



2015/2353(INI)

3.6.2016

OPINION

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Budgets

on preparation of the post-electoral revision of the MFF 2014-2020:
Parliament's input ahead of the Commission's proposal
(2015/2353(INI))

Rapporteur: Laura Agea

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Underlines that, in light of the unprecedented migratory emergency, the current ceilings of the MFF 2014-2020 – in particular heading 3 – have proven to be insufficient and do not adequately reflect the strengthening of the area of freedom, security and justice under the Lisbon Treaty and its ever increasing tasks and challenges, including tackling the structural phenomenon of migration and security requirements; recalls that the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) is already virtually exhausted; recalls that the available MFF flexibility mechanisms have already been extensively used, thus drastically limiting the financial flexibility available in the forthcoming financial years;
2. Although the available MFF flexibility mechanisms have already been extensively used, requests that the most affected Member States be able to fully benefit from them, in particular from the ‘exceptional circumstances clause’ as included in the Stability and Growth Pact;
3. Deems substantial additional financial resources at EU level to be necessary in order to meet all the challenges related to migration (rescue, interception, reception, registration, control, accommodation, transport, relocation, return and integration) and to address humanitarian challenges inside and outside the EU, develop and implement a new genuine Common European Asylum System, support resettlement and relocation, manage the common external borders and ensure the internal security of the Schengen area, and foster integration and prevent discrimination (especially against women), racism and xenophobia;
4. Considers that the EU budget should support policies focused on integration rather than on security; asks that the existing security instruments and possibilities be used in full before new allocations are decided, in particular when it comes to the exchange of information between security and law enforcement agencies in the Member States;
5. Welcomes the establishment of an instrument for the provision of humanitarian assistance in the EU, in particular with a view to addressing the mass influx of migrants and refugees; questions, nonetheless, the choice of Article 122(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union as a legal basis for the establishment of the new instrument, given the lack of provision for the proper involvement of Parliament; voices concern about the Commission’s intention to fund the instrument under heading 3 of the MFF, and in particular under the AMIF, which is already being heavily used and is underfunded; calls on the Commission to look for other ways of funding this instrument from the EU budget, so as not to adversely affect the measures and programmes funded under the AMIF;
6. Welcomes the addition of a new chapter under heading 3 on providing emergency support within the Union; is of the opinion that the revision of the MFF must ensure that the future financing of this ‘support’ will be provided above the ceilings, while guaranteeing the flexibility needed in order to adapt the allocation of resources in line with developments

on the ground and changes in policy priorities;

7. Calls for the AMIF to be revised and allocated more resources; stresses that the budget and staff of the European agencies dealing with migratory pressure, in particular the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) and Frontex, must be further increased to enable them to provide Member States with real support and guarantee the fulfilment of their objectives; believes that adequate funds should be provided for search and rescue operations, and points out that funds dedicated to search and rescue are currently erroneously included in the Internal Security Fund (ISF);
8. Notes that the Commission recently concluded an agreement with Turkey on a six-billion-euro Facility for Refugees in Turkey; expresses concern about the establishment of financial instruments outside the EU budget as they threaten its unicity and circumvent the budgetary procedure which requires the involvement and scrutiny of Parliament; stresses that Parliament was not consulted at any stage of the process of adoption; is concerned about the impact this agreement might have on the 2017 budget; stresses that this fund, as well as other similar funds, should not support repressive measures or any action that might violate fundamental rights; calls on the Commission to closely monitor the use of these funds and to report back to Parliament regularly; stresses that EU and Member State support for refugees should be provided as an addition to, and not a substitute for, regular development assistance;
9. Believes that there is no direct link between migration and terrorism in Europe; asks for new funding to fight against the radicalisation of young people within the EU; considers that this can be achieved by promoting integration and fighting against discrimination, racism and xenophobia; asks that funds for projects aiming to create an area of freedom, security and justice not be reduced;
10. Takes the view that the ISF should be provided with adequate financial resources to allow it to fulfil its objectives, especially in the field of effective cooperation and information exchange between law enforcement agencies of the Member States, while emphasising that all of its actions must comply fully with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU;
11. Calls for an increased budget for the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme, which aims to promote and protect fundamental rights and combat racism, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination, especially in the context of the growing intolerance in Europe;
12. Expects migratory flows to continue due to sustained political instability and conflict in many regions and the lack of legal means of access to the EU for both asylum seekers and migrants; requests an updated estimation of budgetary needs to respond to the challenges expected until the end of the MFF; calls for the MFF review in 2017 to provide for the greatest flexibility of the MFF to adapt its capacity to react to situations not foreseen at the time of its adoption; calls for adequate upward revision of Headings 3 and 4 and for Parliament to be involved at all stages of decision-making as regards both budgetary and legislative measures.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	30.5.2016
Result of final vote	+: 41 -: 4 0: 6
Members present for the final vote	Jan Philipp Albrecht, Martina Anderson, Malin Björk, Michał Boni, Caterina Chinnici, Rachida Dati, Agustín Díaz de Mera García Consuegra, Frank Engel, Tanja Fajon, Laura Ferrara, Monika Flašíková Beňová, Ana Gomes, Nathalie Griesbeck, Jussi Halla-aho, Monika Hohlmeier, Sophia in 't Veld, Sylvia-Yvonne Kaufmann, Timothy Kirkhope, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge, Marju Lauristin, Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Claude Moraes, Péter Niedermüller, Soraya Post, Birgit Sippel, Branislav Škripek, Csaba Sógor, Bodil Valero, Marie-Christine Vergiat, Beatrix von Storch, Josef Weidenholzer, Kristina Winberg
Substitutes present for the final vote	Laura Agea, Marina Albiol Guzmán, Hugues Bayet, Carlos Coelho, Pál Csáky, Ska Keller, Miltiadis Kyrkos, Artis Pabriks, Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz, Salvatore Domenico Pogliese, Jaromír Štětina, Róza Gräfin von Thun und Hohenstein, Axel Voss
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Edouard Ferrand, Peter Jahr, Othmar Karas, Ilhan Kyuchyuk, Keith Taylor, Lieve Wierinck