



2021/0227(BUD)

12.7.2021

OPINION

of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

for the Committee on Budgets

on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022 -
all sections
(2021/0227(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Eugen Jurzyca

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Notes that in the budgetary procedure the IMCO Committee is responsible for heading one - single market, innovation and digital, including budget clusters 03 02 single market programme, 03 03 EU anti-fraud programme, and 03 05 cooperation in the field of customs;
2. Notes that 2022 will be the second year of application of the Single Market Programme dedicated to support of the frictionless functioning of the internal market and improving the free movement of goods and services, providing support for small and medium business to scale up and expand across borders, as well as promoting the interest of European consumers and ensuring a high standard of their protection; strongly welcomes the creation of a specific line on surveillance within the Single Market Programme, as repeatedly requested by the Parliament;
3. Notes the increase of commitment and payment appropriations in heading one of the EU budget for 2022 reinforced by the contribution from the “Next Generation EU” should ensure an effective and efficient funding dedicated to improvement of functioning of the internal market, innovation, strategic infrastructure, digital transformation and the competitiveness of SMEs;
4. Notes that the COVID-19 crisis has hindered the free movement of persons, goods and services in the EU; calls for adequate and effective initiatives to restore, further deepen and complete the single market while supporting the transition towards a digital and sustainable economy, and to address unjustified and disproportionate barriers to free trade making the Single Market stronger and more resilient and in order to increase EU trade flows and improve value chains, thus contributing to economic growth;
5. Underlines that the COVID-19 crisis has shown the importance of effective and efficient product safety policy both offline and online and proper enforcement of the consumers right in the single market; stresses the need to proper finance existing internal market tools to guarantee an high level of consumer protection and consumer welfare;
6. Stresses that the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis will heavily affect European citizens and micro- and small enterprises in the months to come; underlines therefore, the necessity to support micro- and small enterprises via the Single Market Programme; making the Single Market stronger and more resilient;
7. Calls on the Member States to continue to implement effectively the national recovery and resilience plans towards digital and sustainable transition and innovation; recalls the need to create synergies between the Single Market Programme and the Next Generation EU recovery fund;
8. Underlines in particular the great potential of the free movement of services, which is

still underdeveloped, and calls for initiatives and actions to boost cross-border trade in services in full respect of the freedom to provide services, improve competitiveness of SMEs and to reduce unjustified administrative burdens for companies; as well as for actions in order to ensure adequate implementation and enforcement of existing legislation at national level;

9. Notes that cross-border infrastructure is the backbone of the single market, helping goods, services, businesses and citizens to move freely across borders; notes in this regard the reformed Connecting Europe Facility;
10. Believes that additional efforts are needed to support Member States in the digitalisation of the public sector, especially for procedures that affect businesses and consumers, enabling them to conduct administrative procedures online; underlines that completing the Digital Single Market should remain one of the key budgetary priorities;
11. Welcomes in this regard the new Digital Europe Programme dedicated to the digital transformation of Europe's society and economy; recalls the need to support businesses, especially SMEs, including innovative digital start-ups and scale-ups in Europe in their access to the single market and digital transition and sustainable development; recalls the crucial importance of completing the Digital Single Market;
12. Underlines the need to ensure budgetary support of implementation of the Web Accessibility Directive and the European Accessibility Act at the Union level;
13. Notes that the adoption of best practices in public procurement for EU-funded projects could help to avoid frequent errors and ensure proper implementation of investments;
14. Reiterates the importance of an adequate and effective level of commitment appropriations to allow the modernisation of the customs union in support of the implementation of the Union Customs Code and the development of electronic and more automated customs systems in the interest of greater efficiency for EU companies and European and national authorities and streamlined protection of consumers; welcomes the strengthened Customs programme that will support the further digitisation and modernisation of the customs union, as well as the establishment of Integrated Border Management Fund (IBMF) that comprises the Customs Control Equipment Instrument (CCEI) providing support to the Member States to properly manage the various challenges and risks at EU borders; calls for this modernisation to take account of the changes related to the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement and to safeguard and fully support the northern Ireland protocol; commends for full compliance with the recommendations of the Court of Auditors on a more effective budget, consumer welfare and protection, and better value for businesses;
15. Underlines the importance of accountability and transparency for bodies that receive EU funding and underlines the importance of clear labelling to indicate publicly that a project has been funded or partly funded with EU funding; reiterates that effective and sustainable spending and proper evaluation creates savings that could finance further activities;
16. Stresses the need for all budgetary programmes to be subject to ongoing cost-benefit and sustainability analyses to ensure that the limited Union budget is used as effectively

as possible, and that funding can be used for the most high-quality projects with a maximum effect and whose results match intended objectives, including the desired contribution to sustainability; points out that EU funding should be accompanied by measurable result indicators, rather than simple output measurements, which would allow comparability and efficiency ranking of individual EU programmes;

17. Asks the Commission to support the pilot projects and preparatory actions proposals within the IMCO Committee's remit.

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

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| Date adopted | 12.7.2021 |
| Result of final vote | +: 39 -: 4 0: 2 |
| Members present for the final vote | Alex Agius Saliba, Andrus Ansip, Pablo Arias Echeverría, Alessandra Basso, Brando Benifei, Adam Bielan, Hynek Blaško, Biljana Borzan, Vlad-Marius Botoș, Markus Buchheit, Andrea Caroppo, Anna Cavazzini, Dita Charanzová, Deirdre Clune, David Cormand, Carlo Fidanza, Evelyne Gebhardt, Alexandra Geese, Sandro Gozi, Maria Grapini, Svenja Hahn, Virginie Joron, Eugen Jurzyca, Marcel Kolaja, Kateřina Konečná, Andrey Kovatchev, Jean-Lin Lacapelle, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Morten Løkkegaard, Antonius Manders, Leszek Miller, Anne-Sophie Pelletier, Miroslav Radačovský, Christel Schaldemose, Andreas Schwab, Tomislav Sokol, Ivan Štefanec, Róza Thun und Hohenstein, Marco Zullo |
| Substitutes present for the final vote | Clara Aguilera, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Christian Doleschal, Claude Gruffat, Jiří Pospíšil, Kosma Złotowski |

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

| 39 | + |
|-----------|---|
| ECR | Adam Bielan, Carlo Fidanza, Eugen Jurzyca, Kosma Złotowski |
| ID | Alessandra Basso |
| NI | Miroslav Radačovský |
| PPE | Pablo Arias Echeverría, Andrea Caroppo, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Deirdre Clune, Christian Doleschal, Andrey Kovatchev, Antonius Manders, Jiří Pospíšil, Andreas Schwab, Tomislav Sokol, Ivan Štefanec, Róza Thun und Hohenstein |
| Renew | Andrus Ansip, Vlad-Marius Botoș, Dita Charanzová, Sandro Gozi, Svenja Hahn, Morten Løkkegaard, Marco Zullo |
| S&D | Alex Agius Saliba, Clara Aguilera, Brando Benifei, Biljana Borzan, Evelyne Gebhardt, Maria Grapini, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Leszek Miller, Christel Schaldemose |
| Verts/ALE | Anna Cavazzini, David Cormand, Alexandra Geese, Claude Gruffat, Marcel Kolaja |

| 4 | - |
|----|---|
| ID | Hynek Blaško, Markus Buchheit, Virginie Joron, Jean-Lin Lacapelle |

| 2 | 0 |
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| The Left | Kateřina Konečná, Anne-Sophie Pelletier |

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention