



2020/1998(BUD)

6.10.2020

OPINION

of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

for the Committee on Budgets

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

Rapporteur for opinion: Cristian-Silviu Buşoi

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Regrets the agreement reached by the European Council in July on the 2021-2027 MFF with regard to the programmes in the ITRE remit; highlights that the financial envelopes for all those programmes are below the level initially proposed by the Commission in 2018 and below the level considered necessary by the European Parliament; strongly believes that without sufficient funding those programmes risk not being able to deliver on their policy objectives which would result in the Union not being in a position to attain its twin goals of a digital and green transformation; stresses, furthermore, that the Union should provide sufficient funding if it expects research and innovation to have an impact on important challenges such as finding a COVID-19 vaccine, overcoming the healthcare and economic crisis, decarbonising the economy, speeding up the energy transition, becoming a leader in new and innovative technologies, supporting businesses (especially SMEs) in the recovery ; reiterates, therefore, its intention to negotiate targeted financial reinforcement of flagship Union programmes in the next MFF;
2. Believes therefore that the 2021 budget should aim at using the entire available margin and make recourse to all available flexibility instruments in order to strengthen in particular Union programmes that support ecological, energy and resource-efficient and sustainable digital transformation, the fight against the social and economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic as well as the prompt recovery of Union SMEs, which have been hit the hardest by the crisis; Insists that the 2021 budget should greatly contribute to funding the European Green Deal Investment, which aims to create an enabling framework to facilitate and stimulate public and private investments needed for the transition to a climate-neutral, competitive and inclusive economy;
3. The impact and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated persistent weaknesses in health systems and demonstrated the need for investing in health research in order to ensure health as a public good for all and to raise the quality of life of citizens. New approaches for human centred health care are required. Calls, therefore, for stronger support in the 2021 budget for ensuring access to diagnostics, therapeutics and quality public health services for all;
4. Highlights in particular the fact that additional funds are needed for Horizon Europe, the new Digital Europe Programme, CEF-Digital and the Space Programme in order to support the digital transformation of societies and industries, including the up-skilling and re-skilling of Union workers and citizens, which is vital for the future prosperity of Europe in a challenging geopolitical context; underlines that the COVID-19 pandemic showed the increasing importance of digitalisation for the daily functioning of the economy, asks therefore for adequate funding to be allocated for increased connectivity, with investment in strategic digital capacities (artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, data and cloud infrastructure, high-speed networks) building areal data economy and sustainable value chains;
5. Insists furthermore that additional funds are necessary to make the European Green

Deal a success, to adequately address the climate crisis and contribute to the transition towards a climate-neutral economy and society by 2050 in line with the Paris Agreement; notes that to this end substantial increases are needed for Horizon Europe, CEF-Energy and the Space Programme as well as the Just Transition Fund;

6. Stresses the need to support the Union's competitiveness and industrial capacity, calls in this regard for sufficient funding to support SMEs, micro enterprises and startups, which have been severely affected by the crisis; underlines in addition the importance of programmes such as the European Defence Fund in supporting the strategic autonomy of the Union;
7. Calls on the Commission to put forward a comprehensive and detailed legislative proposal on tracking, accounting and proofing for climate and biodiversity mainstreaming and requests that the European Parliament is closely involved in the development of these methodologies;
8. Recalls the important role that Union agencies play in helping to achieve policy objectives set by the European Parliament and the Council; calls therefore for sufficient funding and staffing for all agencies in line with their tasks and responsibilities; underlines in particular the need to substantially reinforce ACER, which has been underfunded and understaffed for many years, risking to jeopardise ACER's functioning and its ability to perform its tasks on monitoring and market transparency as well as the additional tasks conferred on it through recent legislation including the Clean Energy Package; regrets that the Commission once again did not address this problem already in its draft budget; recalls that as from 2021 the European GNSS Agency will be converted into the European Union Agency for the Space Programme with a broad list of new tasks assigned to it; requests in that regard an adequate increase of its budget; recalls its resolution of 14 May 2020 on the discharge to the Agency for Support for BEREC¹ requesting an appropriate increase of budget allocated to the Agency for Support for BEREC which is essential, due to the fact that BEREC currently relies on external resources which creates a risk to business continuity; requests, furthermore, an adjustment of the establishment plan and a targeted budget increase for the Agency for Support for BEREC.

