady implementation and access to technical assistance for Member States with low administrative capacity; emphasises that the decentralised health agencies should be adequately funded **in**

order to be able to fulfil their mandated tasks and responsibilities and calls for transparency as regards public investments;

Amendment 10
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4a. Recalls that the twin transitions to a green and digital economy that delivers decent working conditions and respects labour rights will require adequate resources and investments in order to adapt to the required infrastructure, connectivity and production facilities and provide appropriate support for workers;

Amendment 11
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5. Acknowledges that implementing the Green Deal and achieving the Union's emission reduction goals **will require** massive investment, whilst stressing that the cost of inaction would be much higher; emphasises that the Union budget is **at the heart of efforts to make** a just transition towards a greener and more resilient Union in which no one is left behind; in that regard, highlights the need to fully implement the Just Transition Mechanism;

5. Acknowledges that implementing the Green Deal and achieving the Union's emission reduction goals **requires urgent massive investment, including in adapting industrial production facilities and improving related infrastructure**, whilst stressing that the cost of inaction would be much higher; emphasises that **climate measures should be accompanied by adequate social policies, including social infrastructure, not least to support the creation of decent and sustainable jobs and the reskilling and upskilling of workers for a just transition towards a greener and more resilient Union; highlights the urgent need to adopt instruments that prevent vulnerable groups from suffering any negative social consequence that might arise from implementing the climate actions of the**

Green Deal; insists that in order to design next-generation game-changer policies, social and environmental policies and objectives must be given the same importance as economic ones; emphasises that the Union budget is instrumental to achieving a just transition towards a greener and more resilient Union in which no one is left behind; stresses the importance of policies and measures to support the transition of the labour market and the need to strengthen the competitiveness of our economies in the context of the green and digital transitions; in that regard, highlights the need to fully implement the Just Transition Mechanism in full complementarity with other instruments such as the European Social Fund+ (ESF+) and the upcoming Social Climate Fund in order to accompany the most vulnerable people in this transition, be it in terms of labour market inclusion or with respect to their capacity to invest in more efficient energy devices;

Amendment 12
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5a. Advocates a stronger interaction between the new Fit for 55 package and the EPSR as any legislative proposals on climate should be accompanied by adequate social measures to guarantee a just transition as well as the creation of quality jobs; welcomes the Commission proposal for a Social Climate Fund to cushion the negative social impact of extending emissions trading to the building and road transport sectors; warns that the instrument proposed is clearly insufficient both in its aims and in its funding and believes that it should also be used to promote high-quality employment and decent working

conditions; insists that in order to design new-generation game-changer policies, social and environmental policies and objectives must be integrated on an equal footing with economic ones;

Amendment 13
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6

Motion for a resolution

6. Stresses the need for investment in research and innovation in green technologies **and** processes, including with a view to giving the Union a competitive edge in the future net-zero economy, and highlights Horizon Europe in that context; considers that the Union must make full use of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) to modernise and connect its transport and energy infrastructure;

Amendment

6. Stresses the need for investment in research and innovation in green technologies, processes, **and skills**, including with a view to giving the Union a competitive edge in the future net-zero economy, and highlights Horizon Europe in that context; considers that the Union must make full use of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) to modernise and connect its transport and energy infrastructure;

Amendment 14
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8

Motion for a resolution

8. Considers it essential to Union competitiveness to further digitalise the economy and the public sector; believes that a successful digital transition requires research and innovation efforts under Horizon Europe, significant investment in digital infrastructure through CEF-Digital, and support in areas such as artificial intelligence and cybersecurity through the Digital Europe Programme; points to the need to tackle the digital skills gap by promoting advanced digital skills;

Amendment

8. Considers it essential to Union competitiveness to further digitalise the economy and the public sector **while overcoming fragmentation, ensuring a level playing field for all economic actors, ensuring labour rights and decent jobs for all workers, including non-standard and platform workers, and fully respecting the GDPR; acknowledges the advantages brought by digital transformation and artificial intelligence (AI) in regards to the creation of new jobs; stresses, however, that automatisisation and AI might also lead to job losses and disruptions to the labour market and recalls the need for adequate protection**

for workers affected by these changes and the need to ensure decent working conditions and the right to disconnect, especially in the context of the growing use of AI and teleworking; stresses the need for unemployment prevention mechanisms and professional reconversion tools to be made available to workers in order to sustainably support the digital transition as well as investments in improving related infrastructures, connectivity, network security and the future organisation of work; believes that a successful digital transition requires research and innovation efforts under Horizon Europe, significant investment in digital infrastructure through CEF-Digital, and support in areas such as artificial intelligence and cybersecurity through the Digital Europe Programme; points to the need to tackle the digital skills gap by promoting advanced digital skills and equal access to education and training programmes in this respect, not least by ensuring that EU funds targeting advanced digital skills are in line with the socio-economic needs of the future labour market; notes the need for investment in digital skills also for older people and people living in remote areas;

Amendment 15
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8a. *Points to the need to address future skills policies and measures to support the labour market transition and ensure a better adjustment to demographic change, automatisisation and digitalisation, particularly by improving the policy framework for quality and inclusive education and training, and also by guaranteeing the right to adult learning and access to upskilling and reskilling training, paid educational leave,*

full qualifications, validation of informal and non-formal learning, and guidance and counselling;

Amendment 16
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9

Motion for a resolution

9. Recognises the contribution of Union funding programmes to the economic recovery, and in particular to supporting SMEs; in that connection, highlights InvestEU, and its SME window as well as the possibility under the programme for SMEs negatively affected by the pandemic to receive **capital** support; highlights the need for sufficient funding for the Single Market Programme;

Amendment

9. Recognises the contribution of Union funding programmes to the economic recovery, and in particular to supporting SMEs **and micro-enterprises**; in that connection, highlights InvestEU, and its SME window as well as the possibility under the programme for SMEs negatively affected by the pandemic to receive **financial and technical** support; highlights the need for sufficient funding for the Single Market Programme; **recalls that small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) constitute the backbone of the European economy and acknowledges their role in the creation of quality jobs and economic prosperity;**

Amendment 17
Motion for a resolution
Subheading 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Promoting strong social recovery from the pandemic

Amendment 18
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9a. Believes that addressing social gaps with EU and government budgets through social investment in key policy

areas improving the living and working conditions of people affected by both the pandemic-induced crisis and the transition towards the accelerating green and digital transformations should be at the heart of the EU's recovery strategy; stresses that until the economic effects of the pandemic are visible such measures must be complemented by the 'general 'escape clause' supported by compatible ECB policies and the Stability and Growth pact that aim at people's overall well-being, labour market inclusiveness and the protection of workers;

Amendment 19
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9b. *Considers that detecting social risks and taking into account the divergent pandemic-induced employment effects and long-term unemployment across particular industries should be adequately addressed and prevented as much as possible; stresses, in this regard, the need to invest in measures aimed at tackling the risks of precarious working conditions, working time organisation, work-life balance, job-to-job transitions and mobility of the workforce;*

Amendment 20
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9c. *Recognises the crucial role of all European funds and programmes in the social area, in particular the ESF+, the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF), REACT-EU with its additional resources for the European Social Fund*

(ESF), the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI), the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) and the Recovery and Resiliency Facility (RRF), among others; insists therefore that in the recovery efforts of the coming years all programmes in the social area, and in particular the ESF+ and the FEAD, be adequately financed to overcome rising unemployment and poverty in Europe;

Amendment 21
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9d. *Is of the opinion that the principles of upward convergence and social progress must guide the adoption of the Porto targets on employment, poverty, education/training and the adoption of sub-targets at national level; calls on the Commission to present a Sustainable Development Goal expenditure tracking methodology for the EU budget that can also be used to assess investments under the national recovery and resilience plans;*

Amendment 22
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9e. *Recognises that ESF+ and the RRF must contribute to the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) by putting its principles into practice and mainstreaming social objectives in all relevant legislation, policies and implementing plans linked to NextGenerationEU; stresses that adequate resources should be allocated to*

fund and implement the EPSR action plan adopted in Porto and to achieve the Porto headline targets; calls on the Commission in this regard to ensure adequate staffing to support this task; believes that the Porto poverty targets should be better detailed in all national recovery and resilience plans and at EU level with an action plan and a strong anti-poverty strategy supported by substantial investments that addresses all aspects of poverty, including in-work poverty;

