



2020/2131(INI)

4.9.2020

AMENDMENTS

1 - 140

Draft opinion
Atidzhe Alieva-Veli
(PE653.907v01-00)

A new strategy for European SMEs
(2020/2131(INI))

Amendment 1
Anne Sander

Draft opinion
Recital A

Draft opinion

Amendment

A. whereas micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are defined in the EU recommendation 2003/36;

Or. en

Amendment 2
Anne Sander

Draft opinion
Recital B

Draft opinion

Amendment

B. whereas 99 % of European businesses are SMEs; whereas they represent 50 % of PIB and employ around 100 million people, corresponding to two-thirds of all jobs in the private sector, thus being the backbone of the European economy and key players to foster attractiveness of territories and for the development of identified strategic industrial ecosystems;

Or. en

Amendment 3
Anne Sander

Draft opinion
Recital C

Draft opinion

Amendment

C. whereas European SMEs face a huge lack of investments reaching

between 20 and 35 billion euros, despite the support of the EU and its Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Anne Sander

Draft opinion
Recital D

Draft opinion

Amendment

D. whereas SMEs face tremendous challenges due to the COVID-19 crisis and many of them face the risk of bankruptcy;

Or. en

Amendment 5
Anne Sander

Draft opinion
Recital E

Draft opinion

Amendment

E. whereas the Commission put forward commitments as regards its strategy for small and medium-sized enterprises published in March 2020;

Or. en

Amendment 6
Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska

Draft opinion
Recital F

Draft opinion

Amendment

F. whereas small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are the backbone of the EU economy; whereas SMEs employ around 100 million people and they account for more than half of Europe's GDP;

Or. en

Amendment 7

Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska

Draft opinion

Recital G

Draft opinion

Amendment

G. whereas SMEs provide two out of three jobs, bring training opportunities across regions and sectors, including for low-skilled workers, and support society's welfare, including in remote and rural areas;

Or. en

Amendment 8

Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska

Draft opinion

Recital H

Draft opinion

Amendment

H. whereas complex administrative and legal procedures constitute a significant obstacle for SMEs in making their business more resource-efficient;

Or. en

Amendment 9
Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska

Draft opinion
Recital I

Draft opinion

Amendment

I. whereas over 70% of firms report access to talent as obstacle to new investment across the EU^{1a}; whereas the availability of skilled staff and experienced managers has become the most pressing problem experienced by SMEs in the EU over the years^{1b}; whereas the skills shortage is particularly acute for digitalisation and new technologies, as 35 % of the labour force have low or no digital skills;

1a

<https://www.eib.org/en/publications/investment-report-2018>

1b

<https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/38462>

Or. en

Amendment 10
France Jamet

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context,

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context,

highlights the need for *sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition*;

highlights the need for *the states to adopt appropriate fiscal policies; stresses also the need for the reversal of policies that promote unfair competition and dumping in the Union and of which SMEs are the first victims*;

Or. fr

Amendment 11 **Stefania Zambelli**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 1**

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for *sustainable* finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, *resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition*;

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable *long-term solutions*;

Or. it

Amendment 12 **Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 1**

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for *sustainable* finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more *sustainable*, resource-efficient, *circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition*;

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more resource-efficient *and long term effective*;

Or. en

Amendment 13

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 1**

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-

Amendment

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efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, *ensuring the successful implementation of* the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, *thereby contributing to the principles and objectives of the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) as well as* the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Or. en

Amendment 14
Anne Sander

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation **and** an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation, **and building** an inclusive **and resilient** labour market, **boosting investments, competitiveness and sustainable growth**; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis **and the severe difficulties SMEs are going through due to this crisis**; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the **strong** need for **facilitating access to funding and for taking short and long term measures to support SMEs in the recovery**; **underlines that this should allow** sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition; **stresses that the transition to sustainable and digitalised businesses for SMEs demands special policy attention and**

accompanying measures;

Or. en

Amendment 15

Sylvie Brunet, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Stéphane Bijoux, Ilana Cicurel, Véronique Trillet-Lenoir

Draft opinion

Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, ***including to social innovation***, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, ***stresses the importance of wide-ranging and coordinated action to secure Europe's industrial fabric, stimulate the economy and support employment***; highlights, ***moreover***, the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition, ***in order to ensure that no one is left behind; considers also that the development of the circular economy represents an opportunity for SMEs by creating jobs and new markets, as well as increased business efficiency***;

Or. fr

Amendment 16
José Manuel Fernandes

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, **competitiveness, entrepreneurship**, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for **urgent and** sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards **digitalisation and** more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of **the Digital Agenda**, the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Or. pt

Amendment 17
Stelios Kypouropoulos

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, **especially in the most vulnerable social categories**;

liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity *or growth* problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable *and targeted* finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Or. el

Amendment 18 **Dragoş Pîslaru**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 1**

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs, *including family businesses*, to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Or. en

Amendment 19 **Romana Tomc**

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market **in the European Union**; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Or. sl

Amendment 20
Krzysztof Hetman

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' **resilience and** ability to

move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Or. en

Amendment 21
Jeroen Lenaers

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive **cross-border** labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Or. en

Amendment 22
Leila Chaibi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive

contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition; ***stresses that, in the context of the European Green Deal, SMEs are major partners to which major investments should be directed, for example to support projects related to the maintenance of the water and sanitation network; recalls that sustainable financing must be accompanied by social guarantees, in particular as regards worker protection, respect for working conditions and equal pay;***

Or. fr

Amendment 23
Sara Skyttedal

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context,

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context,

highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;
acknowledges the importance of prioritising proposals that will benefit SMEs most efficiently, if we are to realise the full potential of the EU single market;

Or. en

Amendment 24
Petra De Sutter

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition;

Amendment

1. Underlines the decisive contribution of SMEs to innovation, job creation and an inclusive labour market; is extremely concerned about the rising unemployment rates in the EU and the risk of millions of people losing their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; recognises that at present SMEs are faced with severe liquidity problems and, in this context, highlights the need for sustainable finance to bridge the current investment gap and to reinforce SMEs' ability to innovate and move towards more sustainable, resource-efficient, circular and climate-neutral solutions, ensuring the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and the related just transition; ***calls upon Member States to improve access to smaller scale credits;***

Or. en

Amendment 25
Leila Chaibi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Considers that a new strategy for European SMEs must be constructed around the protection of employment and workers, guaranteeing them a high standard of working conditions and social protection; considers that such a strategy must support those companies that respect workers' rights and the environment; stresses the need to revise public procurement rules to favour companies that respect these rights; calls for the urgent introduction of a carbon adjustment mechanism at borders that favours companies that respect the ecosystem and support the creation of local jobs;

Or. fr

Amendment 26
Jordi Cañas, Atidzhe Alieva-Veli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Welcomes the recent amendment of the State Aid Temporary Framework enabling Member States to provide public support to all micro and small companies; expresses its concern, however, about the uneven distribution of state aid and Member States' access to liquidity and fiscal space, which is likely to result in disruptions in the Single Market and thus create inequalities as regards the ability to preserve domestic jobs;

Amendment 27
Stefania Zambelli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Considers it essential to review climate targets and implementation of the European Green Deal, given that SMEs are already reeling from the COVID-19 crisis and are not in any state to meet further preconditions for immediate access to funding;

Or. it

Amendment 28
France Jamet

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

Amendment

2. Considers ***that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting*** SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and ***striving*** to ensure the ***EU's*** industrial independence;

2. Considers ***it appropriate to support*** SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and ***to strive*** to ensure the industrial independence ***of Europe's nations;***

Or. fr

Amendment 29
Jordi Cañas

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure **the** EU's industrial **independence**;

Amendment

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure EU's industrial **strategic autonomy and global leadership**;

Or. en

Amendment 30

Sylvie Brunet, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Stéphane Bijoux, Ilana Cicurel, Véronique Trillet-Lenoir

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 2**

Draft opinion

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial independence;

Amendment

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should **be fully utilised to** complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, **preserving jobs, income and know-how**, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial independence **through such measures as onshoring strategic industrial activities**; **Recalls, furthermore, that these instruments must contribute to achieving the objectives of sustainable development, the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Paris Agreement**;

Or. fr

**Amendment 31
Jeroen Lenaers**

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 2**

Draft opinion

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial independence;

Amendment

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic ***and SMEs that are active in border regions which have been severely affected by the closure of borders between Member States***, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial independence;

Or. en

Amendment 32

José Manuel Fernandes

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial independence;

Amendment

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors ***and regions*** most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial independence;

Or. pt

Amendment 33

Radan Kanev

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national

Amendment

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national

schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial independence;

schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial independence ***and innovation and technological leadership***;

Or. en

Amendment 34

Anne Sander

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial independence;

Amendment

2. ***Stresses that programmes crucial for SMEs' competitiveness and development which are included in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) should be guaranteed a necessary level of funding***; considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial independence;

Or. en

Amendment 35

Leila Chaibi

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial

Amendment

2. Considers that the EU recovery instruments and the relevant MFF programmes should complement national schemes, supporting SMEs, particularly in the sectors most affected by the pandemic, and striving to ensure the EU's industrial

independence;

independence; calls on companies that benefit from European Union aid, state aid or any other form of financial support from Member States or the European Union to undertake not to lay off their employees, not to lower wages and to extend the contracts of their employees at least for the period during which they benefit from such aid; calls for the introduction of a maximum quota of 10% precarious contracts in SMEs and a maximum quota of 5% precarious contracts in large companies; calls on companies to commit themselves to achieving equal pay for women and men in the short term;

Or. fr

Amendment 36

Leila Chaibi

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. Recalls that VSEs and the self-employed have also been strongly affected by the COVID-19 crisis; stresses that SMEs, VSEs and the self-employed often find it difficult to access the aid mechanisms put in place by the Member States, in particular the short-time work arrangements that are essential for job protection; stresses the need to make state aid permanent and to increase the authorised amount up to EUR 400 000 in order to support companies in difficulty and to protect jobs;

Or. fr

Amendment 37

Dragoş Pîslaru, Atidzhe Alieva-Veli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. *Notes the key relevance that the EU has in protecting SMEs involved in cross-border activities or employing cross-border, seasonal or frontier workers and calls for ensuring clear and transparent information accessible to companies and employers regarding the rules and rights which must be enjoyed by these workers, including through one-stop shop online portals;*

Or. en

Amendment 38

Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Abir Al-Sahlani, Jordi Cañas, Dragoş Pîslaru, Cristian Ghinea, Radka Maxová

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. *Calls for a European horizontal strategy for SME recovery in order to support them by reducing red tape, improving access to finance and by fostering investments in strategic value chains, start-ups and micro SMEs in line with the European Green Deal;*

Or. en

Amendment 39

France Jamet

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; ***considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;***

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers;

Or. fr

Amendment 40

Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 3**

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; ***considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;***

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; ***underlines the need to find a swift and balanced agreement on the revision of Regulations 883/2004 and 987/2009 on social security coordination which are essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;***

Or. en

Amendment 41

Andrea Bocskor

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 3**

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the ***strengthening of EU*** rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the ***proper implementation of existing*** rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations ***and is of the opinion that the ongoing discussions related to the amendment of the regulation 883/2004 will only make SMEs' life more difficult and will cause uncertainties for mobile workers;***

Or. en

Amendment 42

Ádám Kósa

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers ***the strengthening of EU*** rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers ***proper implementation of existing*** rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations ***and is of the opinion that the ongoing discussions related to the amendment of the regulation 883/2004 will only make SMEs' life more difficult and will cause uncertainties for mobile workers;***

Or. en

Amendment 43
Stefania Zambelli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of **the EU's** industrial **and green** recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of industrial recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Or. it

Amendment 44
Margarita de la Pisa Carrión

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, **in particular those in precarious situations**;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related **and entrepreneurship-related** actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers **and recently created enterprises**; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers;

Or. en

Amendment 45
Stelios Kypouropoulos

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's **digital transition and** industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should, **at the same time**, go hand in hand with measures to protect **all** workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination **and alignment** of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Or. el

Amendment 46
Romana Tomc

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers **the strengthening of** EU rules on coordination of social security systems **as** essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers **that** EU rules on coordination of social security systems **are** essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations, **and calls, therefore, on all stakeholders to adopt legislation in this area as soon as possible**;

Or. sl

Amendment 47

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginell, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta

Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 3**

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers ***strengthen their rights and ensure decent working and employment conditions for all***; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Or. en

**Amendment 48
José Manuel Fernandes**

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 3**

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's ***industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives*** and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's ***plans and initiatives, particularly those relating to industrial and green recovery***, and should go hand in hand with measures to ***promote entrepreneurship and*** protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Or. pt

Amendment 49

Sylvie Brunet, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Stéphane Bijoux, Ilana Cicurel, Véronique Trillet-Lenoir

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems ***and the portability of rights*** as essential for ***fair*** labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations; ***stresses, in this regard, the need to ensure respect for the principle of equal treatment of workers and fair and equitable working conditions for mobile workers within the Union;***

Or. fr

Amendment 50

Anne Sander

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations; ***recalls that the free movement of workers is a fundamental freedom central to the Single Market; recalls furthermore the***

importance of fostering labour mobility across Europe; stresses that, while important set of measures has been taken to support companies to react to the coronavirus outbreak, specific focus must now be put on mitigating the long-term effects of the crisis;

Or. en

Amendment 51
Radan Kanev

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations; *stresses the need for adapting and modernising labour regulations with regard to the new realities of modern economy, under the coordination of ELA; underlines the need of coordinated methods and protocols for control on labour conditions throughout the Union, under the coordination of ELA;*

Or. en

Amendment 52
Petra De Sutter

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations; ***requests that the SME-related actions are made conditional on providing for quality jobs; recalls the need to combat undeclared work and the informal economy so as to strengthen those SMEs which respect the rules;***

Or. en

Amendment 53

Jeroen Lenaers

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations;

Amendment

3. Stresses that SME-related actions should be at the core of the EU's industrial and green recovery plans and initiatives and should go hand in hand with measures to protect workers; considers the strengthening of EU rules on coordination of social security systems as essential for labour mobility and protecting workers, in particular those in precarious situations; ***emphasises that good coordination between Member States and regions is crucial to ensure that SMEs and self-employed entrepreneurs who are active cross-border are protected by national schemes and measures;***

Or. en

Amendment 54
Anne Sander

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Is of the opinion that preventing companies from going bankrupt is key to preserve jobs and ensure a sustainable economic recovery; considers that the EU should therefore develop and reinforce early warning mechanisms to identify companies in distress and help them avoid insolvency; considers that European funding and programmes should be redirected in that sense;

Or. en

Amendment 55
Jordi Cañas, Atidzhe Alieva-Veli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Highlights that women remain under-represented across occupation and management levels^{1a} and welcomes the European Commission's initiatives with a particular focus on empowering women and improving gender balance within the European SMEs ecosystem;

^{1a} *The Missing Entrepreneurs 2019, Policies for inclusive entrepreneurship, OECD, <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/d23b6508-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/d23b6508-en>*

Amendment 56

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Notes that trade union and employee representation as well as social dialogue and collective bargaining are not as widespread in SMEs as they are in larger companies, while there are considerable differences between Member States in this regard;

Or. en

Amendment 57

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3b. Calls on the Commission to ensure that workers have the right to information, consultation and participation and to include this principle also in the SME strategy; underlines the need for a meaningful involvement of workers and their representatives at company level, also with regard to decisions on decarbonisation and digitalisation; stresses the importance of an effective social dialogue and the need

to strengthen social partners, to extend the collective bargaining coverage and to take measures to promote a high density of trade unions and employers' associations in the context of the new SME strategy;

Or. en

Amendment 58
France Jamet

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, *and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic*; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

Amendment

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

Or. fr

Amendment 59
Petra De Sutter

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting

Amendment

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) *as well point*

workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

8 of the Commission Statement following the presentation of Commission Directive (EU) 2020/739 on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines ***including written instructions*** should be further developed ***and provided to all exposed workers*** in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

Or. en

Amendment 60
Miriam Lexmann

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

Amendment

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed ***and based on regular consultations with the relevant stakeholders*** in order to provide a coordinated, ***up-to-date*** and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

Or. en

Amendment 61
Sylvie Brunet, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Stéphane Bijoux, Ilana Cicurel, Véronique Trillet-Lenoir

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

Amendment

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health; ***stresses the need to ensure the efficient and rapid implementation of health protocols, as well as their adoption by workers in the various occupational sectors, in particular through on-the-job training;***

Or. fr

Amendment 62

Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Abir Al-Sahlani, Jordi Cañas, Cristian Ghinea

Draft opinion

Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

Amendment

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health; ***encourages Member States to raise awareness of Occupational Safety and Health and to take all necessary actions to ensure the safety and health of workers, including through strengthening***

inspections, where and when necessary;

Or. en

Amendment 63

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion

Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

Amendment

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health; ***calls on the Commission for a revision of the Directive on Health and Safety at Work in addition to a new framework strategy for health and safety at work that includes a zero-vision of work-related deaths;***

Or. en

Amendment 64

Anne Sander

Draft opinion

Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the

Amendment

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the

workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health; ***underlines the importance of taking adequate measures to assist SMEs in drawing up work plans that respect the rules on safety and security;***

Or. en

Amendment 65
José Manuel Fernandes

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health;

Amendment

4. Calls for the systematic application of health and safety measures in the workplace, and welcomes the guidelines of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; considers that such guidelines should be further developed in order to provide a coordinated and efficient response in case of future cross-border threats to public health; ***considers also that SMEs employing seasonal and cross-border workers deserve special protection;***

Or. pt

Amendment 66
Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz,

Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Acknowledges the specific situation of SMEs with regard to implementing statutory health and safety measures at company level; underlines that awareness raising, exchange of good practices, consultation, user-friendly guides and online platforms are of utmost importance to help SMEs to comply with the regulatory requirements; welcomes EU-OSHA's online interactive risk assessment (OiRA) as well as other e-tools in the Member States that aim to promote compliance and a culture of prevention, in particular in micro and small enterprises;

Or. en

Amendment 67

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4b. Recalls that all workers in the Single Market must have the right to enjoy the highest possible level of protection as regards health and safety at work regardless of the size of the company which employs them, the place of employment or the underlying contract;

Or. en

Amendment 68

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers ***that the reduction of the regulatory burden*** and the ***simplification of rules*** on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons ***should constitute*** a cornerstone of the ***future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to*** a speedy economic recovery;

Amendment

5. Considers ***the regular assessment of administrative requirements*** and the rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons a cornerstone of the ***new European SME strategy in view of supporting*** a speedy economic recovery; ***highlights that the efficiency and stability of the regulatory environment is best achieved by an ongoing strong involvement of social partners in the decision making process;***

Or. en

Amendment 69 Leila Chaibi

Draft opinion Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers that ***the reduction of the regulatory burden and*** the simplification of rules on access to ***finance*** for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery;

Amendment

5. Considers that the simplification of rules on access to ***financial support*** for SMEs and ***genuinely*** self-employed persons, ***accompanied by environmental and social conditions,*** should, ***alongside fair and just working conditions,*** constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy, ***fair and sustainable*** economic recovery;

Or. fr

Amendment 70
Emmanouil Fragkos, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of rules on access to finance for **SMEs and** self-employed **persons** should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European **SMEs**, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery;

Amendment

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of rules on access to finance for self-employed **and start-ups, like prizes, microfinance and crowdfunding as well as for SMEs** should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European **entrepreneurship**, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery;

Or. en

Amendment 71
Stelios Kypouropoulos

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery;

Amendment

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery **and enhanced job creation**;

Or. el

Amendment 72
José Manuel Fernandes

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of **rules on access to** finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery;

Amendment

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of **procedures for accessing** finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery; **recalls, in this context, the importance of technical assistance for SMEs and the self-employed, especially in the initial phase of implementation of European funds and programmes;**

Or. pt

Amendment 73
Petra De Sutter

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers that the reduction of the **regulatory burden** and the simplification of rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery;

Amendment

5. Considers that the reduction of **unnecessary administrative burdens** and the simplification of rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery; **recalls that labour law and its implementation do not constitute a regulatory burden;**

Or. en

Amendment 74
Krzysztof Hetman

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery;

Amendment

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery; ***calls in this regard for the reduction of ‘gold plating’ of EU rules in Member States;***

Or. en

Amendment 75
Stefania Zambelli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery;

Amendment

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery; ***recognises that access to credit and European funding should be made more easily available to small and medium-sized businesses through regional one-stop shops;***

Or. it

Amendment 76
Anne Sander

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery;

Amendment

5. Considers that the reduction of the regulatory burden and the simplification of rules on access to finance for SMEs and self-employed persons should constitute a cornerstone of the future strategy for European SMEs, and would make a crucial contribution to a speedy economic recovery; ***therefore calls for the swift implementation of the European patent to promote SMEs' innovation potential;***

Or. en

Amendment 77

Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Abir Al-Sahlani, Jordi Cañas, Dragoş Pîslaru, Cristian Ghinea, Radka Maxová

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Calls on the Commission and Member States to urgently support businesses, especially SMEs, by reducing unnecessary administrative burdens and by facilitating their access to liquidity; welcomes in this respect the temporary SURE initiative, proposed by the Commission; calls on the Commission and the Member States to ensure that alternative financing options, such as credit unions and private equity investors are available to SMEs; calls for the establishment of capacity building programmes, within the Recovery plan, aimed at helping SMEs, particularly micro SMEs to readjust their businesses to COVID-19 affected markets;

Or. en

Amendment 78
Jordi Cañas, Atidzhe Alieva-Veli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Highlights the importance for SMEs of achieving the transition to digitalisation, as well as of considering the employment opportunities and benefits associated, such as flexible patterns of work organisation, enhanced opportunities for people with disabilities and a better work-life balance; calls on the European Commission to put forward a European Teleworking Agenda with a view to developing a legislative framework laying down clear minimum standards and conditions for remote work across the EU, while supporting European SMEs' productivity and competitiveness;

Or. en

Amendment 79
Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Stresses that fair competition is a fundamental principle of the Single Market; warns that a race to the bottom as regards employment, social security and taxation standards, including through artificial arrangements, is in sharp contrast to fair competition based on quality and sustainable development; underlines that social dumping is first and foremost at the expense of workers,

consumers and law-abiding SMEs;

Or. en

Amendment 80
Dragoş Pîslaru, Atidzhe Alieva-Veli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. *Notes the vital role that SMEs and social impact investment can have in creating access and opportunity for people with disabilities or vulnerable minorities to the labour market, and calls for enhanced support for those companies that both offer social employment and that foster social impact in their communities through the provision of social services or goods or the creation of social value chains;*

Or. en

Amendment 81
Sara Skyttedal

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. *Welcomes that the Commission's SME strategy addresses the simplification work as one of three cornerstones for the EU's work with SMEs; considers the reduction of red tape as an important prerequisite for the ability of the economy to recover, innovate and to transition to, among others, climate-smart production, as well as a prerequisite for EU companies' competitiveness;*

Amendment 82
Anne Sander

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Calls for abolishment of rules and for giving priority to an effective resumption of economic activities, and insists that it is essential to place the SMEs at the core of the ‘after crisis’ single market; proposes that a single market consistency plan be put forward with a strong focus on making market access and access to finance for SMEs easier;

Or. en

Amendment 83
Radan Kanev

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Stresses the need for further simplification of the rules of access to the Single market for SMEs and self-employed persons, as well as the further promotion of labour mobility, under simple rules, accessible to SMEs, though avoiding any form of abuse of workers’ rights and worsening working conditions;

Or. en

Amendment 84
Sara Skyttedal

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5b. Expresses its concern over the Commission's new proposal for harmonised standards and their increased involvement in the voluntary system for producing technical standards; emphasises that this restricts the ability of the European legislative framework to adapt to technological advances entering the market which in turn undermines Europe's ability to impact the technical content in international standards and, as a result, the competitiveness of the European industry and SMEs;

Or. en

Amendment 85
Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Abir Al-Sahlani, Jordi Cañas, Dragoş Pîslaru, Cristian Ghinea, Radka Maxová

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5b. Believes that the digitalisation provides an abundance of opportunities for SMEs and can significantly improve their productivity, business management and resilience; considers that an ambitious timetable is needed to harmonise digital aspects of the single market and foster e-Government solutions; calls for standardisation and digitalisation of procedures and forms which will help SMEs in the long-term;

Or. en

Amendment 86

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5b. Recalls that competition policy is enforced at Union level; highlights that unfair competition in the Single Market damages law-abiding companies, in particular SMEs; calls on the Commission and the Member States to take decisive measures to tackle unfair competition that is based on for example avoidance of social, fiscal or labour law;

Or. en

Amendment 87

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5c. Stresses that policies targeting SMEs and start-ups must not provide opportunities for businesses to circumvent existing rules, lower the protection of workers and consumers, or increase the risk of corporate fraud, criminal activities and letter box companies; recalls that the Parliament rejected the controversial Commission proposal on a European Services e-card in this regard;

Amendment 88
Stefania Zambelli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. ***Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy;*** highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Or. it

Amendment 89
France Jamet

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the ***EU*** to support ***the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy;*** highlights the

Amendment

6. Calls on the ***Union*** to support artificial intelligence and reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational

need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Or. fr

Amendment 90
Margarita de la Pisa Carrión

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors ***that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy***; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions ***in a coherent and flexible manner*** by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Or. en

Amendment 91
Romana Tomc

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in

artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to **adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills**, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to **modernise the system of vocational education, training and skills**, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Or. sl

Amendment 92

Emmanouil Fragkos, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the **digital and green transitions** by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the **smart transition** by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Or. en

Amendment 93

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta

Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 6**

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and ***the new skills for new*** occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training ***and skills***, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and ***qualifications for future*** occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training ***as well as qualifications***, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market; ***considers that the image of an SME as an attractive employer, based on good working and employment conditions, is an important competitive advantage for the recruitment of qualified staff; stresses the importance of in-company training and education;***

Or. en

**Amendment 94
Emmanouil Fragkos, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 6**

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new

occupations **and** sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

occupations, sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy **and the creation of infrastructure that can support the new re-ruralisation wave**; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Or. en

Amendment 95
Radan Kanev

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, **focused on SME's** uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Or. en

Amendment 96
Stelios Kypouropoulos

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

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Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable **and fair** carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Or. el

Amendment 97

Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, **carbon-neutral** economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, **climate-neutral** economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market; ***underlines that entrepreneurial education and training that enhances business knowledge and skills plays a key role in***

making SMEs fit for the single market;

Or. en

Amendment 98
Miriam Lexmann

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in ***human - centric and dignity-based*** artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market; ***stresses the need to raise awareness about the big potential of the AI based solutions to ensure the trust of the citizens; highlights the need for a research on societal changes caused by AI;***

Or. en

Amendment 99
Jeroen Lenaers

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the

digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market; ***emphasizes in this regard the possibilities of overcoming the mismatch between skills and qualifications by making better use of the cross-border labour market;***

Or. en

Amendment 100
Krzysztof Hetman

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market; ***calls for the best use of the European Social Fund+ to address these challenges;***

Amendment 101

Sylvie Brunet, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Stéphane Bijoux, Ilana Cicurel, Véronique Trillet-Lenoir

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 6**

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in ***lifelong learning***, reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of ***human, social and*** advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market. ***calls, in this regard, on the Commission and the Member States to promote, reinforce and support apprenticeships in order to facilitate the sustainable integration of young people into the labour market;***

Amendment 102

Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 6**

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in

Amendment

6. ***Underlines that advanced disruptive technologies, such as***

artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

blockchain and Artificial Intelligence (AI), Cloud and High Performance Computing (HPC) can dramatically boost the competitiveness of SMEs; calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Or. en

Amendment 103

Anne Sander

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

Amendment

6. Calls on the EU to support the digital and green transitions by investing in artificial intelligence and in reskilling and upskilling initiatives to foster digital literacy, the uptake of advanced digital skills and the new skills for new occupations and sectors that will emerge from the transition to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy; highlights the need to adopt a forward-looking approach to vocational education and training and skills, in particular digital skills; stresses, as a matter of priority, the need to address the mismatch between skills/qualifications and the needs of the labour market ; ***underlines the importance of accompanying the digital transition of***

SMEs in particular for immaterial investments and the reinforcement of cybersecurity;

Or. en

Amendment 104
Stefania Zambelli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Recognises that SMEs are at Europe's industrial core and are therefore essential to the large industrial supply chains; considers, in this connection, that the SMEs play a crucial role in maintaining European employment levels and that close cooperation between Member States to facilitate employment tax incentives is therefore of the essence;

Or. it

Amendment 105
Leila Chaibi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Recalls that many large companies, including the FAAMG group, the pharmaceutical industry and large retailers, have profited from the COVID-19 crisis by making extraordinary profits; insists on the need for a solidarity contribution from these large companies towards SMEs in difficulty; insists on the need to put an end to late payments by large companies to SMEs and VSEs in order to avoid cash-flow crises that

endanger jobs; calls for listed companies to be required to publish the amount of debts they owe to their SME and VSE suppliers and the average number of days in arrears; supports the establishment of penalties that would be automatically applied for each day in arrears;

Or. fr

Amendment 106
Jeroen Lenaers

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. *Considers that the withdrawal of the United Kingdom (UK) from the European Union has affected SMEs in the EU negatively, especially those doing daily business with the UK; stresses that the new partnership with the UK should pay special attention to the specific situation of SMEs and calls on the EU and the UK to work towards simplification of requirements and formalities for customs procedures for SMEs in order to avoid any additional administrative burden and encourages the Parties to set up SME contact points.*

