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REPORT

on the Council position on the draft general budget of the European Union for
the financial year 2027
(11547/2026 – C10-0218/2026 – 2026/0196(BUD))

Part 1: Motion for a resolution

Committee on Budgets

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- Decisions taken by the Committee on Budgets at its meeting of 5 October 2026 on the draft amendments to the draft general budget.....

Part 2 – A10-0272/2026

MOTION FOR A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION

on the Council position on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 (11547/2026 – C10-0218/2026 – 2026/0196(BUD))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 314 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Article 106a of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community,
- having regard to Council Decision (EU, Euratom) 2020/2053 of 14 December 2020 on the system of own resources of the European Union and repealing Decision 2014/335/EU, Euratom¹,
- having regard to the Commission proposal of 22 December 2021 for a Council decision amending Decision (EU, Euratom) 2020/2053 on the system of own resources of the European Union (COM(2021)0570) and its position of 23 November 2022 on that proposal²,
- having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) (the Financial Regulation)³,
- having regard to Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021-2027⁴ and to the joint declarations agreed between Parliament, the Council and the Commission in this context⁵ and the related unilateral declarations⁶,
- having regard to Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2022/2496 of 15 December 2022 amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027⁷,
- having regard to Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/765 amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027⁸ (MFF revision),
- having regard to Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2026/469 amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the

¹ OJ L 424, 15.12.2020, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2020/2053/oj>.

² OJ C 167, 11.5.2023, p. 162.

³ OJ L 2024/2509, 26.9.2024, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>.

⁴ OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 11, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2020/2093/oj>.

⁵ OJ C 444 I, 22.12.2020, p. 4.

⁶ OJ C 445, 29.10.2021, p. 252.

⁷ OJ L 325, 20.12.2022, p. 11, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2496/oj>.

⁸ OJ L, 2024/765, 29.2.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/765/oj>.

years 2021 to 2027⁹ (amended MFF Regulation of 2026),

- having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources¹⁰,
- having regard to its resolution of 28 April 2026 on the general guidelines for the preparation of the budget¹¹,
- having regard to its resolution of 30 April 2026 on Parliament's estimates of revenue and expenditure for the financial year 2027¹²,
- having regard to the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027, which the Commission adopted on 10 June 2026 (COM(2026)0300),
- having regard to the position on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027, which the Council adopted on 4 September 2026 and forwarded to Parliament on 11 September 2026 (11547/2026– C10-0218/2026),
- having regard to Rule 96 of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the opinions of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Development, Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, Committee on the Environment, Climate and Food Safety, Committee on Public Health, Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection, Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, Committee on Fisheries, Committee on Culture and Education, Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality,
- having regard to the letters from Committee on Security and Defence, Committee on Budgetary Control, Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, Committee on Transport and Tourism,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets (A10-0272/2026),

Section III – Commission

1. Recalls that, in its resolution of 28 April 2026 on general guidelines for the preparation of the 2027 budget, Parliament set clear political priorities for the 2027 budget; reaffirms its strong commitment to those priorities and sets out the following position to ensure an appropriate level of financing to deliver on them within the current budgetary constraints; believes that the Union must be equipped with all possible budgetary means to deliver on Union priorities and to foster a prosperous future for Europe;

⁹ OJ L, 2026/469, 23.4.2026, ELI: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/469/oj>.

¹⁰ OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 28, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2020/1222/oj.

¹¹ Texts adopted, P10_TA(2026)0112.

¹² Texts adopted, P10_TA(2026)0155.

2. Recalls that the Council proposes to:
- (a) cut commitment appropriations (CA) by EUR 1 003,2 million across the MFF headings, leaving a total of EUR 191 877,9 million under the MFF headings, and proposes to reduce payment appropriations by EUR 501,8 million across the MFF headings, leaving a total of EUR 202 065,8 million under the MFF headings;
 - (b) maintain the appropriations entered in the draft budget (DB) 2027 for the Solidarity and Emergency Aid Reserve, the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, the Brexit Adjustment Reserve;
 - (c) maintain the appropriations entered for the Ukraine Reserve, without mobilising the Ukraine Support Loan (USL) Instrument;
 - (d) reduce the ‘Financing cost of the European Union Recovery Instrument (EURI)’, aiming at reducing the use of Special Instruments, in particular the Flexibility Instrument and the EURI Instrument in the context of the Cascade, therefore reducing the amount deemed necessary for 2027 on the EURI line itself (by EUR 180 million or 1,8 %) to EUR 9,7 billion and maintaining the 50-50 approach as proposed by the Commission for the DB 2027;
 - (e) apply cuts across several headings on programme lines, as well as administrative support lines, decentralised agencies and Commission prerogatives lines;

Special instruments and cascade mechanism

3. Strongly disagrees with the Council’s approach to opt for what it misleadingly calls prudent budgeting, creating artificial margins under the MFF ceilings by cutting programmes, including oversubscribed, successful and priority programmes;
4. Recalls the Interinstitutional Agreement adopted as part of the 2020 MFF agreement, whereby expenditure to cover NGEU financing costs “shall aim at not reducing programmes and funds”; restores, therefore, all the cuts proposed by Council to ensure that programmes are properly resourced and that the budget’s flexibility and response capacity are maintained throughout the annual budgetary procedure; insists on the need for the Commission to provide reliable, timely and accurate information on NGEU borrowing costs and on expected Recovery and Resilience Facility disbursements according to the methodology applied since 2025 budget, whereby the Commission will base the budgeting of the EURI interest line for a given year on disbursements which are confirmed by the end of the third quarter of the previous year;
5. Restores therefore the Council cut of EUR 180 million for article 06 04 01 European Union Recovery Instrument (EURI) – Payment of periodic coupon and redemption at maturity; is of the position that 65 % of the EURI cost overruns (excluding the costs of liquidity management as mentioned below) should be financed from the decommitment compartment of the EURI instrument (EUR 3 320 296 411); believes that this is necessary to allow the Union budget to provide support and sufficient assistance to Europeans dealing with a multitude of challenges;
6. Notes, in addition, that liquidity management costs have increased significantly due to

delays in payment requests; requests that the currently estimated liquidity management cost of EUR 350 million for 2027 are isolated in a separate new budget line for transparency purposes; transfers the appropriations to the newly proposed article 06 04 XX; argues therefore that the liquidity management costs should be financed solely from the decommitment compartment of the EURI instrument;

7. Recalls that Recital 6 of the amended MFF Regulation of 2026 lays down that the “Budgetary appropriations over and above the ceilings of the multiannual financial framework should be mobilised for the sole purpose of financing debt service costs of a loan to Ukraine and only after having sought budgetary availabilities”;
8. Considers necessary the full mobilisation of the Ukraine Support Loan Instrument for the totality of the appropriations entered in article 16 07 01 (EUR 1 115 000 000) in light of the answers needed from the Union budget to face the challenges and after a thorough assessment of availabilities, taking into account legal and other obligations, as well as prudent budgeting and sound financial management; points out as well that the Flexibility Instrument and the Single Margin Instrument can only be mobilised in relation to existing MFF headings, in accordance with the provisions of the MFF Regulation;
9. Calls for the currently estimated liquidity management cost for the Ukraine Support Loan of EUR 35 million for 2027 to be isolated in a separate new budget line for transparency purposes; argues that the liquidity management cost is due to unforeseen implementation issues and delays between borrowing and disbursements and should not represent an additional burden for the Union budget; requests therefore that they are financed solely from the Ukraine Loan Support Instrument;
10. Recalls that the administrative support expenditure required for the setting-up and management of the Ukraine Support Loan should be placed under the same title as the corresponding operational expenditure in accordance with the Financial Regulation; transfers therefore the EUR 1 million from article 06 01 03 to a newly proposed article 16 07 XX;

Heading 1 - Single market, Innovation and Digital

11. Restores the Council cuts of EUR 435 527 000 and increases by EUR 376 657 801 in commitment appropriations above the DB (excluding pilot projects and preparatory actions) and by EUR 812 184 801 compared to the Council position in order to reinforce the following programs above DB as follows:
 - (a) Horizon Europe by EUR 63 000 000;
 - i. budget line 01 02 02 10 – Cluster Health by EUR 15 500 000;
 - ii. budget line 01 02 02 20 – Cluster ‘Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society’ by EUR 2 000 000;
 - iii. budget line 01 02 02 41 – Cluster Digital, Industry and Space — European High-Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (EuroHPC) by EUR 15 000 000;
 - iv. budget line 01 02 02 50 – Cluster Climate, Energy and Mobility by EUR

- 15 500 000;
- v. budget line 01 02 02 60 – Cluster Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment by EUR 15 000 000;
- (b) The Connecting Europe Facility by EUR 260 460 201;
 - i. budget line 02 03 01 – Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) — Transport by EUR 205 460 201;
 - ii. budget line 02 03 02 – Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) — Energy by EUR 50 000 000;
 - iii. budget line 02 03 00 01 – Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) — Digital by EUR 5 000 000;
- (c) The Digital Europe Programme by EUR 14 813 000;
 - i. budget line 02 01 30 01 – Support expenditure for the Digital Europe Programme by EUR 8 000 000;
 - ii. budget line 02 04 01 10 – Cybersecurity by EUR 5 000 000;
 - iii. budget line 02 04 01 11 – European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre by EUR 1 813 000;
- (d) The Single Market Programme by EUR 31 568 600;
 - i. budget line 03 02 01 07 – Market surveillance by EUR 1 568 600;
 - ii. budget line 03 02 02 – Improving the competitiveness of enterprises, particularly SMEs, and supporting their access to markets by EUR 30 000 000;
- (e) The Space Programme by EUR 3 000 000;
 - i. budget line 04 02 02 – Copernicus by EUR 3 000 000;
- (f) The agencies in heading 1 by EUR 3 816 000;
 - i. budget line 02 10 01 – European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) by EUR 3 000 000;
 - ii. budget line 02 10 05 – Agency for Support for BEREC (BEREC Office) by EUR 466 000;
 - iii. budget line 02 10 06 – European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) by EUR 350 000;

12. Modifies budgetary remarks as relevant;

Sub-heading 2a - Economic, social and territorial cohesion

13. Increases by EUR 150 000 in commitment appropriations above the DB (excluding pilot projects and preparatory actions) and by EUR 150 000 compared to the Council position in order to reinforce the following programs above DB as follows:

- (a) The European Social Fund Plus by EUR 150 000;
 - i. budget line 07 01 01 01 – Support expenditure for the ESF+ – Shared

management by EUR 150 000;

14. Modifies budgetary remarks as relevant;

Sub-heading 2b - Resilience and values

15. Restores the Council cuts of EUR 523 143 000 and increases by EUR 275 100 000 in commitment appropriations above the DB (excluding pilot projects and preparatory actions) and by EUR 798 243 000 compared to the Council position in order to reinforce the following programs above DB as follows:

- (a) Support to Turkish Cypriot Community by EUR 3 500 000;
 - i. budget line 05 04 01 – Financial support for encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community by EUR 3 500 000;
- (b) The Union Civil Protection Mechanism by EUR 80 000 000;
 - i. budget line 06 05 01 – Union Civil Protection Mechanism by EUR 80 000 000;
- (c) The EU4Health Programme by EUR 50 000 000;
 - i. budget line 06 06 01 – EU4Health Programme by EUR 50 000 000;
- (d) The European Social Fund Plus by EUR 5 000 000;
 - i. budget line 07 02 04 – ESF+ — Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) strand by EUR 5 000 000;
- (e) Erasmus+ by EUR 96 000 000;
 - i. budget line 07 03 01 01 – Promoting learning mobility of individuals and groups, and cooperation, inclusion and equity, excellence, creativity and innovation at the level of organisations and policies in the field of education and training — Indirect management by EUR 88 000 000;
 - ii. budget line 07 03 02 – Promoting non-formal and informal learning mobility and active participation among young people, and cooperation, inclusion, creativity and innovation at the level of organisations and policies in the field of youth by EUR 5 000 000;
 - iii. budget line 07 03 03 – Promoting learning mobility of sport staff, and cooperation, inclusion, creativity and innovation at the level of sport organisations and sport policies by EUR 3 000 000;
- (f) Creative Europe by EUR 5 000 000;
 - i. budget line 07 05 02 – Media strand by EUR 5 000 000;
- (g) The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme by EUR 15 000 000;
 - i. budget line 07 06 02 – Citizens’ engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union by EUR 10 000 000;
 - ii. budget line 07 06 03 – Daphne by EUR 5 000 000;
- (h) Actions financed under the prerogatives of the Commission and specific powers conferred on the Commission by EUR 2 000 000;

- i. budget line 07 20 04 09 – Information and training measures for workers’ organisations by EUR 2 000 000;
- (i) Agencies in heading 2b by EUR 19 600 000;
 - i. budget line 07 10 05 – European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) by EUR 1 600 000;
 - ii. budget line 07 10 07 – European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) by EUR 8 000 000;
 - iii. budget line 07 10 08 – European Public Prosecutor’s Office (EPPO) by EUR 10 000 000;
- 16. Reduces the appropriations proposed on the following budget lines for a total of EUR 351 000 000, in line with paragraphs 6 and 10:
 - (a) 06 01 03 – Support expenditure for borrowing and debt management activities of the European Union by EUR 1 000 000;
 - (b) 06 04 01 – European Union Recovery Instrument (EURI) – Payment of periodic coupon and redemption at maturity by EUR 350 000 000;
- 17. Creates the following new budget line:
 - (a) 06 04 XX - European Union Recovery Instrument (EURI) – Additional liquidity management costs with commitments equal to EUR 350 000 000 and corresponding remark;
- 18. Modifies the establishment plan as follows:
 - (a) S 03 01 31 – European Public Prosecutor’s Office (EPPO): +10 posts;
- 19. Grants ten additional Seconded National Experts (SNEs) to the European Public Prosecutor’s Office (EPPO);
- 20. Modifies budgetary remarks as relevant;

Heading 3 - Natural Resources and Environment

- 21. Restores the Council cuts of EUR 12 550 000 and increases by EUR 170 000 000 in commitment appropriations above the DB (excluding pilot projects and preparatory actions) and by EUR 182 550 000 compared to the Council position in order to reinforce the following programs above DB as follows:
 - (a) The European Agriculture Guarantee Fund by EUR 85 000 000;
 - i. budget line 08 02 02 01 – Fruit and vegetables sector by EUR 12 000 000;
 - ii. budget line 08 02 02 05 – Olive oil and table olives sector by EUR 10 000 000;
 - iii. budget line 08 02 03 01 – POSEI and smaller Aegean islands (excluding direct payments) by EUR 2 000 000;

- iv. budget line 08 02 03 02 – Promotion of agricultural products — Simple programmes under shared management by EUR 14 000 000;
- v. budget line 08 02 03 03 – Promotion of agricultural products — Multi-programmes and actions implemented by the Commission under direct management by EUR 10 000 000;
- vi. budget line 08 02 03 04 – School schemes by EUR 17 000 000;
- vii. budget line 08 02 04 03 – Complementary income support for young farmers by EUR 20 000 000;
- (b) The Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) by EUR 85 000 000;
 - i. budget line 09 02 01 – Nature and biodiversity by EUR 51 000 000;
 - ii. budget line 09 02 02 – Circular economy and quality of life by EUR 4 500 000;
 - iii. budget line 09 02 03 – Climate change mitigation and adaptation by EUR 4 500 000;
 - iv. budget line 09 02 04 – Clean energy transition by EUR 25 000 000;

Heading 4 - Migration and Border Management

- 22. Restores the Council cuts of EUR 12 900 000 and increases by EUR 60 000 000 in commitment appropriations above the DB and by EUR 72 900 000 compared to the Council position in order to reinforce the following programs above DB as follows:
 - (a) The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund by EUR 20 000 000;
 - i. budget line 10 02 01 – Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund by EUR 20 000 000;
 - (b) The Border Management and Visa Instrument (BMVI) by EUR 40 000 000;
 - i. budget line 11 02 01 – Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy by EUR 40 000 000;
- 23. Grants:
 - (a) three additional SNEs to the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA);
 - (b) the transformation of 20 SNEs into Contract Agents to the European the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex);

- 24. Modifies budgetary remarks as relevant;

Heading 5 - Security and Defence

- 25. Restores the Council cuts of EUR 11 522 000 and increases by EUR 54 800 000 in commitment appropriations above the DB and by EUR 66 322 000 compared to the Council position in order to reinforce the following programs above DB as follows:
 - (a) The Internal Security Fund (ISF) by EUR 10 000 000;

