

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Regional Development

2004/2099(ACI)

23.3.2006

OPINION

of the Committee on Regional Development

for the Committee on Budgets

on the proposal for renewal of the interinstitutional agreement on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure
(COM(2006)0036- C6-0318/2005 - 2004/2099(ACI))

Draftswoman: Constanze Angela Krehl

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Regional Development calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

- 1 Welcomes the fact that the European Council reached agreement on the Financial Perspective 2007-2013, but deplores the fact that the projected resources are insufficient to meet the needs of the Union, and of regional development especially, over the period concerned; points out that Parliament had called for 0.41% of Union GNI to be allocated to cohesion but the European Council cut that percentage to the significantly lower figure of 0.37%;
- 2 Considers in particular that the budgets allocated under heading 1b (deletion) are manifestly insufficient and therefore requires that the credits concerned be re-established at the level proposed by Parliament in its resolution on Policy Challenges and Budgetary Means of the enlarged Union 2007-2013¹; regrets, in particular, the substantial reduction in resources for the "European Territorial Cooperation Objective" which has been reduced by almost 50% of the amount stipulated in the original Commission proposal.; stresses that this objective has a clear European added value, since it promotes the cooperation of Member States and regional authorities; asks, therefore, for the allocation of substantial additional funding for this objective; notes also the disproportionate reduction in the budget allocated to the competitiveness objective;
- 3 Deplores the fact that the December 2005 European Council failed to provide full compensation for the 'statistical effect' regions, which will consequently have to endure 20% cuts starting immediately in 2007 and continuing in stages until 2013;
- 4 Notes that the Council's proposal for the financial perspective affects the draft legislation at present before Parliament and reminds Council that changes to that legislation can only be made under the rules of co-decision;
- 5 Criticises in this connection the proposal put forward in the financial negotiations to apply various standards for calculating the participation by EU funds and for the eligibility of VAT for funding; calls for the extension of private co-financing and the eligibility of VAT for funding to all Member States;
- 6 Welcomes the creation of a Globalisation Adjustment Fund, which should help the workers in the Union's regions affected by delocalisation and globalisation;
- 7 Welcomes the fact that the flexibility reserves, and in particular the reserve for cohesion and the solidarity reserve, are placed outside the financial framework and understands from this that their implementation should have no effect on the sums reserved for the structural funds;
- 8 Requires that the mechanisms and procedures for calling on these reserves be adapted *to* existing structures to ensure their speedy, unbureaucratic and effective use;

¹ Texts Adopted, P6_TA(2005)0224.

- 9 In application of the principle of recycling and notwithstanding the provisions of §16, of the draft IIA requires that a special reserve be created for cohesion with appropriations of sub-heading 1b. which have been decommitted due to the N+2 or N+3 rule . The corresponding commitment appropriations shall be entered in the budget under the relevant heading, if necessary over and above the relevant amount as laid down in Annex I to the IIA. Further asks the Commission to present a proposal for the re-allocation of the funds made available, the decision to be taken jointly by Council and Parliament.
- 10 Maintains that the negotiations under way on the IIA must ensure full compliance with the spending target for the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund, whereby implementation of the Funds will be guaranteed and no margin left under heading 1b;
- 11 Points to the evident will of all Member States to commence planning their programmes for the next programming period without delay;
- 12 Emphasises the need for the two arms of the budgetary authority to rapidly agree on the multi-annual framework 2007-2013, thus permitting Member States to plan their programmes and avoid undue delay in commencing them; furthermore, draws attention to the need to avoid the delays in implementation experienced at the beginning of the current programming period.
- 13 Points out that the financial perspective is not an end in itself, but a means of pursuing what should be a far-sighted and ambitious European policy.

PROCEDURE

Title	on the proposal for renewal of the interinstitutional agreement on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure
Procedure number	2004/2099(ACI)
Committee responsible	BUDG
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	REGI 27.10.2005
Enhanced cooperation – date announced in plenary	
Drafts(wo)man Date appointed	Constanze Angela Krehl 6.10.2004
Previous drafts(wo)man	
Discussed in committee	31.1.2006 23.2.2006
Date adopted	21.3.2006
Result of final vote	+: 40 –: 2 0: 1
Members present for the final vote	Rolf Berend, Ambroise Guellec, Alfonso Andria, Stavros Arnautakis, Elspeth Attwooll, Jean Marie Beaupuy, Jana Bobošíková, Graham Booth, Bairbre de Brún, Giovanni Claudio Fava, Hanna Foltyn-Kubicka, Iratxe García Pérez, Eugenijus Gentvilas, Lidia Joanna Geringer de Oedenberg, Gábor Harangozó, Konstantinos Hatzidakis, Mieczysław Edmund Janowski, Gisela Kallenbach, Tunne Kelam, Miloš Koterec, Constanze Angela Krehl, Jamila Madeira, Sérgio Marques, Miroslav Mikolášik, Francesco Musotto, Jan Olbrycht, Markus Pieper, Francisca Pleguezuelos Aguilar, Alyn Smith, Grażyna Staniszevska, Margie Sudre, Kyriacos Triantaphyllides, Oldřich Vlasák
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Thijs Berman, Brigitte Douay, Den Dover, Jillian Evans, Emanuel Jardim Fernandes, Louis Grech, László Surján, Thomas Ulmer, Manfred Weber
Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	María Esther Herranz García
Comments (available in one language only)	...