Or. en

Amendment 107

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. *Considers that a new strategy for European SMEs can only succeed through integrated strategic planning, pooling the resources of European players, regional and local institutions, industrial clusters, social partners, universities and research groups; highlights in this context the importance of support structures such as SMEs networks, one-stop shops and regional development agencies, innovation clusters and start-up counselling for the creation of local and regional value chains;*

Or. en

Amendment 108

Jordi Cañas, Atidzhe Alieva-Veli

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. *Calls on the Commission to ensure complementarity between the objectives of the European SMEs Strategy, the new Circular Economy Action Plan, the updated Skills Agenda for Europe and the European Industrial Strategy, in order to secure the subsistence and development of SMEs during the COVID-19 crisis and thereby counter the rising unemployment rates, particularly in those sectors seriously impacted such as the tourism and hospitality industries;*

Or. en

Amendment 109

Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Welcomes the Commission’s proposal to launch a programme for “digital volunteers” to allow young skilled people and experienced seniors to share their digital competence with traditional businesses;

Or. en

Amendment 110
Dragoş Pîslaru, Atidzhe Alieva-Veli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Notes the need for developing dedicated skills and competencies creation at an early level in European education systems, in order to foster an entrepreneurial mind-set among our youth and the continued development of new SMEs; calls for additional resources to be earmarked for the promotion of entrepreneurial training and encourages Member States to ensure that national education systems aim to equip young graduates with business creation and management skills;

Or. en

Amendment 111
Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Abir Al-Sahlani, Jordi Cañas, Dragoş Pîslaru, Cristian Ghinea, Radka Maxová

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Believes that EU's entrepreneurs will be at the heart of the recovery process and stresses that promoting entrepreneurship is an important driver for social inclusion, smart, sustainable and inclusive economic growth and competitiveness; calls on the Commission and the Member States to foster and support the development of entrepreneurial spirit and skills and to facilitate the establishment of new business models for SMEs;

Or. en

Amendment 112

Anne Sander

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Considers that support for companies will be essential to cope with the needs in all sectors of activity and that traditional SMEs will need to be supported more than ever, alongside with the more innovative ones; underlines the need for fair competition for SMEs in the European online environment in particular via the future Digital Services Act;

Or. en

Amendment 113

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6c. Calls on the Commission to propose a directive on decent working and employment conditions in the digital economy, including teleworking;

Or. en

Amendment 114
Sara Skyttedal

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Emphasises that overly detailed legislation in areas such as AI and cybersecurity runs the risk of creating excessive bureaucratic and complicated legislation for SMEs operating in the single market; calls for the shift of focus to be on a principle-based and technology-neutral legislative framework that enhances market development;

Or. en

Amendment 115
Sylvie Brunet, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Stéphane Bijoux, Ilana Cicurel, Véronique Trillet-Lenoir

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to encourage and support female entrepreneurship, in particular through easier access to finance or

training and by ensuring a better work-life balance;

Or. fr

Amendment 116

Anne Sander

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6c. *Underlines the importance of boosting entrepreneurship, including among women and young people.*

Or. en

Amendment 117

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6b. *Stresses that the COVID 19 pandemic has underlined the importance of digital solutions, particularly teleworking, and the need to establish common minimum standards at European level in order to protect the health and safety of workers in this regard; notes that teleworking offers opportunities such as better work-life balance, reduced CO2 emissions related to the daily commute and enhanced employment opportunities for people with disabilities, while at the same time there are risks related to the mental well-being of workers as well as general problems related to the social,*

professional and digital divide;

Or. en

Amendment 118

Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Abir Al-Sahlani, Jordi Cañas, Dragoş Pîslaru, Cristian Ghinea, Radka Maxová

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6b. Underlines the importance of SME friendly legislative environment; calls on the Commission for a strict application of the ‘SME test’, which would help implementing the important ‘Think Small Principle’; supports Commission’s plans to appoint an EU SME envoy to address and facilitate SMEs related issues and solutions;

Or. en

Amendment 119

Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6b. Calls on the Member States to make use of the future European Social Fund Plus and of the new possibilities to invest European Regional Development Funds in developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship;

Or. en

Amendment 120
Anne Sander

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6b. Stresses the importance of fostering further synergies between SMEs, research institutes, universities and the education sector to make sure the skills match with the labour market needs;

Or. en

Amendment 121
Stefania Zambelli

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6b. Considers it essential to avoid the relocation of SMEs to Member States with more favourable tax arrangements.

Or. it

Amendment 122
Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Abir Al-Sahlani, Dragoş Pişlaru, Cristian Ghinea, Radka Maxová

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6c. Recommends strengthening the exchange of SME focused initiatives, which have proven to be successful and best practices among the Member States; furthermore, recommends the establishment of platforms for exchanges

among SMEs that are developing innovative, breakthrough technologies;

Or. en

Amendment 123

Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6c. Underlines the need to include a dedicated component for SMEs in the updated Skills Agenda for Europe;

Or. en

Amendment 124

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6d. Calls on the Commission to introduce a European Social Security Register as well as a European Social Security Number, to provide legal certainty for workers and facilitate the work of businesses, in particular SMEs, providing cross-border services, while effectively controlling subcontracting practices and combating social fraud; urges Member States in this context to ensure the proper implementation and enforcement of Union law to facilitate the free movement and social protection of workers as well as the cross-border provision of services, thereby ensuring a

level playing field in the Single Market;

Or. en

Amendment 125

Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Abir Al-Sahlani, Jordi Cañas, Dragoş Pîslaru, Cristian Ghinea, Radka Maxová

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6d. Emphasises the need to support social and solidarity-based enterprises by creating a favourable environment for their development; stresses that the Commission and Member States should promote the establishment of social and solidarity-based enterprises;

Or. en

Amendment 126

Anne Sander

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6d. Calls on the SME strategy to provide an easy access to finance and to open up suitable tools to support very small projects (common rules on European crowdfunding, common competition rules on venture capital, social economy, commerce, services etc.);

Or. en

Amendment 127

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex

Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel

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

Draft opinion

Amendment

6e. Welcomes the financial relief provided by the Commission in saving jobs via the SURE programme and believes that an European Unemployment Reinsurance Scheme could be a further tool to accompany the just transition to a circular, climate-neutral and digital economy and contribute to the resilience of the European economy and European SMEs in particular; awaits the Commission proposal as announced by Commission President von der Leyen in this regard;

Or. en

**Amendment 128
Anne Sander**

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

Draft opinion

Amendment

6e. Underlines that EU legislation must be SME-friendly ; highlights that the scrutiny of the SME dimension in all impact assessments needs to be strengthened and is to be considered a binding SME test within the impact assessment phase, fully committed to the “Think Small First” principle and assessing the economic impact including the compliance costs of legislative proposals on SMEs;

Or. en

Amendment 129

Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Abir Al-Sahlani, Dragoş Pîslaru, Cristian Ghinea

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 e (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6e. Calls on the Commission to consider the need to establish one-stop-shop aimed to support SMEs' internationalisation, for example by providing information on funds and grants for technical feasibility studies of innovative business products and other relevant information on internationalisation;

Or. en

Amendment 130

Anne Sander

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 f (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6f. Underlines that SMEs need to have access to public procurement tenders as public procurement will provide a lever to boost recovery ; stresses at this effect, unfair selection criteria should be tackled;

Or. en

Amendment 131

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 f (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6f. Calls for the elimination of any wage discrimination on the grounds of age or gender and to ensure, in line with national law and practice, that all workers are entitled to decent wages through either collective agreements or statutory minimum wages;

Or. en

Amendment 132

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 g (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6g. Stresses that SMEs must make their contribution to overcome the gender employment, pay and pension gap in the labour market, among others, by providing or supporting child care facilities, carers' leave, flexible working hours for carers, as well as by ensuring equal pay for equal work and pay transparency;

Or. en

Amendment 133

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 h (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6h. Stresses that SMEs play an important role in ensuring environmentally, socially and economically sustainable growth; calls therefore for binding Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) rules, in line with the principles and objectives of the European Green Deal, the EPSR and the SDGs;

Or. en

Amendment 134

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 i (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6i. Calls on SMEs to live up to their environmental and social responsibility and also take proactive measures to identify and prevent any violation of human or environmental rights, corruption or tax evasion, including in their subsidiaries and supply chains; points out that the organisation of work, equal opportunities and social inclusion, anti-discrimination measures, adequate transparency standards, reliable accountability mechanisms and the development of life long education and training are crucial in this context;

Or. en

Amendment 135

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 j (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6j. Calls on the Commission to recognise, promote and protect inclusive SMEs to create permanent employment for people with disabilities in the labour market; stresses the potential of social economy enterprises and organisations to facilitate labour market inclusion for persons with disabilities; stresses the importance of providing targeted support from the European Social Fund for the social economy; recalls that SMEs run by vulnerable groups have a harder time accessing finance and need targeted support;

Or. en

Amendment 136

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 k (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6k. Highlights the importance of the social and solidarity-based economy, which provides employment for more than 14 million people, representing around 6.5 % of workers in the EU; points out that the 2 million social and solidarity-based economy enterprises in the EU, which represent 10 % of undertakings in

the Union, have proven to be resilient during times of crises;

Or. en

Amendment 137

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 l (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6l. *Calls on the Commission and the Member States to better coordinate the different funding instruments for SMEs;*

Or. en

Amendment 138

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 m (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6m. *Takes the view that tax policies for SMEs should favour sustainable development and the creation of quality jobs;*

Or. en

Amendment 139

Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Klára Dobrev, Gabriele Bischoff, Alicia Homs Ginel, Alex Agius Saliba, Agnes Jongerius, Brando Benifei, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Elisabetta

Gualmini, Milan Brglez, Manuel Pizarro, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Marc Angel, Marianne Vind, Johan Danielsson

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

Draft opinion

Amendment

6n. Calls on Member States to develop active labour market policies, foster research and innovation, and provide good quality public services and infrastructures, in order to also encourage private sector investment in SMEs;

Or. en

**Amendment 140
Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Elisabetta Gualmini, Johan Danielsson**

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

Draft opinion

Amendment

6o. Recalls the importance to actively support female entrepreneurship at the European and national level, since women are one of the groups, which is suffering the most from the COVID-19 crisis.

Or. en