- i. budget line 12 02 01 – Internal Security Fund (ISF) by EUR 10 000 000;
- (b) The European Defence Fund (EDF) by EUR 5 000 000;
 - i. budget line 13 02 01 – Capability development by EUR 5 000 000;
- (c) Military Mobility by EUR 20 000 000;
 - i. budget line 13 04 01 – Military mobility by EUR 20 000 000;
- (d) The European Defence Industry Programme by EUR 6 800 000;
 - i. budget line 13 08 01 – European Defence Industry Programme by EUR 6 800 000;
- (e) The agencies in heading 5 by EUR 13 000 000;
 - i. budget line 12 10 01 – European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) by EUR 12 000 000;
 - ii. budget line 12 10 02 – European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) by EUR 1 000 000;

26. Modifies budgetary remarks as relevant;

Heading 6 - Neighbourhood and the World and Ukraine Support Loan Instrument

27. Increases by EUR 139 000 000 in commitment appropriations above the DB and by EUR 137 990 000 compared to the Council position in order to reinforce the following programs above DB as follows:
- (a) NDICI-Global Europe by EUR 99 000 000;
 - i. budget line 14 02 01 10 – Southern Neighbourhood by EUR 60 000 000;
 - ii. budget line 14 02 01 11 – Eastern Neighbourhood by EUR 30 000 000;
 - iii. budget line 14 02 01 13 – Reform and Growth Facility for the Republic of Moldova by EUR 4 000 000;
 - iv. budget line 14 02 02 20 – Civil Society Organisations by EUR 5 000 000;
 - (b) Humanitarian Aid by EUR 40 000 000;
 - i. budget line 14 03 01 – Humanitarian aid by EUR 40 000 000;
28. Creates a reserve on the following budget lines, with no impact on the total appropriations;
- (a) budget line 15 03 01 06 – Serbia amounting to EUR 56 886 805 in commitment appropriations;
 - (b) budget line 14 02 01 10 – Southern Neighbourhood amounting to EUR 50 000 000 in commitment and payment appropriations;
29. Reduces the appropriations proposed on the following budget lines for a total of EUR 35 000 000, in line with paragraph 9:

- (a) 16 07 01 – Debt service cost of Ukraine Support Loan by EUR 35 000 000;
- 30. Creates the following new budget lines, in line with paragraphs 9 and 10:
 - (a) 16 07 XX – Ukraine Support Loan - Additional liquidity management costs with commitments equal to EUR 35 000 000 and corresponding remark;
 - (b) 16 07 XX – Support expenditure for borrowing and debt management activities of the Ukraine Support Loan with commitments equal to EUR 1 000 000 and corresponding remark;
- 31. Modifies budgetary remarks as relevant;

Heading 7 - European Public Administration

- 32. Restores the Council cuts of EUR 8 549 500 and increases by EUR 512 000 in commitment appropriations above the DB and by EUR 9 061 500 compared to the Council position in order to reinforce the following programs above DB as follows:
 - (a) The European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) by EUR 512 000;
 - i. budget line 20 03 17 – European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) by EUR 512 000 and the corresponding budget line in Annex 6 O6 01 01 01 - Remuneration and allowances by EUR 512 000;
- 33. Modifies the establishment plan as follows:
 - (a) S 02 06 – European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF): + 4 posts;
- 34. Modifies budgetary remarks as relevant;

Pilot projects and preparatory actions (PP-PAs)

- 35. Recalls the importance of pilot projects and preparatory actions (PP-PAs) as tools for the formulation of political priorities and the introduction of new initiatives that have the potential to turn into standing Union activities and programmes; adopts, following a careful analysis of all the proposals submitted and taking fully into account the Commission's assessment of their compliance with legal requirements and implementability, a balanced package of PP-PAs that reflects Parliament's political priorities; calls on the Commission to swiftly implement PP-PAs and provide feedback on their performance and results delivered on the ground;

Payments

- 36. Underlines the need to provide a sufficient level of payment appropriations in the 2027 budget and decides, as a general rule, to reinforce payment appropriations on those lines which are amended in commitment appropriations;

Revenue

- 37. Creates the following new budget line:
 - (a) R 6 6 X – Receipts of seizing and confiscating measures adopted by the EPPO

with commitments equal to EUR p.m and corresponding remark;

Joint statements

38. Insists that the nomenclature for revenue must be consistent with Article 311 TFEU, which states that, without prejudice to other revenue, the budget is financed wholly from own resources; welcomes, in this regard, the presentation of revenue in the DB, which refers to categories of own resources instead of national contributions, contrary to Council's statement n° 3 to its position on the DB;

Other Sections – Section I - European Parliament

39. Reiterates the Parliament's priorities for the forthcoming financial year, namely continuing reinforcing the administrative support for Parliament to exercise its core functions of co-legislator, budgetary and discharge authority, the digital transition including investment in cybersecurity and artificial intelligence, infrastructure as well as Green Parliament;
40. Notes that the Council has maintained unchanged the overall level of the budget for Section I set at EUR 2 656 435 753 for 2027, in line with the Parliament's estimates of revenue and expenditure for the financial year 2027;
41. Recalls the rulings of the General Court of 17 December 2025¹³ confirming the legality of the 2023 Bureau decision on the Voluntary Pension Fund as regards the nominal amount of pension entitlements, the yearly indexation and the retirement age; notes that the Bureau, at its meeting on 15 June 2026, acknowledged that, due to the exhaustion of the Voluntary Pension Fund's assets, pension payments under this scheme shall be executed directly from the Parliament's budget as from 1 January 2027;
42. Acknowledges that appropriations corresponding to the pension payment obligations have to be included in the Parliament's 2027 budget; recalls that these appropriations could not have been included in the Parliament's estimates for 2027 as the Bureau decision governing the transfer of pension payments to the Parliament's budget was taken after the adoption of the estimates;
43. Increases the level of appropriations for budget line 1033 "Optional pension scheme for Members" by EUR 10 028 000 above the DB to enable the Parliament to make pension payments in line with its Bureau decision;
44. Underscores that this increase does not affect non-statutory expenditure and that the Parliament's budget continues to respect a maximum increase of 2 % for non-statutory expenditure;

Other Sections - Sections IV-X

45. Reiterates its deep concerns about the situation of Heading 7 of the current MFF; recalls that the constraints are the results of the cuts applied by the Council to the Commission's already very low initial proposal when agreeing on the current MFF

¹³ Joint Cases T-620/23 to T-1023/23 and Case T-483/24.

2021-2027; regrets the Council's opposition to the Commission's proposal to increase the ceiling of Heading 7 in the MFF revision as from 2024; points to the failure to address the issue of the ceiling of Heading 7 in the MFF revision; highlights that the forecasted negative margin for 2027 presupposes the use of special instruments in Heading 7 for that purpose;

46. Condemns the Commission's horizontal approach to reduce the estimates of the institutions in order to adhere to the principle of stable staffing, and to a maximum increase of 2 % for non-salary related expenditure irrespective of new tasks given to the institutions by the Commission and the co-legislators; underlines the negative consequences of this approach on the work of the institutions;
47. Highlights that the largest parts of the institutions' budgets are fixed by statutory or contractual obligations and impacted by inflation;
48. Highlights the need for the institutions to have sufficient staff in order to fulfil their mandate and adapt to challenges; welcomes the continuous efforts made by the institutions to redeploy staff and find additional efficiency gains but acknowledges the limits of this approach over the years; stresses the inevitability of reinforcing the amount of staff when necessary in order for the institutions to fulfil their mandates;
49. Increases, for the following duly justified cases, the level of appropriations or staff above the DB to give the institutions enough resources to perform adequately, efficiently and effectively the growing number of tasks from their mandate and to be equipped for the upcoming challenges, in particular as regards cyber-security and artificial intelligence; highlights that most of the issues are recurrent issues that were not solved in previous budgetary procedures; proposes therefore to:
 - (a) restore the level of appropriations in line with the estimates of the European Data Protection Supervisor and the European External Action Service by increasing the level of appropriations above the DB for budgetary lines that cover IT and operational needs and building security, particularly in Union delegations;
 - (b) restore the level of appropriations partially in line with the estimates of the Court of Justice of the European Union, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Committee of the Regions, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the European External Action Service by increasing the level of appropriations above the DB for budgetary lines that cover security and IT needs, including cyber-security, and operational needs, including translation and buildings;
 - (c) increase the establishment plans above the DB with the corresponding appropriations in line with the institutions' requests for the European Committee of the Regions and European Data Protection Board; finally, increase the establishment plans above the DB with the corresponding appropriations partially in line with the institutions' requests for the European Court of Auditors, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Ombudsman and the European Data Protection Supervisor to enable them to face increasing workload and cyber-security challenges;

50. Instructs its President to forward this resolution, together with the amendments to the draft general budget, to the Council, the Commission, the other institutions and bodies concerned and the national parliaments.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

DECLARATION OF INPUT FROM NILS UŠAKOVS

The rapporteur declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his report input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹⁴, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

DECLARATION OF INPUT FROM MICHALIS HADJIPANTELA

The rapporteur declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his report input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹⁵, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

¹⁴ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinst/2021/611/oj).

¹⁵ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinst/2021/611/oj).

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

for the Committee on Budgets

on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 – all sections (2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Matjaž Nemec

OPINION

The Committee on Foreign Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

- A. whereas the 2027 EU budget will be the last budget during the current MFF and therefore offers little room for manoeuvre;
 - B. whereas the EU budget represents a critical instrument for strengthening the European Union's global role and advancing its foreign policy objectives;
 - C. whereas the funding provided under Heading 6, even after the MFF revision in 2024, has proven insufficient to address the growing geopolitical and security challenges facing the Union, including Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, instability in the Middle East, hybrid threats, irregular migration and increasing strategic competition;
- 1. Is highly concerned that the remaining NDICI cushion stands at only EUR 159 million which is clearly not sufficient given the unstable geopolitical context and the near certainty that crises with financial consequences will happen in 2027; regrets that the Commission keeps using the cushion to support geopolitical and trade-related initiatives, such as the disbursement of EUR 500 million as part of the conclusion of the EU-India trade agreement in January 2026; insists that this practice undermines the nature of the cushion to address crises and emergencies; regrets that this procedure deprives the European Parliament of its prerogative for oversight and control as budgetary authority; stresses the need to preserve sufficient flexibility within Heading 6 to enable the Union to respond rapidly to unforeseen geopolitical crises while safeguarding long-term external policy priorities;
 - 2. Notes that the draft budget presented by the Commission is largely in line with the financial programming in heading 6; notes that the frontloading at the beginning of this MFF now has consequences with partially serious reductions of commitment appropriations as compared to 2026;
 - 3. Notes that the available margin under heading 6 is merely EUR 100 million, which leaves little flexibility for the budgetary authority to adjust the budget for priority areas;

nevertheless, increases the appropriations for the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhoods as well as other budget lines under NDICI and the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance, to be financed by rebalancing borrowing cost repayment ratios;

4. Stresses that the financial needs for both the Eastern and the Southern Neighbourhoods are far greater and need to be addressed with urgency when deciding on the 2028-2034 MFF;
5. Underlines the importance of preserving predictable long-term geographic and thematic programmes, while ensuring sufficient flexibility to respond to emerging crises; deplores the reduction of both commitments and payment appropriations in the thematic programmes of NDICI;
6. Reiterates that EU enlargement remains a strategic geopolitical investment in the Union's peace, security and prosperity; calls for sufficient financial support to candidate countries implementing accession-related reforms, while ensuring that all financial assistance remains strictly merit-based and conditional upon tangible progress in fulfilling the accession criteria; stresses that progress in alignment with the Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy should remain an important consideration when allocating external financial assistance;
7. Calls for increased support for partner countries to strengthen resilience against hybrid threats, cyberattacks, foreign information manipulation and interference, including through strategic communication, cybersecurity and independent media;
8. Underlines that the Union's external financing instruments should contribute to strengthening the security and resilience of partner countries and complement the Union's broader security and defence objectives; including by contributing where appropriate to strengthening the Union's defence industrial base and European security interests;
9. Stresses that all Union humanitarian assistance should be delivered in accordance with the principles of neutrality, transparency and accountability, accompanied by robust oversight mechanisms to ensure that Union funds cannot be diverted or misused; urges a substantial and sustained increase in EU humanitarian aid to respond effectively to escalating global crises, food insecurity, and displacement, particularly to compensate for structural gaps in global humanitarian financing resulting from cuts by other major international donors;
10. Calls for sufficient resources for the implementation of the Global Gateway strategy, with a particular focus on sustainable infrastructure, secure energy and digital connectivity, resilient supply chains, transport corridors, access to critical raw materials and strategic partnerships with like-minded countries, thereby strengthening the Union's economic security, reducing strategic dependencies and reinforcing its geopolitical influence, while promoting high standards of transparency and sustainability;
11. Stresses that the implementation of the Union's external financing should maximise European added value by promoting strategic investments, strengthening the Union's global competitiveness and advancing its geopolitical interests;

12. Recalls that development cooperation remains a key vehicle to address the root causes of fragility and instability; calls for additional funding for East and Central Africa to underpin regional engagement and bilateral partnerships focused on poverty eradication, conflict prevention, and long-term sustainable investments;
13. Underlines that a strong European space sector is fundamental for open strategic autonomy, global connectivity, and the protection of critical infrastructure; calls for an enhanced contribution from Heading 6 to the Union Secure Connectivity Programme to ensure worldwide access to secure governmental satellite communications, facilitating external actions, diplomacy, and agile crisis management;
14. Highlights that, given the ongoing volatility in conflict zones and broader geopolitical tensions, the EU must step up its targeted financial support for international nuclear safety, radiation protection, and safeguards to help prevent nuclear risks and secure vulnerable facilities globally;
15. Considers that democratic backsliding in Serbia has reached a level that merits action by the budgetary authority; puts, therefore, 50 % of the allocations foreseen for Serbia under the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans in reserve; underlines however, that funds supporting civil society and independent media should not be affected and even be increased; ; urges the Commission to apply rigorously the conditionality provisions under the Reform and Growth Facility and to ensure that any future disbursements are subject to tangible progress in the rule of law, democratic governance, media freedom, the fight against corruption and alignment with the Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy;
16. Underlines that continued EU financial support for Albania must contribute to strengthening democratic governance, the rule of law, transparency regarding the EU financial support and public trust in institutions, including by supporting measures responding to citizens legitimate concerns, e.g. effectively dismantling structures of organised crime;
17. Reiterates the need for predictable and sustained financial support for Moldova to strengthen democratic institutions, resilience against hybrid threats and the implementation of accession-related reforms; and to strengthen its capacity to address security challenges in the context of Russia's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine;
18. Calls for continued EU support for sustainable peace and regional stability in the South Caucasus, including confidence-building measures, connectivity and assistance to conflict-affected populations; calls to continue freezing financial support to the Georgian government as it continues to erode the foundations of democracy in Georgia, undermining EU values such as democracy, the rule of law, and media pluralism;
19. Calls on the Commission to make full use of the applicable conditionality mechanisms in the event of serious and persistent shortcomings in these areas mentioned above;
20. Stresses the need for predictable financial assistance under the Ukraine Facility and the Ukraine Support Loan to safeguard Ukraine's macro-financial stability, recovery, and defence against Russia's war of aggression