Amendment 23
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9f. *Calls for the Social Scoreboard and well-being indicators to be used to measure the overall impact of different funds, instruments and facilities financed under the MFF and NGEU; calls on the Commission to develop the methodology for tracking social expenditure in the EU budget based on the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights;*

Amendment 24
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9g. *Calls for support for short-time employment and workers' income schemes, as well as other forms of employment and income support, to be maintained until the pandemic and its economic consequences subside; urges the Commission, building on the positive experience of SURE, to introduce a permanent instrument in the form of a European Unemployment Reinsurance*

Scheme to protect employment and fight against unemployment, including the preservation of jobs and workers' income in situations of external shocks;

Amendment 25
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9h. Stresses that social dialogue and collective bargaining are crucial to ensure equality, social cohesion, social mobility and sustainable growth; recalls that social dialogue and social partners must be a cornerstone of the Recovery Plan and that the national recovery and resilient plans should be aligned to the EPSR action plan and the Porto headline targets; stresses the importance of the partnership principle in order to ensure the involvement of social partners in all stages of the planning, design, implementation and monitoring of projects financed by the European Structural and Investment Funds, as well as in other relevant EU funds, including the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RFF) and REACT-EU;

Amendment 26
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 10

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

10. Considers it essential for the Union's credibility to ensure the proper use of Union funds and to take all steps to protect the Union's financial interests; emphasises the clear link between respect for the rule of law and efficient implementation of the Union budget in accordance with the principles of sound financial management; considers that

10. Considers it essential for the Union's credibility to ensure the proper use of Union funds and to take all steps to protect the Union's financial interests; emphasises the clear link between respect for the rule of law and efficient implementation of the Union budget in accordance with the principles of sound financial management; considers that

Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget should be applied immediately and in full; believes that adequate resources should be made available to Union bodies in this field, such as the European Public Prosecutor's Office, OLAF, or Eurojust;

Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget should be applied immediately and in full; believes that adequate resources should be made available to Union bodies in this field, such as the European Public Prosecutor's Office, OLAF, ***the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)*** or Eurojust;

Amendment 27
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11

Motion for a resolution

11. Emphasises that the rule of law protects the other fundamental values on which the Union is founded and is intrinsically linked to respect for democracy ***and*** fundamental rights; highlights the importance of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme in sustaining and further developing open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies;

Amendment

11. Emphasises that the rule of law protects the other fundamental values on which the Union is founded and is intrinsically linked to respect for democracy, fundamental rights ***and media freedom; stresses that the promotion of European values and cultures plays an active role in supporting democracy, non-discrimination and gender equality, and tackling disinformation and fake news;*** highlights the importance of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme in sustaining and further developing open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies; ***underlines the need to provide sufficient funding for this programme and to reinforce the resources dedicated to supporting victims of gender-based violence through the Daphne programme;***

Amendment 28
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12

Motion for a resolution

12. Recognises that the COVID-19 crisis has had a severe negative impact on young people and has led to lost

Amendment

12. Recognises that the COVID-19 crisis has had a severe negative impact on young people, ***in particular on their***

opportunities and diminished prospects; believes strongly that the 2023 budget should include a focus on youth, building on the momentum of the 2022 European Year of Youth; highlights the importance of Erasmus+, which should become more inclusive, offering greater opportunities to people from disadvantaged backgrounds;

mental health, and has led to lost opportunities, *employment barriers, precarious work situations, financial insecurity* and diminished prospects; believes strongly that the 2023 budget should include a focus on youth, *assess the impact on young people across policy areas and offer possibilities to support them in coping with the new challenges brought about by the pandemic, in particular as regards mental health*, building on the momentum of the 2022 European Year of Youth *and the European Pillar of Social Rights*; highlights the importance of *the Reinforced Youth Guarantee and Erasmus+*, which should become more inclusive *and accessible*, offering *greater diversity and* greater opportunities to people from *minorities, such as Roma people, people with a migrant background, the LGBTIQ+ community, people with disabilities and people from* disadvantaged *economic* backgrounds;

Amendment 29
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12a. *Underlines in this context the importance of reforming national education programmes and strengthening EU action in this area by making sure that training and education systems and programmes and workers' qualifications are adapted to the needs of the economy and society; underlines the need for policymakers at EU and national level to ensure sustainable and quality learning and training and to facilitate and support young people in (re-)entering and remaining in the labour market, accessing good quality housing, completing their educational trajectory and developing skills, including digital and green skills;*