¹ Texts adopted, P9_TA(2020)0099

INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	1.10.2020
Result of final vote	+: 58 -: 4 0: 10
Members present for the final vote	Nicola Beer, François-Xavier Bellamy, Hildegard Bentele, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Michael Bloss, Manuel Bompard, Paolo Borchia, Marc Botenga, Markus Buchheit, Cristian-Silviu Buşoi, Jerzy Buzek, Carlo Calenda, Andrea Caroppo, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Ignazio Corrao, Ciarán Cuffe, Josianne Cutajar, Nicola Danti, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Christian Ehler, Valter Flego, Niels Fuglsang, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Claudia Gamon, Nicolás González Casares, Bart Groothuis, Christophe Grudler, András Gyürk, Henrike Hahn, Robert Hajšel, Ivo Hristov, Ivars Ijabs, Romana Jerković, Eva Kaili, Seán Kelly, Izabela-Helena Kloc, Łukasz Kohut, Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Andrius Kubilius, Thierry Mariani, Eva Maydell, Georg Mayer, Joëlle Mélin, Angelika Niebler, Ville Niinistö, Aldo Patriciello, Mauri Pekkarinen, Mikuláš Peksa, Tsvetelina Penkova, Morten Petersen, Markus Pieper, Clara Ponsati Obiols, Sira Rego, Manuela Ripa, Jérôme Rivière, Robert Roos, Sara Skytvedal, Maria Spyraiki, Jessica Stegrud, Beata Szydło, Grzegorz Tobiszowski, Patrizia Toia, Evžen Tošenovský, Marie Toussaint, Isabella Tovaglieri, Henna Virkkunen, Pernille Weiss, Carlos Zorrinho
Substitutes present for the final vote	Damian Boeselager, Valérie Hayer, Tomas Tobé

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

58	+
EPP	François-Xavier Bellamy, Hildegard Bentele, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Cristian-Silviu Buşoi, Jerzy Buzek, Maria Da Graça Carvalho, Pilar Del Castillo Vera, Christian Ehler, Seán Kelly, Andrius Kubilius, Eva Maydell, Angelika Niebler, Aldo Patriciello, Markus Pieper, Sara Skytvedal, Maria Spyraiki, Tomas Tobé, Henna Virkkunen, Pernille Weiss
S&D	Carlo Calenda, Josianne Cutajar, Niels Fuglsang, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Robert Hajšel, Ivo Hristov, Romana Jerković, Eva Kaili, Łukasz Kohut, Tsvetelina Penkova, Patrizia Toia, Carlos Zorrinho
RENEW	Nicola Beer, Nicola Danti, Valter Flego, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Christophe Grudler, Valerie Hayer, Ivars Ijabs, Mauri Pekkarinen, Morten Petersen
GREENS	Michael Bloss, Damien Boeslager, Ciarán Cuffe, Henrike Hahn, Ville Niinistö, Mikuláš Peksa, Manuela Ripa, Marie Toussaint
ECR	Izabela-Helena Kloc, Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Beata Szydło, Grzegorz Tobiszowski, Evžen Tošenovský
NI	Ignazio Corrao, Clara Ponsatí Obiols

4	-
ID	Markus Buchheit, Georg Mayer
ECR	Robert Roos, Jessica Stegrud

10	0
EPP	András Gyürk
ID	Paolo Borchia, Andrea Caroppo, Thierry Mariani, Joëlle Mélin, Jérôme Rivière, Isabella Tovaglieri
GUE	Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga, Sira Rego

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