21. Calls for the continued, predictable and adequate funding for the Eastern Neighbourhood, including support for the promotion of democracy, human rights and the rule of law in this region; urges for a reinforced fight against foreign information manipulation and interference and hybrid threats in countries such as Armenia, Georgia and Moldova, including disinformation campaigns targeting electoral processes; calls in this regard for appropriate support for DG ENEST; stresses that allocations under Heading 6 should reflect the Union's strategic priorities and a 360-degree approach to European security;
22. Calls to reinforce the Southern Neighbourhood under Heading 6 with stable, adequate and predictable funding, necessitated by various simultaneous conflicts and challenges in the Middle East and to support the work of UN agencies in the region; stresses that the reconstruction of Gaza, Lebanon and Syria oblige budgetary reinforcement; regrets the considerable initial reduction in commitment and payment appropriations; welcomes, on the other hand, the reinforcement of the CSDP missions, among which the EUBAM Rafah; calls in this regard for appropriate financial and human resources for DG MENA and EEAS; further urges the EU to create a dedicated financial envelope to ensure stable, appropriate and predictable financial support to the reconstruction of Gaza; underlines that any disbursement from the Union budget to third countries should be conditional upon respect for the rule of law, human rights, democratic principles, international law;
23. Stresses that strengthening the Palestinian Authority and supporting the territorial continuity of the West Bank are fundamental prerequisites for a sustainable long-term peace process that leads to the two-state solution; recalls that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is the principal humanitarian assistance structure in Gaza and the West Bank as well as an essential service provider in the region and therefore possesses the unique infrastructure, technical and operational capabilities, and personnel required to deliver vital services across the region; calls therefore to the European Commission to honour its financial contribution to UNRWA in due form and time, stresses the importance of ensuring full transparency, accountability and continued reforms in the delivery of Union-funded assistance while maintaining comprehensive anti-corruption measures;
24. Calls for an increase of funding of the thematic programmes of NDICI, particularly the human rights and democracy actions and civil society organisations programmes, in order to promote democracy, defend the universality of human rights and the rule of law as well as multilateralism against attacks by authoritarian regimes, also given the discontinuation of USAID funds supporting such actions and a regrettable reduction in bilateral assistance from other countries; calls for a substantial, predictable scale-up of EU financial commitments to promote stability and resilience in response to geopolitical and structural crises in Africa; urges addressing the critical funding shortfall for Sub-Saharan Africa and the Sahel to support a long-term regional partnership aimed at tackling the root causes of instability, with a strong focus on reducing inequalities, promoting human development, and fostering socio-economic resilience;
25. Underlines the vital importance of civil society organisations in strengthening democratic principles, the rule of law and respect for fundamental rights, and recognises their key contribution to promoting democratic governance, accountability and

institutional resilience; emphasises that civil society organisations are the prime target of a growing number of authoritarian regimes worldwide, and calls for predictable, flexible, and sustained support—including legal aid and core operational funding—to counter the phenomenon of shrinking civic space and to protect human rights defenders and independent journalists confronting these hostile environments; calls, in this context, for a targeted budgetary reinforcement to sustain local peacebuilding and bicommunal reconciliation efforts, notably by ensuring adequate financing for the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus and supporting the bicommunal Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage;

26. Stresses that, in the context of Russia's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine and the Lukashenka regime's complicity therein, sustained support for independent Russian and Belarusian civil society, human rights defenders, independent journalists and media, NGOs, anti-war and pro-democracy activists, both within their countries and in exile, constitutes an integral part of the Union's broader strategy of deterrence and resilience vis-à-vis Russia; underlines their essential role in countering authoritarian propaganda, disinformation, transnational repression and foreign interference, and in preserving the foundations for democratic change; calls, therefore, for adequate, predictable, dedicated and flexible Union funding, including multiannual core and emergency funding, to ensure their security, operational continuity and long-term sustainability;
27. Considers that, given the dramatic increase in forced exile of human rights defenders, journalists, NGOs and pro-democracy activists from countries such as Nicaragua, Belarus, Afghanistan, Russia, Myanmar, Sudan and Venezuela, among others, predictable, dedicated, and flexible funding for all forced into exile due to repression and criminalisation in their own countries, should be prioritised and strengthened;
28. Emphasises the importance of ensuring adequate, flexible and predictable funding for actions promoting gender equality, preventing and combating gender-based violence, advancing women's rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, and protecting the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons;
29. Reiterates its call to urgently increase humanitarian support for Sudan, including for survivors of sexual violence, those facing hunger, IDPs and refugees;
30. Notes with concern that the ongoing structural underfunding of the EEAS severely damages the EU external action capacities, as well as the perception of the EU in third countries; reiterates that the 2 % cap on administrative expenditure should not be applied to the EEAS given its specificities as the only EU body with delegations worldwide; commends the recent progress made on the reinforcement of security but stresses that a number of delegations do not comply yet with security standards; stresses that in a context of high inflation and evolving geopolitical threats, the budget for security personnel, secure communications and infrastructure must be at a level to ensure the minimum security standards of EU delegations and the necessary renewal of armoured vehicles; highlights further that critical initiatives such as the EU Cyber Defence Coordination Centre (CDCC) must function adequately; stresses that further investments are required to increase building security, cyber-security, particularly in delegations; calls for the EEAS to be adequately staffed with regards to strengthening the European Union Military Staff and to reinforce the EU's Security and Defence

Partnerships with key bilateral partners, given the current international and security environment; recalls the importance of reinforcing the information and communication technology capabilities of the EEAS, particularly in the field of information security; urges therefore the budgetary authority to ensure the secure and effective functioning of the EU's diplomatic network worldwide; calls therefore to increase its budget to the level requested by the EEAS in its estimates;

31. Stresses the need to increase EU visibility and geopolitical position in the world, in order to enhance the EU international presence and counter anti-EU narratives and Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference operations, especially in the EU neighbourhood; calls in this regard to strengthen EU digital diplomacy, particularly in the field of AI, the fight against disinformation and foreign interference, the promotion of peace and security, as well as to lead the fight against climate change and the promotion of sustainable development; calls in this regard to reinforce the financial and human resources of DG ENEST, DG MENA, DG FPI and the EEAS.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

The rapporteur for opinion declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his opinion input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	10.9.2026	
Result of final vote	+: 43	
	–: 12	
	0: 8	

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

43	+
ECR	Geadis Geadis
PPE	Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Krzysztof Brejza, Sandra Kalniete, Seán Kelly, Łukasz Kohut, Ondřej Kolář, Andrey Kovatchev, Miriam Lexmann, Reinhold Lopatka, David McAllister, Vangelis Meimarakis, Francisco José Millán Mon, Nicolás Pascual de la Parte, Davor Ivo Stier, Riho Terras, Matej Tonin, Pekka Toveri, Željana Zovko, Milan Zver
Renew	Petras Auštrevičius, Dan Barna, Christophe Grudler, Bernard Guetta, Ilhan Kyuchyuk, Marjan Šarec, Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann, Hilde Vautmans
S&D	Lucia Annunziata, Vasile Dîncu, Nikolas Farantouris, Elisabeth Grossmann, Alicia Homs Ginel, Yannis Maniatis, Nacho Sánchez Amor, Marco Tarquinio, Marta Temido, Nicola Zingaretti
Verts/ALE	Hannah Neumann, Nela Riehl, Mounir Satouri, Villy Søvndal, Thomas Waitz

12	-
ECR	Sebastian Tynkkynen
ESN	Petr Bystron, Alexander Sell, Stanislav Stoyanov
NI	Luboš Blaha, Grzegorz Braun, Kostas Papadakis
PfE	Mieke Andriese, Fabrice Leggeri, Hermann Tertsch, Pierre-Romain Thionnet, Harald Vilimsky

8	0
ECR	Rihards Kols, Șerban Dimitrie Sturdza, Ivaylo Valchev, Mariateresa Vivaldini
PPE	Christophe Gomart
The Left	Marc Botenga, Danilo Della Valle, Giorgos Georgiou

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT

for the Committee on Budgets

on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027
(2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Charles Goerens

OPINION

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

- A. whereas it is the Union's strategic interest to foster credible, reliable and inclusive mutually beneficial international partnerships, which strengthen its own security, prosperity and resilience, while continuing to work towards poverty eradication, economic development and self-sufficiency in partner countries, the fulfilment of international commitments such as the Sustainable Development Goals, and tackling fragility where it is most needed; whereas these partnerships are an opportunity for the EU to step up as a global leader in development cooperation and humanitarian aid, and a vehicle to project EU values;
- B. whereas Official Development Assistance (ODA) is projected to decline further in 2027, returning to approximately 2020 levels despite growing global development needs¹;
- C. whereas Least Developed Countries (LDCs) are expected to experience a reduction of between 13 % and 25 % in net bilateral ODA providers in 2025, while countries in sub-Saharan Africa could face declines of between 16 % and 28 %, disproportionately affecting those with the greatest development challenges;
- D. whereas according to Global Humanitarian Overview 2026 more than 250 million people require humanitarian assistance and protection, due to protracted or intensifying conflicts, forced displacements, and an increasing number of disasters related to extreme weather, whereas a major cyclical climate phenomenon is expected to worsen drought, flood, heat and storm conditions across many world regions in the second half of 2026, with major knock-on effects into 2027;² as reflected in the recent first-ever joint FAO–WFP Anticipatory Action Appeal for USD 202 million to protect 8.8 million people in 22 high-risk countries from the forecast impacts of this extreme weather pattern; calls on the Union to cooperate closely with international partners in addressing

¹ https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/cuts-in-official-development-assistance_8c530629-en/full-report.html

² EC Joint Research Centre: [From forecast to risk: an anticipatory analysis of the 2026-27 El Niño](#)

the most urgent global challenges;

- E. whereas there is need for adequate funding, notably in fragile contexts, to apply the humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach; whereas less than 30% of global humanitarian assistance needs were met by mid-June 2026; whereas the EU and the international partners must uphold the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, independence and impartiality; whereas additional efforts and enhanced donors' coordination are needed to broaden the donor base for humanitarian action, in order to address the growing humanitarian funding gap;
 - F. whereas Union development contracts should guarantee fair competition by excluding companies from non-allied countries that engage in proven, state-subsidized dumping;
 - G. whereas schooling during crises requires extra support to keep children from losing their education;
1. Notes that the margin for Heading 6 for 2027 draft budget is EUR 100 million and that there is only limited room for coping with new challenges which weakens the EU as an external actor in times of global geopolitical and financial uncertainty; reminds that the NDICI-GE Cushion was quickly exhausted while a number of its past mobilisations were not due to unforeseen challenges; notes that the allocation for external action must address an increasing number of geopolitical, humanitarian and development priorities; stresses therefore the need to maximise the effectiveness of EU external spending, in close partnership with partner countries and international partners;
 2. Stresses that a considerable reinforcement of humanitarian aid is needed and that the proposed baseline of EUR 1866 million for 2027 is not commensurate with the expected needs when humanitarian crises are intensifying and spreading across the world and millions of additional people are likely to face displacement and hunger; in this regard, reminds that the Emergency Aid reserve which is 607 million for 2027 in current prices must fulfil its original purpose; stresses that the EU should prioritise humanitarian funding for the most acute and immediate needs, including food, shelter and essential services and that the widening humanitarian funding gap requires even stronger cooperation and burden sharing with other international partners, multilateral organisations and like-minded partners;
 3. Expresses concern in view of the Commission proposal to use reflows from the EFSD provisioning entirely to finance the debt servicing costs for the Ukraine Support Loan instead of using these reflows across all eligible regions in line with the geographic envelopes in NDICI-GE and in line with Regulation (EU) 2026/995 as regards increased efficiency of the External Action Guarantee;
 4. Reiterates its concern that following the MFF mid-term revision (MTR), the geographic programmes for Sub-Saharan Africa have been reduced for the 2024-2027 period; underlines the importance of maintaining strong partnerships with Sub-Saharan Africa while recognising the need to respond to evolving geopolitical challenges and emerging priorities; recalls that the NDICI-GE Regulation's Article 6.2(a) establishes a minimum allocation for Sub Saharan Africa of at least 29,18 billion by 2027, which constitutes a legal obligation; calls on the Commission to ensure that the 2027 budget closes this gap and fully respects the geographic priorities laid down in the regulation;

5. Highlights the need to reinforce support for nutrition and education, reminds that women and children are disproportionately affected by aid cuts and crises; calls for reinforced funding for healthcare in particular responses in humanitarian and public health emergencies, such as disease control, prevention and surveillance, underlines that the recent Ebola outbreak has demonstrated that such investments in close cooperation with international partners are necessary to effectively identify, manage and contain global health threats; highlights that only with a balanced and coherent set of policies, supported by ambitious and predictable funding, can the EU effectively provide coherent responses and support to developing countries in tackling their immediate and long-term structural challenges;
6. In light of the Middle East crisis and worsening humanitarian situation in Gaza and across the region, additional funding is essential to ensure continued access to essential human development services, such as health and primary education for Palestinian refugees, to uphold regional stability, and reaffirm the EU's commitment to human rights and international law, under the Southern Neighbourhood heading;
7. Notes that climate-related expenditure is currently expected to remain below the 30% target set out in the NDICI-GE Regulation; calls on the Commission to continue its efforts to make sure that the spending targets for climate (30 %) and biodiversity (10 %) are fully achieved by the end of the current MFF; stresses that achieving these targets is essential to strengthen the resilience of partner countries to the growing impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, which are increasingly recognised as key drivers of poverty, food insecurity, displacement and instability;
8. Notes that spending under NDICI-GE for actions supporting the management and governance of migration and forced displacement has exceeded the regulation's indicative target of 10%; observes that this spending, combined with mid-term review adjustments, reduces the proportion of funding available for other sectors;
9. Expresses grave concern about the drastic reduction of development and humanitarian aid by the world's largest donors, including several EU Member States, which overall provided nearly 10% less Official Development Assistance (ODA) in 2025 than in 2024, moving even further away from their collective target to provide 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) as ODA; expresses profound concern over the reduction in United States development aid and its potential severe consequences for vulnerable populations; in this context, highlights that recent domestic budgetary pressures across the EU have led to combined ODA reductions, underscoring the urgent need for a more sustainable collective funding strategy; stresses that development funding must remain primarily focused on poverty eradication, human development, resilience, human rights, partnerships and addressing the root causes of inequality and fragility;
10. Calls on the Commission for improved monitoring, assessment and reporting, based on evidence, of the distribution and impact of interventions in partner countries, particularly in areas such as job creation, education, living standards, and the development of local enterprises, including SMEs, in order to optimise and broaden the local impact of current EU interventions and partnerships, support the design of future projects with lasting effects in partner countries, enhance transparency in spending and strengthen Parliament's oversight role as part of the budgetary authority;

11. Recalls that continuous and stable EU financial support to developing countries in key areas such as fundamental rights and freedoms, civil society organisations, climate change, economic resilience, sustainable economic growth, private sector development, investment, education and skills, digital transformation, energy security, infrastructure, food security, root causes of migration and humanitarian aid are vital for the EU's ongoing commitments to the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals and for its role as a credible long-term partner in international partnerships and in the economic and social development of its partners.
12. Emphasises the importance of reinforcing support to promote vocational education and training; calls on the Commission to maintain EU aid for quality education in developing countries, in particular in the Sub-Saharan region, and put learning and skills training at the centre of human development, private sector development and job creation in partner countries; underlines that investment in skills and employability, in close cooperation with local and European private sector actors, is essential for fostering sustainable economic growth and strengthening the EU's strategic partnerships; highlights in particular the role of SMEs as key drivers of inclusive growth, innovation and local job creation, and calls for targeted support to enhance their access to finance, markets and training opportunities;
13. Takes note of the scaling-up of Global Gateway and stresses the importance of mobilising public and private investment in order to strengthen sustainable infrastructure, connectivity, energy security and resilient value chains in partner countries as well as human development;
14. Underlines that EU funding under NDICI-GE for budget support requires credible governance commitments, transparent public financial management and measurable progress towards jointly agreed objectives; recalls that the effectiveness and long-term impact of EU external funding depend on strong national ownership and constructive cooperation with partner countries.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

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¹⁹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	14.9.2026	
Result of final vote	+:	19
	—:	2
	0:	2

**FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

19	+
PPE	Hildegard Bentele, Niels Geuking, Lukas Mandl, Fulvio Martusciello, Liudas Mažylis, Angelika Winzig
PfE	András Gyürk, György Hölvényi, Thierry Mariani
Renew	Barry Andrews, Benoit Cassart, Emma Wiesner
S&D	Robert Biedroń, Murielle Laurent, Marit Maij, Marco Tarquinio, Carla Tavares
Verts/ALE	Isabella Lövin, Ana Miranda Paz

2	-
ECR	Paolo Inselvini
ESN	Marc Jongen

2	0
ECR	Małgorzata Gosiewska
The Left	Damien Carême

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS

for the Committee on Budgets

on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027
(2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Georgios Aftias

OPINION

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

1. Emphasises that, in an environment of geopolitical uncertainty, the 2027 budget must strengthen and contribute to macroeconomic stability in alignment with the Union's revised economic governance framework, ensuring sufficient fiscal space for high-quality investments; underlines that the 2027 budget must also strengthen economic resilience and social cohesion and must be a key instrument to support long-term, sustainable and inclusive investment, ensuring that price stability, job creation, and economic resilience remain fundamental anchors of the Union's long-term sustainable growth and strategic autonomy;
2. Acknowledges that the budget for the 2027 financial year constitutes the final annual instalment within the framework of the current 2021–2027 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and underlines, in this context, the need to ensure an adequate level of budgetary flexibility and simplification of administrative procedures, in order to guarantee the effectiveness of Union interventions;
3. Underlines that 2027 will be the first year without the Recovery and Resilience Facility that will have to be repaid in the coming years, which calls for fiscally responsible policies; calls for continued discussions on future Union-level investment instruments and on the expansion of the basket of own resources, in order to strengthen the Union budget and reduce excessive reliance on national budgets, thereby creating greater fiscal space for Member States to invest; stresses that the Union's budget must be aligned, in size and priorities, with the Union's ambitions; recalls that the implementation of national medium-term structural fiscal plans within the framework of Union fiscal rules is intended to provide the fiscal space necessary to stimulate strategic investments;
4. Stresses the need to complete and better integrate the internal market in order to strengthen the strategic financial sovereignty of the Union, reduce market fragmentation, specifically with a reduction in national barriers and bottlenecks, and improve and increase access to financing for all companies in the Union; underlines that the 2027 budget should support the political objective of improved access to finance for SMEs, which remain the backbone of the Union's economy, and to start-ups, by providing them with diversified sources of

financing; reminds that a fair and competitive playing field for companies in the Union, especially SMEs, is fundamental;

5. Calls for the successful implementation of the Savings and Investment Union, including the Market Integration and Supervision Package, and for the rapid implementation of the 28th regime (EU Inc.), aiming to facilitate cross-border activities and strengthen the internal market; stresses the need to complete the Banking Union;
6. Calls for adequate financial and human resources for the European Supervisory Authorities, in order to ensure effective supervision and prevention of systemic financial risks; asks for particular attention to the human, technical and financial needs of the newly established Anti-Money Laundering Authority (AMLA) and for closer cooperation and exchange of information with national supervisory and competent authorities, with a view to effectively preventing and combating money laundering and terrorist financing throughout the Union;
7. Stresses that investments contributing to the Energy Union, including investments in interconnections, renewable energy sources, storage infrastructure and clean technologies, in particular in Member States with high energy dependence, should be considered as part of strengthening the internal market, reducing strategic dependencies and inflationary pressures, thereby supporting fiscal sustainability, while increasing energy autonomy, accelerating climate, energy and digital transitions, and decreasing energy costs and supply disruptions for companies and households in the Union;
8. Notes the new budgetary priorities related to defence and competitiveness; underlines that long-standing structural and key Union policies, notably the Cohesion Policy and the Common Agricultural Policy, should continue to receive adequate, stable and predictable funding;
9. Highlights the need to enhance European competitiveness through simplification and the reduction of administrative burdens, including administrative procedures; underlines that stable prices and sustainable public finances remain key prerequisites for competitiveness and long-term prosperity; stresses that simplification efforts must be accompanied by strengthening the administrative capacity of the Member States to effectively absorb Union funds;
10. Stresses the importance of strengthening the competitiveness and resilience of the Union's financial sector; calls in this regard for a comprehensive 'Financial Services Omnibus'; calls for adequate funding for policies and tools that support the completion of the internal market for financial services, the digitalisation of the financial system, and access to finance for businesses and households;
11. Highlights that the credibility of the Union's economic governance framework depends on the consistent application of the reformed Stability and Growth Pact;
12. Stresses that competitiveness policies should remain inclusive and should take into account the diversity of companies in the Union, including differences in size, stage in the business cycle, financing needs and access to financial instruments, while also addressing investment, productivity and employment gaps across regions and sectors; underlines the importance of reliable data for public policy making;

13. Underlines the need for adequate funding for training and capacity-building as an important factor for the Union's competitiveness, by ensuring that professional skills and know-how are kept; supports investment capacity in innovation and digitalisation of the economy and public administrations;
14. Emphasises the importance of safeguarding financial and economic stability, investment and social cohesion, in particular in sectors facing price pressures, such as affordable housing, energy and climate transition and essential goods; stresses that the competitiveness and cohesion of the Union's economy are interlinked; emphasises that cohesion policy and the structural funds are a pillar of the Union and that economic convergence is necessary for the development of the internal market, taking into account the different situations and funding needs across the Union; underlines that the Union's annual budget should consider the European Semester's recommendations and support effective and flexible use of cohesion policy instruments;
15. Calls for enhanced support for regions affected by deindustrialisation, natural disasters or severe climate pressures;
16. Stresses the need to stimulate economic growth in the Union and highlights the key issue of modernising the Union's economy, investing to increase convergence and improving access to finance and capital markets and retail investors; recalls that public and private investment should work in parallel and feed into each other; points out that a significant increase in private investment capital is necessary for the effectiveness of budgetary stimulation of the Union's economy;
17. Reaffirms that the Union budget should contribute to strengthening the Union's economic and monetary sovereignty, including through adequate funding for the development of the digital euro and the related supervisory and cyber-insurance infrastructure; stresses that the digital euro should operate complementarily to the banking system, ensuring financial stability and deposit protection;
18. Calls for the development of pan-European savings and long-term investment products, with the aim of mobilising private capital towards strategic sectors;
19. Stresses that Union subsidies should lead to concrete added value in practice; calls on the Commission to conduct ex-post assessments as to what extent subsidies granted have significantly benefitted companies and citizens in the Union;
20. Calls for accelerating reforms and increasing productive investment in critical sectors such as defence, decarbonisation, digital and critical infrastructure, while considering national security interests where third-country participation is involved;
21. Encourages the Commission to explore new own resources, in order to equip the Union with adequate means to address common European strategic policies, and in order to cover the costs of repaying NextGenerationEU, financing the Union budget and addressing new industrial priorities as identified in the Draghi report; takes note of Commission's proposed 'basket approach' and stresses that new revenue sources should be adopted with the next MFF and generate around EUR 60 billion annually; reminds that new own resources should be accompanied by efforts to increase the efficiency of the Union's spending and prevent any misuse of Union funds;

22. Underlines the need to confirm more systematically measures addressing insularity in the design, programming and implementation of the Union's financial instruments, in accordance with Articles 174 and 349 TFEU, taking into account the specific structural vulnerabilities of islands and the Union's outermost regions; calls on the Commission to assess the establishment of a mechanism or a dedicated Union fund for territorial continuity, aimed at supporting and ensuring reliable, accessible and sustainable maritime and air connections between island regions and the mainland; highlights that such an instrument would contribute to compensating the permanent additional costs arising from insularity, strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion, and improving the integration of island regions into the internal market;
23. Stresses the need for sufficient fiscal flexibility and reserves to address geopolitical crises and economic shocks, especially following the economic impact of the crises in the Middle East; stresses the need to strengthen tax justice and the fight against tax evasion and tax avoidance through adequate funding of the competent European Supervisory Authorities;
24. Underlines the strategic role of the European Investment Bank in strengthening the competitiveness, cohesion and strategic autonomy of the Union; calls for its financing capacity to be strengthened, in particular to support investments in innovation, energy security, defence, housing and high-value-added infrastructure, while ensuring financial stability and complementarity with the objectives of the economic governance of the euro area.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

The rapporteur for opinion declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his opinion input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinst/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	15.7.2026	
Result of final vote	+: 29	
	–: 17	
	0: 9	

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

29	+
PPE	Georgios Aftias, Stefan Berger, Daniel Buda, Marco Falcone, Markus Ferber, Dirk Gotink, Michalis Hadjipantela, Monika Hohlmeier, Luděk Niedermayer, Sirpa Pietikäinen, Jūri Ratas, Paulius Saudargas, Andreas Schwab
Renew	Gilles Boyer, Engin Eroglu, Billy Kelleher, Ludovít Ódor, Stéphanie Yon-Courtin
S&D	Matthias Ecke, Jonás Fernández, Claire Fita, Isilda Gomes, Eero Heinäluoma, Aurore Lalucq, Marit Majj, Nikos Papandreou, René Repasi, Günther Sidl, Carla Tavares

17	-
ECR	Stephen Nikola Bartulica, Marlena Maląg
ESN	Siegbert Frank Droese, Rada Laykova
NI	Fabio De Masi, Fernand Kartheiser
PfE	Mireia Borrás Pabón, Enikő Győri, Jaroslav Knot, Tomáš Kubín, Pierre Pimpie, Jaroslava Pokorná Jermanová, Auke Zijlstra
The Left	Martin Günther, Gaetano Pedulla', Jussi Saramo, Pasquale Tridico

9	0
ECR	Giovanni Crosetto, Denis Nesci, Ruggero Razza, Antonella Sberna, Mariateresa Vivaldini
Verts/ALE	Rasmus Andresen, Damian Boeselager, Kira Marie Peter-Hansen, Marie Toussaint

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

for the Committee on Budgets

on the General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 - all sections
(2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Romana Tomc

OPINION

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

1. Underscores persistent socio-economic challenges facing the EU, including barriers to growth and competitiveness, demographic change, poverty, in particular child and in-work poverty, social exclusion and the increased cost of living, lack of housing affordability and accessibility, unequal access to public services, pension adequacy and sustainability, unemployment - especially high among young people and precarious jobs, requiring budgetary support; stresses the need for adequate resources for EU employment and social policies and to adapt skills, training and industrial policies to ensure a just twin transition;
2. Highlights the vital role of the EU programmes in the employment and social fields, and especially those linked to the European Social Fund plus (ESF+), European Globalisation Fund, Just Transition Fund and the Social Climate Fund, in supporting the Union's economic, social and territorial cohesion and fostering economic resilience; underlines that the ESF+ is the main EU instrument for investing in people, promoting high employment levels, fair social protection and developing a skilled and resilient workforce ready for the transition to a green and digital economy, as well as inclusive and cohesive societies aiming at eradicating poverty and delivering on the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights; underlines in this regard the importance of increasing public and social investments; calls for a strong and dedicated financial envelope and thematic concentrations for the stand-alone and separate ESF in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) to promote upwards social convergence and quality employment; reminds that a strong Social Union is key to Europe's competitiveness;
3. Deplores that 1 in 5 people in the EU, including 19.5 million children in 2024, are at risk of poverty or social exclusion; welcomes the publication of the EU Anti-Poverty Strategy and its related initiatives on strengthening the European Child Guarantee, supporting the activation of people excluded from the labour market and fighting housing exclusion; stresses, however, that achieving these policy commitments requires

the allocation of commensurate budgetary resources and urges the Commission to commit sufficient resources to anti-poverty actions in the 2027 budget as well as in the next MFF; reiterates Parliament's repeated call to significantly increase the funding of the European Child Guarantee with a dedicated budget of at least EUR 20 billion and calls on all Member States, not only those most affected by child poverty, to allocate at least 5 % of the ESF+ resources under shared management to support activities under the European Child Guarantee; insists on increased ambition to eradicate and prevent homelessness across Europe through the implementation of the Housing First principle;

4. Highlights the significant geographical diversity of social problems and the key role that regions play in addressing them. In this context, it highlights the close link between effective social policy and a well-funded cohesion policy;
5. Underlines the importance of sufficient and ongoing, multiannual budgetary support to achieve the social policy priorities of the Union, such as quality jobs and the fair labour mobility;
6. Calls for mainstreaming gender in all EU policies, programmes and actions; calls for a gender responsive budget through gender budgeting, for an adequately funded budget to promote equal participation and treatment of women in the labour market as well as for comprehensive systems be put in place to monitor and measure gender budget allocations, women's participation in the labour market, access to employment, pay and pension gaps;
7. Insists that the rules governing the use of EU funds must include social conditionalities to ensure quality jobs and enhance compliance with social rights and democratic principles, the fundamental rights of workers and applicable working conditions; further calls for more effective social conditionalities in rules on public procurement and concessions to promote collective bargaining;
8. Stresses the importance of the role of the EU budget in implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan and achieving its 2030 targets through increased targeted investment at EU and national level; recalls the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) and Action Plan of 4 March 2021, including the EU 2030 headline targets for jobs, skills and poverty reduction, the Porto Declaration of 8 May 2021 on social affairs adopted by the members of the European Council, the Tripartite Declaration for a Thriving European Social Dialogue, and the La Hulpe Declaration on the Future of the European Pillar of Social Rights; expects the forthcoming update of the Action Plan to contain concrete proposals to implement existing priorities as well as address new challenges and that these proposals should be accompanied with adequate support in the 2027 EU budget as well as the next MFF; underlines the important role of the ESF+ and its effective use along with cohesion funds for its implementation in this regard;
9. Calls on Member States to accelerate the uptake of EU funds and fully utilise available resources under the current MFF; underlines that efforts to enhance competitiveness should go hand in hand with continued support for social priorities and policies, ensuring that the Union's social values and citizens' needs remain at the heart of the European project; points out the extensive and complicated rules for spending EU funds

and calls on the Commission for their simplification in the next MFF in order to streamline the entire process; urges the Commission to increase technical assistance and other forms of supports to Member States to support increased absorption of funds;

10. Points out the need to support women, children, youth, families, and groups in vulnerable situations such as persons with disabilities and Roma with dedicated programmes and funding; advocating for targeted measures to combat youth unemployment, child poverty and social exclusion; stresses the need to pay special attention to single parents and large families;
11. Emphasises the lack of policy responses to mitigate the impact of demographic challenges with an ageing population due to declining birth rates and extended life expectancies; points out that changes in demography are a major challenge for the Union's competitiveness and the sustainability of its labour markets and social systems and a serious horizontal problem across the EU, which requires a strategic approach and long-term solutions; underscores the importance of adequate funding for both long-term and early childhood education and care and support services, including crèche and nursing home public networks, upskilling and improving working conditions in the sector; stresses as well the importance of adequate and sustainable pension provisions in this regard, particularly for women; emphasises the need to develop targeted policies addressing specific needs of the workforce at all ages as well as specific needs of workers with disabilities and chronic diseases, such as musculoskeletal disorders, or workers returning to work after longer periods of absence;
12. Calls for enhanced support for family-friendly policies, in particular through access to affordable child and long-term care and to sustainable and affordable housing, including social housing;
13. Considers that a skilled and workforce is essential for enhancing the Union's competitiveness and resilience against external shocks and to navigate the twin transition successfully and to prepare for the fast development of technologies including AI; recognises the essential role of skills, vocational education and training (VET), quality and paid traineeships, apprenticeships and lifelong learning in this regard; stresses the need to ensure adequate funding in Budget 2027 for skills policies, particularly Union of Skills initiatives, under ESF+ as well as the Just Transition Fund and Net Zero Industry Academies; emphasises the need to adapt training, up-skilling, re-skilling and lifelong learning to labour market needs; emphasises that employment and social policies must serve workers' social and economic needs and aim to ensure stable and secure employment, decent working conditions, fair wages, and a life in dignity; calls therefore for adequate funding to support skills development, in particular in artificial intelligence, in strategic and in transitioning sectors, in order to best meet the needs of the work force and enterprises;
14. Stresses that occupational safety and health are an essential priority, and that the EU and Member States must strengthen preventive measures and enforcement to protect workers from physical and psychosocial risks, while ensuring adequate compensation, rehabilitation and reintegration in case of workplace accidents and occupational diseases; stresses the importance of addressing psychosocial risks in the workplace and in investing the national labour authorities and inspectorates;

15. Emphasises the essential role of the five EU agencies active in employment and social policy, namely the European Labour Authority, the European Foundation for Living and Working Conditions, the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training and the European Training Foundation and stresses that they should be provided with commensurate financial and human resources to fulfil their mandates and respond to evolving tasks; underlines the need to ensure sufficient resources for the ETF beyond July 2027 to guarantee continuity of operations; recalls the forthcoming Commission proposal to Strengthen the European Labour Authority, and underlines that changes to ELA's mandate and scope must be supported by corresponding and adequate budget;
16. Recalls that pilot projects (PPs) and preparatory actions (PAs) are essential to test new policy initiatives in the fields of employment and social inclusion, including through providing data collection; repeats its call on the Commission to evaluate PP/PA proposals impartially on the basis of a legal and financial assessment in a way that reflects their merit and implement them as they were adopted;
17. Stresses the need to continuously improve the efficiency of the Union's administrative expenditure, in particular through better coordination between European agencies and the elimination of duplication in line with strategic priorities;
18. Recalls that multilingualism is a fundamental principle that makes the content of discussions within the EU institutions more accessible and transparent and constitutes a guarantee of their democratic functioning; considers, however, that reductions in the quantity and quality of translation and interpretation services, resulting from budgetary constraints, the increasing outsourcing of these services and the deterioration of the working conditions of those who provide them, threaten multilingualism; calls, therefore, for increased funding for the translation and interpretation services of the EU institutions, in particular the European Parliament, while ensuring the internalisation of the workers providing these services and their direct and permanent employment by the EU institutions;
19. Regrets the decrease in the allocation for the budget line 07 20 04 09 (Information and training measures for workers' organisations); recalls that it is key to guarantee adequate funding for this budget line and to ensure that EU support for information and training measures for workers' organisations is strengthened, not reduced, for 2027; highlights that strong social dialogue is a key feature of the European social model; recalls the commitment of the Union to promote the role of social partners and to facilitate social dialogue, in line with Article 152 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; stresses the necessity to ensure adequate support for social dialogue and to develop and improve the capacity of social partners and to increase the allocation for this budget line.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

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¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinst/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	2.9.2026	
Result of final vote	+: 42	
	–: 9	
	0: 6	

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

42	+
NI	Branislav Ondruš, Jan-Peter Warnke
PPE	Maravillas Abadía Jover, Hildegard Bentele, Andrzej Buła, David Casa, Gheorghe Falcă, Niels Geuking, Norbert Herhammer, Sérgio Humberto, Martine Kemp, Isabelle Le Callennec, Jagna Marczułajtis-Walczak, Eleonora Meleti, Letizia Moratti, Liesbet Sommen, Romana Tomc
Renew	Grégory Allione, Valérie Devaux, Elisabetta Gualmini, Hristo Petrov, Jana Toom
S&D	Marc Angel, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Estelle Ceulemans, Vivien Costanzo, Alicia Homs Ginel, Marina Kaljurand, Marit Maij, Ana Catarina Mendes, Idoia Mendia, Matjaž Nemec, Aodhán Ó Riordáin, Marianne Vind
The Left	Konstantinos Arvanitis, Leila Chaibi, Per Clausen, Kathleen Funchion, João Oliveira
Verts/ALE	Katrin Langensiepen, Maria Ohisalo, Villy Søvndal

9	-
ECR	Elena Donazzan, Chiara Gemma, Marlena Małag, Francesco Torselli, Mariateresa Vivaldini
ESN	Petr Bystron, Petar Volgin
PfE	Margarita de la Pisa Carrión, Petra Steger

6	0
ECR	Georgiana Teodorescu
PPE	Henrik Dahl
PfE	Mélanie Disdier, Julien Leonardelli, Ernő Schaller-Baross, Séverine Werbrouck

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

1.9.2026

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND FOOD SAFETY

for the Committee on Budgets

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 - all sections
(2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Pierfrancesco Maran

OPINION

The Committee on the Environment, Climate and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

1. Underlines that the 2027 budget is the last annual budget of the 2021-2027 MFF and must prioritise and make the best possible and transparent use of resources to deliver the Union's climate, environmental, biodiversity, zero pollution and sustainable food system objectives, whilst safeguarding competitiveness and innovation in the Union;
2. Underlines that the draft budget 2027 should provide the necessary funding for the agreed priorities of the Union on climate and environmental objectives and the just twin transition, thereby encouraging economic growth, Union's competitiveness, job creation, energy transition, while taking into account national and regional differences, and the environmental, economic and social development and stability in the Union;
3. Calls for these resources to prioritise climate action, mitigation, risk-preparedness and adaptation, nature restoration and biodiversity protection and pollution prevention and reduction, circularity, water quality and resilience, soil health and food safety and sustainability; emphasises the importance of ensuring focused and cost-effective actions that maximise impact to contribute to Union's prosperity and resilience;
4. Recalls the Union's international agreements and commitments and its climate and environmental legal framework and stresses that the EU budget must reflect these commitments by supporting the acceleration of the just green transition, climate adaptation and mitigation, renewable energy, energy efficiency, circular economy, nature restoration and biodiversity protection, pollution prevention and reduction, and of the phase-out of fossil fuels;
5. Stresses that the commitment to dedicate at least 30% of the MFF to climate action must be honoured and transparently tracked; regrets that biodiversity expenditure remains below the 10% ambition for 2027 and calls on the Commission and Member States to redirect commitments towards biodiversity-relevant measures to achieve this objective;

insists that transparency and efficiency in the use of funds is needed to maximise impact, whilst reducing unnecessary administrative burden for beneficiaries;

6. Recalls that the European Green Deal serves to strengthen the Union's competitiveness and to advance the transition to a sustainable and climate-neutral economy, through key initiatives such as the Clean Industrial Deal; underlines the importance of budgetary consistency to achieve Union climate goals and safeguarding long-term competitiveness, particularly through support for clean innovation and industrial decarbonisation, which includes to phase out of fossil fuel and other environmentally harmful subsidies according to the 8th Environment Action Programme;
7. Notes that the LIFE programme delivers environmental outcomes on the ground and supports local and regional authorities, civil society organisations and other stakeholders, and taking into account the climate and biodiversity urgencies, calls for additional resources for LIFE, and in particular for the biodiversity strand, whilst stressing the importance of continued communication, visibility and transparency of Union funded projects; calls, in this context, for sustained funding for cross-border biodiversity protection projects, especially in regions which are biologically highly valuable but exposed to the pressures of climate change and human activities;
8. Stresses the need to reinforce commitments for moving towards a toxic-free environment, including a swift phase-out of substances of very high concern, including the phase-out of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), linked to harmful effects on human health and the environment, based on scientific evidence, allowing their use where there are no safe alternatives and commitments for waste prevention, reuse, repair and recycling, and for water-resilience measures, including efficiency, leakage reduction, reuse and nature-based solutions as well as the strengthening, proper application and harmonisation of the application of the polluter pays principle; recalls in this regard the importance of applying extended producer responsibility, as appropriate;
9. Stresses the need to strengthen efforts to prevent and reduce water pollution affecting both surface waters, including rivers, and groundwater resources, and calls for adequate investment to ensure the long-term availability of clean, safe and affordable water for all, in line with the objectives of the EU Water Resilience Strategy and the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, while improving water quality monitoring, pollution control, ecosystem protection and the sustainable management of water resources; calls for increased support to Member States to finance water efficiency, minimise leaking, maximise collection and provide clean water for the Union's needs, with particular focus to the different needs of the Member States and particularly those that face acute water scarcity;
10. Calls for stronger and targeted support for the just transition efforts of the most affected regions, workers and households through the Just Transition Fund, the Social Climate Fund and climate-relevant cohesion investments, so that no region or community is left behind; in the transition to a sustainable and climate-neutral economy, whilst the competitiveness of the Union economy is safeguarded;
11. Stresses the importance of reinforcing the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and rescEU, to better address the increasing impacts of climate change given the growing

frequency and severity of climate disasters and events such as floods, heatwaves, droughts and wildfires particularly for the hard-hit regions across Europe; emphasizes the need to improve disaster prevention and preparedness, prioritising sustainable and long term solutions, whilst boosting rapid response capabilities, coordination and cross-border preparedness; highlights that more investment is needed for prevention and early detection of disasters, highlighting how this protects lives and is more efficient than responding to crises;

12. Recognises the crucial role of the Union agencies under the Committee on the Environment, Climate and Food Safety's remit, namely the European Environment Agency (EEA), European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in shaping science-based Union policy making; Calls for adequate support and human resources for Commission services and Union agencies in climate, environment and biodiversity, so that adopted legislation on climate, environment, biodiversity, chemicals and food safety can be implemented and can be supported by independent scientific advice, and calls notably for reinforcing the EFSA to absorb the existing backlog of renewals and the EEA, not least to further support the work on climate adaptation and resilience in the face of more frequent extreme weather events; stresses the need for Union agencies, in addition to scientific expertise, to further strengthen their capacities for public communication and the fight against disinformation in the field of climate change, health and food safety, with the aim of increasing citizens' trust and society's resilience to misinformation;
13. Calls for swift implementation of pilot projects and preparatory actions related to climate, environmental and biodiversity objectives, as well as the continuation of already existing, impactful pilot projects and preparatory actions where a renewal of the project or the action was requested.
14. Emphasises the need to further develop and apply environmental and health impact assessment tools within the Union budget, thereby ensuring that 2027 expenditure contributes to sustainability, pollution prevention, and climate resilience; calls for reinforced tracking and transparency mechanisms to measure the ecological effectiveness of Union funding;

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

The Chair in his capacity as rapporteur for opinion declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his opinion input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	1.9.2026	
Result of final vote	+: 48	
	–: 20	
	0: 3	

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

48	+
PPE	Daniel Buda, Raúl de la Hoz Quintano, Michalis Hadjipantela, Niels Flemming Hansen, Adam Jarubas, Radan Kanev, Stefan Köhler, Ewa Kopacz, Peter Liese, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Letizia Moratti, Massimiliano Salini, Susana Solís Pérez, Ingeborg Ter Laak, Dimitris Tsiodras, Andrea Wechsler
Renew	Grégory Allione, Abir Al-Sahlan, Pascal Canfin, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Martin Hojsík, Katri Kulmuni, Ana Vasconcelos
S&D	Vytienis Povilas Andriukaitis, Sakis Arnaoutoglou, Thomas Bajada, Delara Burkhardt, Mohammed Chahim, Christophe Clergeau, Annalisa Corrado, Hélène Fritzon, César Luena, Pierfrancesco Maran, Alessandra Moretti, Elena Sancho Murillo, Irene Tinagli, Kristian Vigenin
The Left	Lynn Boylan, Martin Günther, Anja Hazekamp, Valentina Palmisano
Verts/ALE	Cristina Guarda, Martin Häusling, Tilly Metz, Rasmus Nordqvist, Lena Schilling, Kai Tegethoff, Marie Toussaint

20	-
ECR	Stefano Cavedagna, Emmanouil Fragkos, Nora Junco García, Nicola Procaccini, Antonella Sberna, Beatrice Timgren, Laurence Trochu, Aurelijus Veryga, Alexandr Vondra
ESN	Ivan David, Marc Jongen, Volker Schnurrbusch
NI	Ondřej Dostál
PfE	Mathilde Androuët, Barbara Bonte, Marie-Luce Brasier-Clain, Jorge Buxadé Villalba, Viktória Ferenc, Anne-Sophie Frigout, Jana Nagyová

3	0
NI	Fernand Kartheiser
PPE	Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Zala Černilec Tomašič

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH

for the Committee on Budgets

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 - all sections
(2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Michalis Hadjipantela

OPINION

The Committee on Public Health calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

1. Calls on the Commission, Member States and relevant stakeholders to focus the 2027 budget on the issues of EU added value in public health, such as: health security and preparedness, prevention of communicable and non-communicable diseases, including cancer, rare diseases, mental health, women's health, sexual and reproductive health as well as investment in digital health, critical medicines, medical devices, addressing antimicrobial resistance, training of health workforce, innovation, as well as gender-responsive disease research, while building on the findings of the interim evaluation of the EU4Health Programme, fully respecting Member State competences in line with Article 168 of the Treaties, avoiding fragmentation of funding, ensuring equitable access to healthcare and reducing health inequalities;
2. Calls for public health to be treated as a strategic autonomy, security, social cohesion and competitiveness priority in Union funding; stresses that investments should improve access to high quality healthcare, particularly in underserved or hard-to-reach areas, including islands, rural, mountainous, remote and outermost regions, and support interoperable cross-border digital tools, including AI systems, health data infrastructure, in particular through the implementation of the European Health Data Space; emphasises that reinforcing cross-border healthcare is essential to improve accessible and affordable care and effective cross-border mobility of patients, particularly transplant patients and patients with rare diseases and complex conditions, by enabling access to specialised expertise, diagnosis and treatment when such care is not available nationally; reiterates the importance of the voluntary mobility of health professionals, without exacerbating workforce shortages or territorial imbalances in Member States and regions of origin, as well as coordinated crisis and pandemic response mechanisms across the EU and with global partners; calls for EU health-related funding to reduce inequalities in access to healthcare, with particular attention to children, vulnerable patients and underserved regions, including through prevention, early diagnosis, screening and cross-border care;
3. Stresses that external health spending should be targeted at preparedness, surveillance

and resilient partner-country health systems, including access to essential treatments, medicines and vaccines, especially where this helps preventing cross-border threats and supports the Union's health security responsibilities and humanitarian values; calls for adequate and predictable funding for operational deployment of healthcare professionals and medical equipment, as well as medical evacuations and the treatment, within Union territory, of patients from conflict zones, notably through the medical evacuation operations of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, in coordination with Member States' healthcare systems and in complementarity with the Union's humanitarian aid and development policy instruments;

4. Notes with concern that, in the draft budget, the total EU4Health commitments decrease from 687.9 million EUR in 2026 to 635.3 million EUR in 2027, representing a reduction of around 7.6% and remaining below the level needed to meet growing public health needs, demographic pressures and the programme's core objectives; recalls that the programme's overall envelope was already reduced by close to EUR 1 billion in the context of the 2024 revision of the Multiannual Financial Framework and considers that the programme cannot absorb further reductions without compromising the delivery of its objectives under Regulation (EU) 2021/522; calls on the EU institutions to agree on increasing the draft budget allocation for the EU4Health Programme with a particular focus on health security, prevention, accessibility and innovation, as well as equitable access to healthcare and resilient health systems; stresses that the insufficient level of funding for the implementation of the Critical Medicines Act and the pharmaceutical package risks limiting the effectiveness of these initiatives in addressing shortages, diversifying supply chains and strengthening the Union's strategic autonomy in health; calls for dedicated and adequately resourced EU4Health actions supporting critical medicines and medical devices, including support for investments that strengthen and diversify EU-based manufacturing capacity for critical medicines, active pharmaceutical ingredients and essential medical devices, in order to enhance security of supply and reduce strategic dependencies, enhanced voluntary collaborative procurement, preparedness measures including, where appropriate, strategic reserves of critical medicines and essential medical equipment, and better transparency on supply chains and stock levels;
5. Calls for stronger coordination between EU4Health, ESF+, Erasmus+ and cohesion funding to address health workforce shortages by supporting the training, upskilling and retention of health professionals, with the involvement of universities specialising in medicine and pharmacy, as well as university hospitals, including in underserved areas, in particular in the sectors of primary care and mental health; stresses that such coordination should not lead to unnecessary administrative burden; highlights the key role of the ESF+ in promoting health equity and addressing disparities in access to healthcare and calls for strengthened ESF+ support for Member States in tackling health workforce shortages, including through measures to improve working conditions, mobility and retention of healthcare professionals, particularly in Member States and regions facing persistent workforce outflows, while supporting voluntary return and fully respecting free movement; insists on clear and qualitative key performance indicators with measurable targets and patients-based outcomes set out in the annual work programmes, transparency and avoidance of duplication between EU programmes;

6. Calls for cohesion funds to be used effectively with a view to closing territorial gaps in access to healthcare and supporting the upgrading of hospitals, territorial structures, emergency-first responder networks and health and digital infrastructure in less developed, rural, underserved and hard-to-reach areas; stresses that these infrastructure investments should be accompanied by adequate planning for staffing, service delivery and operational sustainability, so as to ensure that new structures are fully operational and yield lasting benefits for citizens;
7. Recalls that Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2021/522 reserves a minimum of 20% of the programme's total envelope for health promotion and disease prevention; calls on the Commission to deliver on this commitment in the 2027 annual work programme and its implementation; underlines that prevention is among the most cost-effective forms of health expenditure, containing long-term pressure on public budgets;
8. Notes that 2027 is the final year of the EU4Health Programme as a standalone instrument; calls on the Commission to ensure that multiannual actions launched or ongoing under the programme, including the European Reference Networks, joint actions with Member States, HERA's medical countermeasures development and procurement, and the rollout of the European Health Data Space, continue without interruption or funding gaps into the post-2027 financial architecture;
9. Stresses the importance of ensuring the continued participation of health civil society organisations, including patient organisations in Union health actions, recognising their essential role in shaping patient-centred policies, supporting implementation and improving access to care; insists that the visibility, traceability and evaluability of Union health expenditure be preserved in the future architecture; notes the concerns arising from the discontinuation of operating grants for health civil society organisations, including patient organisations, under the EU4Health 2025 Work Programme, in particular as regards continuity of activities and support for patients and communities, emphasises the importance of appropriate and transparent support mechanisms for such organisations; recognises their contribution to Union health objectives; notes the findings of the interim evaluation of the EU4Health Programme regarding the contribution of civil society organisations to the implementation of the Programme and calls for future support, including the possible reintroduction of operating grants in the 2027 Work Programme, to be based on clear criteria of European added value, transparency, neutrality, sound financial management and measurable impact, and to be implemented in accordance with Union law and the respective competences of Member States;
10. Encourages the mobilisation of additional resources through alternative channels, such as InvestEU, STEP and Digital Europe, provided that public health outcomes and patient access remain central criteria; stresses that these instruments should be used as a priority to strengthen European competitiveness in the health sector and promote the production of strategic health technologies; stresses the need for transparent, result oriented public health spending, with a particular focus on mental health and neurological disorders, digital health and AI, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), zoonotic diseases and non- communicable diseases, such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and particularly childhood diabetes, obesity, chronic kidney disease, liver disease, rare diseases and cancer, as well as primary care, promotion of healthy lifestyles, research

into the exposome and sustained investment in the health workforce; highlights the importance of a life course approach to public health that supports citizens, including those within the autism spectrum, through appropriate institutions for care and support throughout their lives; stresses, in particular, the importance of protecting the mental health and digital well-being of children and young people, including challenges related to excessive screen use, harmful substance use and gambling-related harm;

11. Underlines that combating AMR, in line with the One Health approach, requires dedicated funding to support research into innovative solutions, including on new antimicrobials, diagnostics and alternatives to antimicrobials, as well as strong infection prevention and control measures; stresses the need to address AMR prevention through investments in interoperable surveillance and data sharing systems, notably treating healthcare-associated infections and building on the surveillance networks coordinated by the ECDC, as well as funding to strengthen national and regional public health and veterinary laboratories, genomic surveillance of zoonoses and food-borne infections and interoperable data exchange between the competent authorities for human health, veterinary medicine, food safety and the environment; emphasises that investing in high-quality public healthcare systems, including effective infection prevention and control, adequate staffing, modern equipment, clinical competencies and accessibility for the health workforce and patients, is key to reducing health inequalities across the Union; calls for funding to support disease prevention, comprehensive health-promotion approach and addressing various determinants of health, including measures at local level, such as placing automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in schools and installing hygienic drinking-water fountains in schools and public spaces, financed through a dedicated health line or cohesion investments where appropriate;
12. Calls for budgetary support for concrete measures that improve working conditions, professional development and retention of healthcare workers, including training, upskilling, investment in digital skills, and return schemes, especially in underserved and hard-to-reach areas, and for better use of EU funds to support modern, digitally enabled and community-based care by promoting investments that tangibly strengthen the operational capacity of health systems;
13. Calls for targeted Union support, in full respect of Member States' competences, to strengthen accessible community-based care, including primary care, rural medicine, community pharmacies, telemedicine, emergency medical and patient transport services, long-term, elderly, palliative and disability care, as well as maternal, paediatric and neonatal services, particularly in underserved and hard to reach areas; stresses the importance of prevention, screening, early diagnosis, integrated health and social care, support for informal carers and access to cross-border expertise for complex cases;
14. Insists that EU health spending under the 2027 budget should be transparent, result-oriented and linked to measurable and qualitative outcomes, including improved access to care, reduced territorial disparities, stronger prevention and better preparedness;
15. Calls for the strengthening, expansion and adequate resourcing of European Reference Networks (ERNs) for rare and complex diseases, including sustained support for their digital infrastructure, cross border case consultation and integration into national health systems; underlines the need to improve equitable and prompt diagnosis, access to

specialised expertise and continuity of care for rare disease patients across the Union; supports, in this context, the establishment, preceded by an assessment of existing structures and administrative costs, of a dedicated EU structure, such as a European agency or centre for rare diseases, to bring together research, screening, data, registries, best practices and treatment pathways, and to maximise the added value of the coordination at EU level in the field of rare diseases; stresses that in particular children affected by rare and complex diseases, as well as paediatric cancers, require timely diagnosis, specialised care pathways and continued cross-border access to expertise; underlines the importance of strengthening the EU's capacity for research, clinical trials, manufacturing, and equitable access to innovative treatments;

16. Calls on the Commission to include in the 2027 EU4Health work programme dedicated funding for the Networks of Expertise being implemented through the second Joint Action on Networks of Expertise on Cancer (JANE-2) and the European Network of Comprehensive Cancer Centres being implemented through Joint Action EUnetCCC, to safeguard their core coordination and operations; stresses that continued support in 2027 is essential to preserve the emerging ecosystem of EU cancer networks developed under Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and to ensure continuity pending future Union health funding arrangements; underlines the importance of integrating these networks with national and regional health systems, while fully respecting Member State competences for the organisation and delivery of healthcare;
17. Welcomes the proposed increases of Union contributions to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the overall increased budget of the European Medicines Agency (EMA), while stressing that resources must be commensurate with the new tasks stemming from serious cross border health threats legislation and the pharmaceutical package; calls for a staffing and capability review of ECDC and EMA in light of their expanded mandates, so as to avoid structural under resourcing and to ensure that agencies can provide high quality, timely scientific advice and coordination;
18. Calls for the restoration of EU4Health Programme commitments to at least their 2026 level, noting that commitments decrease from EUR 661.3 million in 2026 to EUR 606 million in 2027, representing a reduction of over 8%; stresses that commitments are essential for the Union's capacity to launch and finance new health actions in the coming years, including on preparedness, prevention, access to innovation, critical medicines, cancer, cardiovascular health, mental health, rare diseases and health workforce;
19. Welcomes the continued support for the health-related capacities of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), including the rescEU medical stockpiles, which contributes to medical evacuation capacities and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) preparedness; underlines that health-related capacities under UCPM should be adequately funded in order to ensure swift deployment in crises; stresses the importance of close coordination between UCPM, DG HERA, EU4Health and national civil protection and health authorities to avoid overlaps, strengthen preparedness, maximise synergies and ensure efficient use of resources; calls also for the adequate resourcing of HERA's international engagement, including effective cooperation with global health institutions, on the development and equitable

deployment of medical countermeasures and to support health systems;

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

The rapporteur for opinion declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his opinion input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	7.9.2026	
Result of final vote	+: 22	
	–: 3	
	0: 4	

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

22	+
NI	Ondřej Dostál
PPE	Bartosz Arłukowicz, Caterina Chinnici, Marie-Sophie Christ, Adam Jarubas, András Tivadar Kulja, Peter Liese, Fernando Navarrete Rojas, Elena Nevado del Campo, Oliver Schenk, Ingeborg Ter Laak
Renew	Stine Bosse, Vlad Vasile-Voiculescu
S&D	Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis, Maria Guzenina, Alessandra Moretti, Victor Negrescu, Günther Sidl, Marta Temido, Tiemo Wölken
Vers/ALE	Tilly Metz, Majdouline Sbai

3	-
ESN	Christine Anderson
PfE	Elisabeth Dieringer, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión

4	0
ECR	Emmanouil Fragkos
PfE	Marie-Luce Brasier-Clain, Valérie Deloge, Jana Nagyová

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

16.7.2026

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNAL MARKET AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

for the Committee on Budgets

on the guidelines for the financial year 2027 budget – all sections
(2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Piotr Müller

OPINION

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

1. Recalls that the Union budget for 2027 will be the final budget under the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and, as a bridging budget for the upcoming 2028-2034 MFF, it needs to continue delivering both on the current and the future priorities and challenges including concerning the EU single market; therefore calls for the Union budget for 2027 to contribute to enhancing competitiveness, sustainability, and strengthening the functioning of the single market, supporting the transition to a digital, sustainable and competitive economy, while promoting and protecting the interests of European consumers by ensuring a high level of protection, especially in the light of new challenges posed by the digital environment; calls for the removal of barriers to hindering its functioning, especially the “Terrible 10” identified by the European Commission; highlights the need to reduce unjustified administrative burdens for companies, especially SME’s, small mid-caps, start-ups and scale-ups, and ensure harmonised implementation, of existing legislation; stresses that an attractive single market for SMEs, small mid-caps, start-ups and scale-ups provides an ideal ecosystem for attracting and retaining talent, creating quality jobs and fostering the development of the skills required by the labour market; highlights the need to strengthen and increase the resilience of the single market, as well as its accessibility for business, aiming at increasing EU trade flows, securing supply chains and value chains, thus contributing to economic growth; stresses that the single market is an essential element for achieving a globally competitive, circular, resource- and energy-efficient economy; welcomes, in this regard, the work done so far on the circular economy, focusing on removing market barriers, ensuring consumers rights and promoting sustainable business models;
2. Calls for the Union budget for 2027 to support research and innovation clusters in the industrial sector and to strengthen measures aimed at facilitating the development of start-

ups and SMEs;

3. Highlights that the multiple challenges facing Europe require increased investment and coordination at European level; calls for a Union budget for 2027 that reflects the urgent nature of these challenges and ensures the future of Europe's strategic autonomy and supports the goal of the digital transition; underlines the importance of strengthening a robust and competitive European industrial base, particularly in strategic sectors, as a prerequisite for enhancing the Union's resilience, economic security and sovereignty, and reducing dependencies on problematic third-country supply chains and external geopolitical influence; further underlines that this is even more urgent in the context of the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine, the complicated situation in the Middle East with its potential to cause disruptions in the global economy and trade flows, and hybrid attacks on Member States and foreign interference, among others, highlight the need for the single market to become more sustainable, resilient and prepared to respond to emergencies, including through securing supply chains and reliable access to critical raw materials; calls on the European Commission to ensure sufficient budgetary allocations to mitigate the effects of these challenges, including in particular the impacts of the war in Ukraine on the EU, its citizens and on Member States, particularly those that share a border with Ukraine;
4. Underlines the unprecedented security challenges faced by the Union following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and highlights the increased security risks in the current geopolitical situation, especially for Member States neighbouring conflict areas; calls on the Commission to ensure that the Union budget prioritises investment towards development of the European economy, particularly in the area of security and defence, fostering innovation, boosting the productivity of the European Defence Technology Industrial Base, supporting European microenterprises and SMEs and enhancing investments in these fields; underlines the need to build a genuine European defence market in order to strengthen European sovereignty, defence readiness, strategic autonomy and resilient supply chains; supports fair opportunities for companies of all sizes, including SMEs; calls on the Commission to present, by the end of 2026, a comprehensive revision of the Defence Procurement Directive and the Directive on defence-related transfers;
5. Recalls the need to strengthen the resilience, strategic autonomy and competitiveness of the EU economy through ambitious EU economic policies that can significantly contribute to achieving the EU's digital and economic growth objectives, maintaining a level playing field and legal certainty in the single market and significantly reducing regulatory and administrative requirements to unlock the full potential of cross-border trade, takes note of the publication of the Industrial Accelerator Act and underlines its potential to strengthen the competitiveness of strategic sectors and technologies, while contributing to the Union's resilience, strategic autonomy, energy sovereignty and energy affordability; underlines the need to strengthen the Single Market Enforcement Taskforce by providing additional resources and a clear mandate to tackle the "Terrible Ten" barriers, systematise pre-infringement dialogues and swiftly address breaches in critical sectors; calls for a genuine Competitiveness Fund setting the macroeconomic conditions for enhancing investment in key sectors in need; stresses that the new Competitiveness Fund should further contribute to strengthening the Single Market and its resilience while supporting the resilience of start-ups and SMEs, and supporting greater coherence,

effectiveness and accessibility of Union funding instruments;

6. Recalls the conclusions of the Draghi report, highlighting that 30% of European ‘unicorn’ companies seek funding and growth outside of Europe; calls on the Commission to ensure that the 2027 Union budget prioritises investment in innovation, promoting measures that render the single market more accessible for EU citizens, entrepreneurs, companies, in particular SMEs and innovation start-ups; stresses the importance of ensuring an adequate level of funding to support the European Commission’s efforts to promote innovation and strengthen the development and leadership of artificial intelligence in a dynamic market, thereby enhancing competitiveness and European technological sovereignty; highlights that any simplification of budgetary rules and procedures is essential for encouraging business, especially SMEs, to make full use of the benefits associated to the single market needs to go hand in hand with ensuring proper management of EU funds as well as full protection of the EU budget and EU financial interests;
7. Highlights the need for the 2027 budget to support businesses, workers and consumers in adapting to the environmental and climate rules, notably by helping ease administrative and compliance costs, and ensuring that the transition remains affordable, while contributing to the global competitiveness of European industries and fostering sustainable growth across the Union;
8. Stresses the urgent need to allocate increased budgetary resources to strengthen the Customs Union, as well as the safety legislation enforcement, to boost the resilience and effectiveness of customs and market surveillance authorities; underlines that these resources are essential to carry out more systematic checks on products and to respond effectively to the increasing inflow of non-compliant, unsafe, and illegal products imported via e-commerce platforms, notably from non-EU countries, particularly regarding individual parcels imported directly by consumers through e-commerce platforms; emphasizes the need for better cooperation among customs authorities, greater uptake of IT tools, and funding for common European capabilities, such as product-testing facilities and thorough customs checks of imported parcels, in order to assess compliance with Union standards, protect consumers and ensure a level playing field for European businesses, as well as through coordinated actions by national authorities such as sweeps; calls for further investment in digital tools to improve the efficiency and coordination of customs authorities across the Union; underlines that a properly funded, robust and efficient customs and market surveillance system is essential for safeguarding the EU’s economic resilience and competitiveness, facilitating legitimate cross-border trade, preventing market distortions, and combating illicit activities and eliminating unfair competition; welcomes that the proposed 2027 budget allocates the funding for the newly created European Union Customs Authority and calls on the Commission to prioritise the fast establishment of the agency in its headquarters; stresses the need to allocate adequate resources for equipping all customs border posts with appropriate control equipment;
9. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the 2027 Union budget provides adequate resources for the effective enforcement of single market rules and consumer protection, including consumer product safety regulations; recalls the increasing challenges posed by cross-border online commerce and underlines the need to strengthen cooperation between Union and national enforcement authorities; stresses that effective and consistent enforcement of digital, single market and consumer rules is essential for ensuring fair

competition, protecting European consumers, promoting trust between businesses and consumers, and preventing market distortions; further highlights the importance of strengthening the enforcement of consumer rights at EU and national level, coordinating EU and national enforcement actions for increased efficiency as well as and improving consumers' awareness of their rights; calls on the Commission, in this sense, to ensure increased funding to support high level of protection of the European consumers, including the most vulnerable consumers, both online and offline;

10. Reiterates its call for sufficient funding and staffing to ensure the effective, appropriate and timely enforcement of the Union's digital rulebook and relevant consumer protection rules; stresses that enforcement capacity must address the current imbalance of resources between competent authorities and large digital actors, and respond to rapidly evolving technological and market risks; underlines that proper and harmonised enforcement is essential to guarantee proper and timely investigations to ensure legal certainty, fair and contestable digital markets, consumer protection, and the Union's technological autonomy;
11. Calls for a properly resourced European AI Office to ensure the effective implementation and enforcement of EU law and to support compliance across the Union; warns that its capacity must keep pace with increasingly capable AI models and the additional Union-level supervisory tasks conferred by EU law; stresses that the level of funding budgeted in 2027 should allow a substantial increase in the Office's operational and technical capacity, while supporting research and development of AI-based solutions and innovative approaches that enhance the EU's technological sovereignty and strategic autonomy;
12. Recalls that according to the 2026 Single Market report only 20.6 % of the EU single market relevant administrative procedures are fully online for cross-border users, which undermines the ability of citizens, entrepreneurs and businesses to fully benefit from the single market; calls on the Commission in this sense to prioritise the digitalisation of single market procedures in the 2027 budget, including by intensifying support for the digital transformation of the public sector, with particular attention to administrative procedures impacting businesses and consumers, enabling seamless access to digital public services and improve awareness among citizens;
13. Underlines that simplification and competitiveness should support legal certainty while preserving the effectiveness of Union law and its implementation; further stresses the importance of combating foreign interference, ensuring consumer protection, addressing the risks posed by dark patterns, addictive design and biased algorithms, particularly for minors and young people, and safeguarding the transparency, accountability and integrity of the digital public sphere;
14. Underlines the need for the Single Market Programme to adequately finance the strengthening of public procurement capacities, particularly by supporting contracting authorities in carrying out public procurement, designing more accessible tenders, reducing administrative burden and the promotion of the interests of consumers, and ensuring a high level of consumer protection and product safety; highlights that better-skilled and better-resourced procurement authorities are essential to ensuring that public procurement serves the public interest through the diligent use of taxpayers' money,

facilitating access for SMEs, simplifying and aligning procedures with best practices, and delivering more effective, impactful, and long-term investment.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

Pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure, the rapporteur for opinion declares that he included in his opinion input on matters pertaining to the subject of the file that he received, in the preparation of the opinion, prior to the adoption thereof in committee, from the following interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from the following representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies:

1. Interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register
None
2. Representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies
None

The list above is drawn up under the exclusive responsibility of the rapporteur for opinion.