Amendment 30
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12b. Calls on the Member States and the Commission to make combating youth unemployment a priority, in particular as part of the European recovery effort, to allocate adequate funding to the implementation of the reinforced Youth Guarantee and to make sure that the financial instruments available under NextGenerationEU are fully used; calls on all Member States, and not only those most affected by youth unemployment, to continue to invest in the RRF and to allocate sufficient ESF+ resources to measures and reforms aimed at supporting quality youth employment, including upskilling and lifelong learning;

Amendment 31
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12c. Underlines that the link between socio-economic factors, such as unemployment, housing insecurity, academic pressures and mental health and well-being must be addressed to ensure that a holistic approach to mental health is adopted at EU level; calls, therefore, for Member States to make mental health an integral part of the EU's socio-economic recovery from the pandemic and an occupational health priority, in particular in educational and workplace environments and to address health inequalities through the provision of adequate support to vulnerable groups of young people; calls on the Commission

to ensure that the mental health of young people is a strategic priority of utmost importance in the upcoming EU care strategy;

Amendment 32
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13

Motion for a resolution

13. Points also to the need to bolster the European Solidarity Corps (ESC), which helps young people gain practical experience in another Member State thereby increasing their employability and life chances; *recalls the importance of activities for young people under the European Social Fund Plus, in particular with regard to training, and the RRF;*

Amendment 33
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

13. Points also to the need to bolster the European Solidarity Corps (ESC), which helps young people gain practical experience in another Member State thereby increasing their employability and life chances *as well as their pro-EU sentiment;*

Amendment

13a. Stresses that in the context of recovery from the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 outbreak, tackling child poverty and social exclusion is essential to prevent a lost generation; welcomes the adoption of the European Child Guarantee, which is aimed at ensuring that every child in Europe at risk of poverty or social exclusion has access to free healthcare, education, early childhood education and care as well as decent housing and adequate nutrition; calls on the Member States to effectively implement the European Child Guarantee across the Union by mainstreaming the Guarantee across all relevant policy sectors;

Amendment 34
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

13b. Deplores the fact that more than a quarter of all children in the EU are in or at risk of poverty or social exclusion; stresses that, in the context of recovery from the COVID-19 outbreak, tackling child poverty will become even more important in the coming years; welcomes, in this regard, the creation of the European Child Guarantee, which is aimed at ensuring that every child in Europe at risk of poverty or social exclusion has free and effective access to the most basic set of rights such as high-quality healthcare, education, early childhood education and care, adequate nutrition and decent housing; moreover calls on the Commission to make available, and on the Member States to make use of, all possible resources for the implementation of the Child Guarantee, including the ESF+, REACT-EU and RRF, among others;

Amendment 35
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

13c. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the new ALMA initiative reaches young people, in particular disadvantaged young people aged 18 to 29 not in employment, education or training (NEETs), via the involvement of civil society organisations and social partners on the ground; recalls that for the most disadvantaged groups of young people, guidance will be key in finding temporary work experience in another Member State, as well as support before, during and after participation in the programme

in order to lead young people towards quality employment opportunities; insists that placements undertaken through ALMA must comply with minimum quality standards that uphold young people's labour rights such as fair remuneration and access to social protection; urges the Commission to ensure the added value of ALMA in addition to the existing opportunities under Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps; calls for an inclusion strategy to be put in place in order to ensure equal access to ALMA for all young people, prevent discrimination and address any barriers that might occur;

Amendment 36
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14

Motion for a resolution

14. Recalls that the pandemic has severely impacted older people too; notes that Erasmus+ offers opportunities for adults and seniors and calls on the Commission to ensure that they benefit more from it; points to the need to ensure mobility and volunteering for seniors similar to what young people enjoy under the ESC;

Amendment

14. Recalls that the pandemic has severely impacted older people too, *once again exposing the lack of policy responses to the impact of demographic change in the EU, such as the lack of adequate and affordable housing, quality care facilities and sufficient care and support services; stresses that the budget should underline the importance of safeguarding and promoting the dignity of older people and their fundamental rights in the EU by introducing an 'ageing in dignity' criteria; calls, furthermore, for sufficient funding to support investment in housing in order to effectively tackle the growing problems of a lack of affordable housing, poor housing conditions, housing exclusion and homelessness*; notes that Erasmus+ offers opportunities for adults and seniors and calls on the Commission to ensure that they benefit more from it; points to the need to ensure mobility and volunteering for seniors similar to what young people enjoy

under the ESC;

Amendment 37
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 19 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

19a. Stresses the need to adopt ambitious policies in order to tackle social exclusion and fight poverty, including child poverty, as well as ensuring decent working conditions and their effective enforcement, employment security, adequate social protection, gender-balanced opportunities and a safe environment and wellbeing for all in the Union, without leaving anyone behind;

Amendment 38
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 22 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

22a. Underlines that Parliament and other EU institutions should set an example in protecting essential workers and maintaining their jobs during the pandemic; expresses, in this regard, strong concern over the contracts and working conditions of the workers providing essential and structural services to the EU institutions, such as cleaning and catering; calls, in this regard, on the EU institutions to ensure decent working conditions to all employees, including workers in the subcontracting chain and external staff and to explore the possibility of insourcing external jobs and services with its own employment services;

Amendment 39
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24

Motion for a resolution

24. Recalls that the Commission must implement, no later than 1 January 2023 and for certain centrally managed programmes, a methodology to measure expenditure relevant to the promotion of gender equality as well as rights and equal opportunities for all;

Amendment

24. ***Calls for the mainstreaming of a gender-responsive budget to better align policies and activities that promote the equal participation of women in the labour market and to have comprehensive systems to monitor and measure gender budget allocations, women's participation in the labour market, access to non-standards contracts, and employment and pay gaps; calls for the implementation of gender budgeting in the 2023 general budget by assigning budget allocations taking into account a gender-responsive evaluation of the previous budgetary period and ensuring equal participation in the budgetary process; recalls that the Commission must implement, no later than 1 January 2023 and for certain centrally managed programmes, a methodology to measure expenditure relevant to the promotion of gender equality as well as rights and equal opportunities for all; recalls the importance of ambitious funding and other instruments in support of anti-discrimination legislation and policies and the implementation thereof; requests in this regard increased funding for the Daphne programme; underlines the important role played by the European Institute for Gender Equality and the need to ensure adequate funding and staff for its tasks;***

Amendment 40
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

24a. Recalls that women have been particularly negatively affected by the pandemic in terms of health risks, job losses, pre-existing unemployment inequalities, precarious working conditions, and care responsibilities, and

are more at risk of suffering the employment and social fallout of the crisis as the gender gap widened during the pandemic; stresses that the employment headline target adopted in Porto can only be achieved by adopting ambitious targets at national level to further include women in the labour market; strongly promotes solutions to stop direct and indirect discrimination affecting women, and calls for adequate funding to support measures promoting equality and equal access to the labour market;

Amendment 41
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 25

Motion for a resolution

25. Recalls the essential work carried out by decentralised agencies; considers that agencies must be properly staffed and adequately resourced so that they can perform their tasks;

Amendment

25. Recalls the essential work carried out by decentralised agencies; considers that agencies must be properly staffed and adequately resourced so that they can perform their tasks; *insists, in particular, on the proper staffing and financing of the new European Labour Authority;*

Amendment 42
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 25 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

25a. Reiterates that pilot projects (PPs) and preparatory actions (PAs) are very valuable tools to initiate new activities and policies in the fields of employment and social inclusion and that several ideas of Parliament's Committee on Employment and Social Affairs have been implemented successfully in the past as PPs/PAs; calls for the implementation of PPs/PAs to be transparent and in line with their adopted objectives and recommendations; calls on the Commission to prioritise, for

Amendment

efficiency reasons, the implementation of these projects and actions through Union agencies when they fall under their areas of expertise;

Amendment 43
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 26 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

26a. Strongly supports cohesion funding as the prime funding instrument of the EU budget that enables economic, social and territorial cohesion, and one of the cornerstones of the recovery; highlights its role in reaching EU strategic objectives such as employment, combating poverty, gender equality, a climate neutral economy, and innovation, and as a driving force of a more inclusive and sustainable Union; highlights that the regional policy must play a key role in boosting equal job opportunities for all genders and supporting the re-skilling of workers by providing adequate life-long training;