Where natural persons are identified in the list by their name, by their function or by both, the rapporteur for opinion declares that he has submitted to the natural persons concerned the European Parliament's Data Protection Notice No 484 (<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/data-protect/index.do>), which sets out the conditions applicable to the processing of their personal data and the rights linked to that processing.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinst/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	14.7.2026	
Result of final vote	+: 41	
	–: 5	
	0: 4	

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

41	+
ECR	Piotr Müller, Denis Nesci, Gheorghe Piperea, Reinis Pozņaks, Ivaylo Valchev, Kosma Złotowski
PPE	Peter Agius, Pablo Arias Echeverría, Henrik Dahl, Dóra Dávid, Regina Doherty, Christian Doleschal, Gheorghe Falcă, Dirk Gotink, Niclas Herbst, Paulius Saudargas, Andreas Schwab, Tomislav Sokol, Dimitris Tsiodras, Adina Vălean
Renew	Engin Eroglu, Martin Hojsík, Katri Kulmuni, Morten Løkkegaard, Cynthia Ní Mhurchú, Dainius Žalimas
S&D	Alex Agius Saliba, Laura Ballarín Cereza, Katarina Barley, Biljana Borzan, Johan Danielsson, Adnan Dibrani, Maria Grapini, Elisabeth Grossmann, Maria Guzenina, Christel Schaldemose, Georgia Tramacere
Verts/ALE	Anna Cavazzini, Cristina Guarda, Katrin Langensiepen, Kim Van Sparrentak

5	-
ESN	Arno Bausemer, Petr Bystron
NI	Kateřina Konečná
PfE	Elisabeth Dieringer
The Left	Leila Chaibi

4	0
PfE	Mireia Borrás Pabón, Jaroslav Bžoch, Virginie Joron
The Left	Hanna Gedin

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

3.9.2026

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

for the Committee on Budgets

on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 – all sections (2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Wouter Beke

OPINION

The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

General budgetary considerations

1. Welcomes the Commission's proposal for the draft budget 2027, which allocates EUR 53.97 billion in commitment appropriations and EUR 56.41 billion in payment appropriations for agriculture under Heading 3 "Natural Resources and Environment" covering the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD); stresses that 2027 is the final year of the 2021–2027 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and therefore plays a crucial role in ensuring continuity, stability and credibility of Union policies, in particular the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP);
2. Recalls that agriculture is a strategic sector for the Union, essential for the stability and continuity of food production and for food security and sovereignty, rural vitality and Europe's strategic autonomy, particularly in a context marked by rising geopolitical instability, climate change risks, increasing global competition and market volatility;
3. Stresses that the 2027 budget must ensure continuity, predictability *and stability* for farmers and rural communities ahead of the next MFF and avoid disruptions in CAP payments, rural development programmes and investment commitments;
4. Reiterates its opposition to reductions in CAP appropriations or attempts to weaken the CAP as a distinct and common Union policy; underlines that agricultural expenditure must remain a Union priority and should not serve as an adjustment variable for financing other priorities;
5. Highlights that inflation *and* rising input costs continue to erode the real value of CAP support and negatively affect the competitiveness and profitability of European farms in a context where reducing administrative requirements and ensuring a predictable

regulatory framework remain of utmost importance;

6. Insists that the 2027 budget must provide adequate resources for the urgent implementation of the simplification agenda for the CAP, with a view to ensuring that it translates into tangible benefits for farmers and at farm level, such as reduced administrative burden;

Fair remuneration, market stability and crisis preparedness

7. Considers that the current geopolitical situation, characterised by heightened market instability, rising input costs and supply chain disruptions is placing increasing pressure on farmers' incomes and progressively eroding the conditions for fair remuneration; stresses, in this context, that ensuring fair remuneration and sustainable incomes for farmers must remain at the core of Union agricultural policy and budgetary priorities;
8. Calls for robust and adequate inflation-adjusted appropriations and timely, preventive use of existing market regulatory mechanisms of the Common Market Organisation to strengthen market stability and resilience in the face of geopolitical tensions, trade disruptions, climate change related events and sanitary crises affecting the agricultural and livestock sector;
9. Stresses that, given the cumulative pressures farmers are facing, the 2027 budget must ensure a robust and adequately funded agricultural reserve able to respond rapidly and effectively to market disturbances, including those linked to geopolitical crises such as the Middle East crisis, as well as to extreme weather events and animal or plant health crises; welcomes, in this context, the reinforcement of the agricultural reserve by EUR 300 million in commitment and payment appropriations to provide targeted support to farmers facing severe liquidity challenges; stresses, furthermore, that Heading 3 should be reinforced by an additional EUR 140 million to ensure the timely reimbursement of EAGF expenditure to Member States by addressing the expected shortfall in agricultural assigned revenues in 2026; highlights also the importance of adequately funding risk prevention and mitigation measures to strengthen the agricultural and rural resilience;
10. Urges reinforced support for risk-management and prevention tools, including insurance schemes, fully operational early-warning systems and veterinary and phytosanitary measures as essential pillars of a resilient agricultural sector; stresses the importance of preventive animal health measures, including vaccination, and calls for adequate funding for disease prevention, development, innovation and availability of veterinary vaccines and coordinating the purchase and supply of these vaccines at EU level through a preparedness mechanism, harmonised vaccination strategies across Member States, the effective application of regionalisation principles and compensation mechanisms for livestock farmers affected by animal disease outbreaks;
11. Highlights that rising fertiliser prices, supply disruptions and reduced affordability of key agricultural inputs place significant pressure on farmers across the Union, with repercussions on food security and throughout the food chain; acknowledges the recent Commission proposal to reinforce the agricultural reserve and the targeted CAP

adjustments enabling faster and more flexible support for farmers; regrets, however, that the funding is drawn from the EAGF sub-margin and does not constitute fresh additional resources; stresses the need for support measures that avoid distortions of the internal market and reflect actual sector needs across Member States; calls for adequate resources, including additional resources where necessary, to ensure farmers' access to key inputs and to reduce the Union's vulnerability to external supply shocks, while safeguarding agricultural productivity and food security; stresses the need to invest in the domestic production of key agricultural inputs and in innovative and circular alternatives, with a view to reducing dependence on imported inputs and strengthening the Union's strategic autonomy;

Trade, promotion and competitiveness

12. Underlines that, in a context of trade challenges, including market barriers, tariffs and instability, adequate funding for promotion programmes is essential to support EU agri-food exports, improve access to new markets, enhance the competitiveness of EU agri-food products, and contribute to Europe's food security and strategic autonomy; expresses deep concern that the Commission's draft budget for 2027 proposes a significant reduction in funding for the promotion policy, which is inconsistent with the Commission's stated ambitions to increase the recognition and uptake of European agri-food products, and calls for the budget to be maintained at least at the 2026 level;
13. Stresses that European agriculture must remain competitive and capable of ensuring strategic food production while maintaining high quality, sustainability, affordability and safety standards with a view to achieving greater strategic autonomy and long-term resilience;
14. Insists that the principle of reciprocity must be reflected in the 2027 budget through adequate funding for sanitary, phytosanitary and customs controls at the Union's external borders, in order to ensure that imported agri-food products comply with the required production standards and to ensure a level playing field for European farmers; calls for sufficient appropriations to support sectors most exposed to the cumulative effects of trade agreements;

Rural development and generational renewal

15. Reaffirms the importance of rural development funding in maintaining attractive, resilient and dynamic rural and remote areas, supporting quality employment, social cohesion, growth, innovation and territorial balance, improving access to services of general interest and addressing depopulation and demographic decline; stresses the need to ensure adequate support for regions facing permanent structural constraints, including the outermost regions; recalls, in this context, the importance of the POSEI programme for agricultural production, food security, farmers' incomes and territorial cohesion in the outermost regions, and calls for its full protection in the 2027 budget;
16. Stresses that, as the implementation of the CAP Strategic Plans progresses throughout the current programming period, the 2027 budget must reflect the actual needs in payment appropriations under the EAFRD in order to avoid delays in payments and

ensure legal certainty for beneficiaries;

17. Insists that generational renewal is one of the most pressing structural challenges facing European agriculture, with less than 12 % of EU farm managers under the age of 40, and that the 2027 budget must reflect the political ambition to reverse this trend; stresses the importance of ensuring fair and viable incomes for farmers and calls for enhanced targeted support for young and new farmers, particularly women, through improved access to land, finance, training, innovation and investments supporting the digital transition, including mentoring and practical exchange initiatives, as well as support for business planning and farm succession; recalls the importance of the mentoring and exchange program for women in agriculture; urges Member States to make farming more attractive in order to secure long-term sustainability and competitiveness of the agricultural sector and rural areas; emphasises that generational renewal is a key for food security and the socio-economic sustainability of rural areas, as well as the continued addressing of climate change;

Innovation, sustainability and resilience

18. Emphasises that the challenges faced by farmers require continued investment in innovation, digitalisation, sustainability, training and advisory services, in order to improve the efficiency, sustainability and precision of agricultural systems, ensure more effective use of Union resources, ensure that innovation and new technologies are accessible to farmers of all sizes and across all regions, including through improved rural connectivity, and enhance the attractiveness and economic development of rural areas;
19. Calls for increased funding for research, development and innovation, notably under Horizon Europe, including Cluster 6, and highlights the role of digitalisation in agriculture and agri-food sector, including precision farming, artificial intelligence, biotechnology, new genomic techniques, irrigation systems and practical farm-level solutions improving productivity, resilience and sustainability; stresses that EU farmers must have timely and affordable access to these tools;
20. Underlines the need for strong and dedicated funding under Horizon Europe for agriculture, food systems and rural innovation, while ensuring that such funding remains accessible to all farmers, paying special attention to small farms, research institutions and rural stakeholders across the Union; notes that such funding is essential to strengthen the competitiveness and preparedness of the agricultural sector and to support its adaptation to challenges, including climate change and animal diseases;
21. Supports balanced and pragmatic approaches to sustainability, climate change mitigation and adaptation and environmental protection that do not undermine farm viability, food production and the economic development and resilience of rural areas;
22. Calls for reinforced investment in water resilience, sustainable water management, the sustainable modernisation and expansion of irrigation systems, including, where appropriate, the sustainable development of irrigated area, water retention, soil health, and measures to strengthen the resilience of agriculture and its adaptation to increasingly frequent droughts, floods and extreme weather events;

23. Stresses the strategic importance of reducing the Union's dependence on imported plant proteins and calls for adequate appropriations to support the implementation of a robust European protein strategy, including investment in research, breeding, processing capacity and value chains for leguminous crops and other protein sources;

Future outlook

24. Stresses that the final year of the current MFF should provide a solid basis for the post-2027 CAP and avoid creating funding gaps, uncertainty or disruptions during the transition to the next programming period, particularly for sectoral programmes, in particular fruit and vegetables sector; underlines the need, therefore, for a robust and dedicated CAP budget after 2027, maintaining the current two-pillar structure of the CAP, and stresses that future policy developments, such as possible enlargement, should be adequately reflected in the next MFF in order to safeguard food security, competitiveness and a fair standard of living for farmers, including through better targeting of support to persons actively engaged in agricultural production;
25. Concludes that the 2027 budget must strike a careful balance between continuity, resilience, competitiveness and preparedness for future challenges, while ensuring that the CAP remains adequately funded and capable of supporting European farmers and rural communities.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

The rapporteur for opinion declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his draft opinion input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	2.9.2026	
Result of final vote	+:	30
	—:	5
	0:	10

**FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

30	+
PPE	Peter Agius, Alexander Bernhuber, Daniel Buda, Carmen Crespo Díaz, Salvatore De Meo, Herbert Dorfmann, Krzysztof Hetman, Stefan Köhler, Willemien Koning, Ilia Lazarov, Norbert Lins, Pekka Toveri, Marion Walsmann
PfE	Raffaele Stancanelli
Renew	Benoit Cassart, Asger Christensen, Barry Cowen, Elsi Katainen, Ciaran Mullooly, Christine Singer
S&D	Stefano Bonaccini, Gheorghe Cărciu, Annalisa Corrado, Cristina Maestre, Ana Catarina Mendes, Dario Nardella, Maria Noichl, Eric Sargiacomo
The Left	Luke Ming Flanagan, Arash Saeidi

5	-
ESN	Arno Bausemer
Verts/ALE	Cristina Guarda, Martin Häusling, Nicolae Ștefănuță, Thomas Waitz

10	0
ECR	Carlo Fidanza, Bert-Jan Ruissen, Claudiu-Richard Târziu, Jessika van Leeuwen, Veronika Vrecionová
PfE	Mireia Borrás Pabón, Marie-Luce Brasier-Clain, Csaba Dömötör, Tomáš Kubín, Gilles Pennelle

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

for the Committee on Budgets

on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 - all sections
(2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Giuseppe Lupo

OPINION

The Committee on Fisheries calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

1. Recalls the strategic role of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the economic, social and environmental importance of fisheries, aquaculture, processing and maritime affairs in ensuring food security and strategic food sovereignty, healthy and resilient marine ecosystems, and a competitive, sustainable, resilient and equitable blue economy; recalls that the Union's self-sufficiency in aquatic food products remains low and that strong and sustainable fisheries, aquaculture and processing sectors are essential to the Union's food security and strategic autonomy; highlights the importance of aquatic food products in healthy diets, as products rich in protein and among the most sustainable animal protein sources, with a low-carbon footprint depending on the fishing or production method;
2. Recalls that fisheries, aquaculture and processing sectors are fundamental pillars of the economic, social and cultural fabric of Union coastal, island and outermost communities and that the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) remains a fundamental funding programme for fishers, aquaculture producers, the processing sector and the cohesion of those communities; highlights the essential role of fisheries and aquaculture in strengthening the Union's competitiveness and resilience by safeguarding food security, encouraging innovation, supporting quality jobs and reinforcing the resilience of coastal, island and outermost communities; underlines that the relevant 2027 Union funding should back investment, foster innovation, including in fishing gear and methods, simplify procedures, support decarbonisation and the modernisation of the Union's fishing fleet, while effective control and monitoring ensure that funds reach their intended beneficiaries;
3. Notes that, according to the Commission's 2027 estimates, the main fisheries-related budget lines, namely EMFAF, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements, Regional Fisheries Management Organisations and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA), amount to approximately EUR 1.016 billion in commitment appropriations, representing an increase of around 2.1 % compared to 2026, and EUR 1.222 billion in

payment appropriations, representing an increase of around 10.7 % compared to 2026; stresses that this level must support the competitiveness and resilience, as well as the needs of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, including data collection, control, international ocean governance, decarbonisation, biodiversity, the promotion of sustainable aquatic food products, innovation in fishing gear, fleet modernisation and generational renewal, and coastal communities; stresses that the appropriations must be fully and swiftly implemented, given the persistent under-implementation of EMFAF, and that particular attention should be given to regions, communities and fleet segments in sea basins facing the greatest structural and socio-economic pressures; highlights that fishers, aquaculture producers and their representative organisations should be regularly consulted, through structured dialogue, in the definition and evaluation of these budget priorities;

4. Emphasises that persistent inflationary pressures and rising fuel prices, maintenance and other operating costs are significantly reducing the sustainability and competitiveness of fisheries and aquaculture businesses; calls for sufficient 2027 appropriations for targeted support measures and appropriate compensation, within the applicable legal framework, to address exceptional increases in production costs;
5. Calls on the Commission to simplify, streamline and facilitate access to EMFAF and other ocean-related funding instruments, especially for SMEs, small-scale fishers, aquaculture producers and producer organisations; stresses that simplification must reduce unnecessary administrative burdens while maintaining effective and proportionate controls and eligibility safeguards, and upholding the objectives of the CFP;
6. Stresses that, as the current programming period enters the final implementation phase of EMFAF under the current MFF, available flexibility should be used to support the full implementation, absorption and effective use of the available funds; calls on the Commission and the Member States to ensure their timely deployment and remove unnecessary administrative obstacles so that funding reaches fisheries and aquaculture operators, including through simplified application and reporting requirements, faster approval and payment procedures and adequate pre-financing; calls for available flexibility to be used for regions and communities facing a severe and prolonged crisis in their fisheries and aquaculture sectors; emphasizes that any extension of implementation deadlines should not be made at the expense of budgetary allocations for fisheries and aquaculture under the next MFF;
7. Welcomes the European Ocean Pact, the Commission's forthcoming Ocean Act and recent communications on islands and coastal communities, recalling the importance of thriving, competitive, profitable and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture sectors for coastal economies and healthy oceans, as well as the specific challenges faced by islands and coastal communities, including higher costs, accessibility gaps, climate vulnerability and demographic pressure; emphasises that ocean-related initiatives and strategies must be supported by specific and sufficient public funding and investment incentives, involve fishers, aquaculture producers, coastal communities and scientific bodies, particularly the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) and national marine-research institutes, and

be followed by concrete instruments in the next MFF with the full involvement of local authorities; insists that the post-2027 MFF maintain a dedicated fund for fisheries and aquaculture, with a ring-fenced, clearly identifiable budget line and its own allocation, so as to safeguard the visibility, predictability and accessibility of Union funding for the sectors, and that its resources be substantially increased, taking into account the specific needs of small-scale fleets across the Union; calls, within the relevant 2027 budget lines, for adequate support for Atlantic cooperation on connectivity, the sustainable blue economy, resilience, international cooperation and sustainable ocean governance;

8. Emphasises the importance of objective scientific data, including social, environmental and economic marine-related data, and data on the socio-economic impacts on coastal, island and outermost regions, to strengthen sustainable, resource-efficient and ecosystem-based fisheries management; calls for enhanced support from the Union and Member States for scientific institutions in the collection, monitoring and analysis of data, in particular in sea basins under severe environmental pressure, so that scientific advice and stock assessments can better account for environmental degradation and multispecies interactions, including predation, while ensuring that related technical and administrative requirements are commensurate with the capacities and scale of regional authorities, and for investment in innovative, selective, science-based and sustainable fishing gear and technologies across fleet segments, so as to improve selectivity and reduce unwanted by-catches;
9. Calls for the establishment of an Atlantic deep sea observatory, which should serve to improve knowledge and understanding of deep sea environments and promote a sustainable blue economy; believes that the observatory should contribute to and form part of the initiative entitled ‘OceanEye – Monitoring the blue planet for science, sustainability and society’ and should bolster observation, monitoring and data-sharing capacities for deep oceans;
10. Stresses the importance of giving special and particular support to the small-scale and artisanal fishing fleet, especially on islands and in remote regions, while also enabling appropriate support for the renewal of an ageing Union fleet across all its segments, including those that have reached an average age of more than 40 years; reaffirms that improving safety, working conditions, energy efficiency, access to opportunities and environmental sustainability, including vessel modernisation and, where appropriate, renewal that does not increase the fishing capacity of the vessel, should contribute to generational renewal and the economic viability of the small-scale and artisanal fisheries sector while preventing overcapacity and overfishing; stresses that support for modernisation aimed at improving safety and energy efficiency should not be refused solely on grounds relating to fleet capacity where the investment does not increase the fishing capacity of the vessel;] calls for simplified administrative and licensing procedures and a sufficient financial allocation to ensure effective access to modernisation and renewal support for the small-scale and artisanal fleet; calls on the Commission to assess, within the applicable legal framework, how social and safety-related tonnage and technical criteria concerning propulsion power and gross tonnage affect access to support, particularly in the outermost regions, so that investments

improving safety, working conditions and energy efficiency are facilitated without increasing fishing capacity;

11. Stresses that climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss and the increased presence of new alien predatory species and, where relevant, growing populations of protected predator species, such as seals and cormorants, have negative consequences on marine ecosystems and the fishing sector; calls for adequate financial support, including rapid and flexible support in cases of climate, environmental or market crises affecting fishers and aquaculture producers, to strengthen the resilience of the sectors; also calls, within the applicable legal framework, for rapid and adequate compensation for lost income in cases of compulsory temporary cessation, natural disasters, serious market disturbances or damage from invasive alien species, and for adequate support in crises caused by long-term catch limits, fuel-price volatility and maritime spatial pressures; calls for financial and technical support for fishers affected by real-time closures, including timely information, digital tools, temporary compensation where justified and assistance in identifying alternative fishing grounds; calls for properly funded, rapid and flexible crisis financing under EMFAF, with simplified access and predictable disbursement, and for support for scientific research, management and control of invasive alien species, preventive measures and compensation for gear damage and income losses;
12. Stresses the key role of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) in ensuring sustainable fisheries worldwide and the importance of adequate resources for a strong and coordinated Union position at their meetings, including through appropriate representation of the European Parliament and stakeholders, especially fishers; emphasises that sustainable fisheries require effective and proportionate monitoring, control and surveillance systems; calls, in that regard, for sufficient resources for EFCA, in particular to strengthen its patrol capacity and upgrade its surveillance systems;
13. Underlines that fishers affected by severe quota reductions, fishing closures and the collapse of key stocks must receive adequate, timely and predictable transitional support; calls for sufficient EMFAF funding for temporary and permanent cessation of fishing activities, diversification of affected businesses, retraining and social protection for the fishers and workers concerned; stresses that fisheries and coastal communities in sea basins facing exceptional social and economic challenges arising from the long-term deterioration of fish resources, environmental degradation, eutrophication, climate change and long-term catch limits require targeted financial support, particularly for those most severely affected;
14. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to improve sustainable Union aquaculture production by addressing the bottlenecks and constraints identified, accelerating licensing procedures, and reducing dependence on imports from third countries; stresses the need for Union financing and trade policy to ensure a level playing field and reciprocity, in line with WTO rules, so that imported fishery and aquaculture products meet health, environmental, social and sustainability standards equivalent to those applicable in the Union; stresses that appropriate use of EMFAF funds can help diversify and increase Union aquaculture production and support supplementary activities such as pescatourism, while contributing to gender equality and generational renewal;

15. Calls for targeted funding for research, development and deployment of low-emission propulsion systems and zero-emission propulsion systems, sustainable alternative fuels and energy-efficiency technologies adapted to all different fleet segments, types of fishing and gear types, in order to reduce emissions and dependency on fossil fuels, including the necessary infrastructure adaptations in Union ports, particularly in island and outermost regions; stresses that the transition should be technology-neutral, adequately funded, economically and technically viable, adapted to operators' real capacities and should not impose disproportionate costs or obligations on the small-scale and artisanal fleet;
16. Stresses that adequately funded training and education, in particular for young and new fishers and aquaculture producers, and a skilled and diverse workforce are key for achieving generational renewal, including gender equality; calls for a New Generations for the Ocean approach, supporting technical, entrepreneurial, digital and safety training, start-up incentives and access to the sector for young fishers and aquaculture entrepreneurs, including financial incentives and support for access to finance, as well as mentoring and the intergenerational transfer of fishing businesses; calls on the Commission to assess a clear Union definition of a "new entrant fisher" and targeted EMFAF support for new entrant fishers, in accordance with the CFP;
17. Reiterates the need for specific, dedicated financial support to coastal communities, islands and outermost regions, with particular regard to Member States with many islands, to small and remote islands, and to communities facing structural and socio-economic pressures, including proper compensation for additional costs for fishery and aquaculture products in line with the Treaties; calls, for the outermost regions, for a specific mechanism to compensate additional fuel, transport, supply, ice, maintenance, storage, port-service and distribution costs borne by fishers, aquaculture producers and processing and trading companies in those regions, including through a dedicated POSEI-type fisheries financial instrument; calls for administrative simplification, dedicated one-stop shops and measures eliminating administrative and financial barriers faced by small-scale fisheries producer organisations, small-scale fishers and aquaculture producers; stresses that such support should help maintain permanent habitation, employment, food security and social and territorial cohesion in island regions; calls for earmarked support for the modernisation, increased resilience and sustainable development of fishing ports and landing infrastructure, especially in regions heavily dependent on fisheries.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

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¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	1.9.2026	
Result of final vote	+:	20
	–:	0
	0:	7

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

20	+
ECR	Stephen Nikola Bartulica, Carlo Cicioli, Nora Junco García, Bert-Jan Ruissen
PPE	Magdalena Adamowicz, Carmen Crespo Díaz, Marco Falcone, Niclas Herbst, Isabelle Le Callennec, Francisco José Millán Mon, Andrey Novakov
Renew	Oihane Agirregoitia Martínez, Asger Christensen, Barry Cowen
S&D	Sakis Arnaoutoglou, Thomas Bajada, Sofie Eriksson, Nicolás González Casares, Giuseppe Lupo
Verts/ALE	Ana Miranda Paz

0	-

7	0
ESN	Siegbert Frank Droese
PfE	Ton Diepeveen, France Jamet, Tiago Moreira de Sá
The Left	Luke Ming Flanagan, Emma Fourreau
Verts/ALE	Isabella Lövin

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

for the Committee on Budgets

on the General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 – all sections (2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Helder Sousa Silva

OPINION

The Committee on Culture and Education calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

1. Reiterates its long-standing position that the Erasmus+, Creative Europe and European Solidarity Corps programmes need an adequate budget in the final year of the current programming period to achieve their full potential and set the tone for the next MFF; in that context, deplores the Council's cuts to those programmes in its reading of the 2027 draft budget, amounting to EUR 159 million, EUR 31.6 million and EUR 0.18 million respectively; stresses that any reduction would be detrimental to the programmes' smooth functioning and would jeopardise their proven contribution to the priorities of the Union;
2. Strongly deplores the Commission's attempt to cut Erasmus+ funding compared to the original financial programming to create additional unallocated margin in heading 2b; believes that financing other priorities cannot come at the expense of mobility of young people in the most successful and recognizable Union programme; in line with the joint declaration by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission from 2020 and with the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources¹, according to which expenditure covering the financing costs of NextGeneration EU shall aim at not reducing Union programmes and funds, demands the return of all funds recovered from the pandemic period – EUR 357 million recovered in 2024, 2025 and 2026 – to the programme's largest strand, with funds for learning mobility implemented via national agencies;
3. Calls for an additional increase of EUR 50 million to the largest strand of Erasmus+, which has the biggest absorption capacity due to oversubscription, in line with the political commitment to better include smaller organisations and people with fewer

¹ OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 28, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2020/1222/oj.

opportunities, as well as to take into account inflation and rising living costs;

4. Underlines the need to ensure funding stability for initiatives such as the European Universities Alliances and the Erasmus+ Teacher Academies and to safeguard upcoming initiatives such as European Schools Alliances as well as to support the implementation of the European Education Area;
5. Proposes modest but important increases to the strands of Erasmus+ dedicated to youth and sport, by EUR 5 million and EUR 3 million respectively; underlines the need to keep those strands strong, due to their high demand and oversubscription;
6. Stresses the need for a reinforcement of the European Solidarity Corps by EUR 5 million in order to help that small programme have an even bigger impact by offering more volunteering and solidarity activities, promoting community resilience and youth-led responses to crises, including the war in Ukraine;
7. Insists on realistic increases to all three strands of Creative Europe, the Union's only programme dedicated to the cultural, creative and audiovisual sectors, as well as news media, set at EUR 7 million for the Culture strand, EUR 5 million for the Media strand, and EUR 3 million for the cross-sectoral strand; reiterates that a robust Creative Europe is important to help the audiovisual sector and increase its ability to reach audiences across borders, to protect media freedom and pluralism, and ensure citizens' access to reliable information, as well as to help deliver the objectives of the Culture Compass for Europe and the newly signed Joint Declaration "Europe for Culture, Culture for Europe";
8. Recognizes the role of pilot projects and preparatory actions (PPPAs) as important tools for the Members of the European Parliament to test new initiatives; supports therefore the CULT PPPAs that receive grades A and B in the assessment procedure;
9. Points out that budgetary flexibility and simplification must go hand in hand with transparency and democratic accountability, and must not undermine Parliament's ability to scrutinise Union spending; stresses, therefore, the need to maintain sufficient visibility and traceability of funding earmarked for education, youth, sport, culture, the cultural and creative sectors, the audiovisual arts and media when implementing the budget.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

The rapporteur for opinion declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his opinion input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	29.9.2026	
Result of final vote	+:	23
	—:	2
	0:	1

**FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

23	+
ECR	Lara Magoni, Marco Squarta
PPE	Pablo Arias Echeverría, Zala Černilec Tomašič, Loucas Furlas, Giusi Princi, Manuela Ripa, Hélder Sousa Silva, Viktor Weisz, Bogdan Andrzej Zdrojewski
Renew	Laurence Farreng, Hristo Petrov, Eugen Tomac
S&D	Maria Guzenina, Hannes Heide, Emma Rafowicz, Sabrina Repp, Sandro Ruotolo, Joanna Scheuring-Wielgus
The Left	Carolina Morace, Nikos Pappas
Verts/ALE	Diana Riba i Giner, Nela Riehl

2	-
ESN	Zsuzsanna Borvendég
PfE	Catherine Griset

1	0
PfE	Annamária Vicsek

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

7.9.2026

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY

for the Committee on Budgets

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 - all sections
(2026/0196(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Raquel García Hermida-Van Der Walle

OPINION

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

- A. whereas gender equality is a fundamental value of the European Union and the EU is committed to promoting gender equality and gender mainstreaming in all its actions in accordance with Article 8 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU); whereas budgets are never gender neutral and need to be established with the clear objective of anti-discrimination and the do no harm principle linked to gender equality, to ensure none of the activities funded directly or indirectly harms gender equality; whereas budgets that are gender responsive should be transparent, efficient and focused on delivering measurable outcomes;
- B. whereas organised anti-gender movements, defined as movements seeking to undermine gender equality as a core value of democracy, increasingly target gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, LGBTQI+ equality and non-discrimination constituting gender equality backlash; whereas those attacks are often linked to wider pressure on democracy, the rule of law and civic space; whereas gender equality is therefore also a democratic resilience issue;
- C. whereas the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) plays a key role in providing independent expertise, comparable data and practical tools for gender mainstreaming, including helping to ensure that gender is mainstreamed across the Union budget and in all policies and funding streams, as well as evidence-based gender equality policy across the Union, given the challenges women and girls face across the Union in a global climate of democratic backlash;
- D. whereas the European citizens' initiative "My Voice, My Choice: For Safe and Accessible Abortion" gathered over 1.1 million valid signatures and reached the required thresholds in 19 Member States; whereas the European Parliament expressed its support for the initiative in its resolution of 17 December 2025, and the Commission replied positively on 26 February 2026; whereas safe and legal access to abortion care remains unequal across the Union and financial barriers continue to undermine access to

sexual and reproductive health and rights;

- E. whereas Directive (EU) 2024/1385 on combating violence against women and domestic violence must be transposed by 14 June 2027; whereas Directive (EU) 2023/970 on pay transparency had to be transposed by 7 June 2026 and requires effective enforcement; whereas the revised Victims' Rights Directive must be transposed within two years of its entry into force; whereas timely implementation depends on guidance, training, data collection and cooperation with civil society and social partners;
 - F. whereas the Gender Action Plan (GAP) III is a strong tool for EU external action and should be well implemented in the 2027 budget combatting attacks on women rights, SRHR and authoritarian pressure; whereas the next GAP IV should embody the same ambitions to contribute to gender equality, democratic resilience, peace and sustainable development;
 - G. whereas the unequal distribution of unpaid care and domestic work remains a structural cause of the gender employment, pay and pension gaps;
 - H. whereas the European Parliament has repeatedly called for increased funding for the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), Daphne Strand, Equality and Rights Strand of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme, CSOs under the NDICI programme, EU4Health programme, ESF+ Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) strand; whereas Parliament has repeatedly also called for applying gender mainstreaming in the main European Funds such as Horizon Europe, CAP, Cohesion Funds and NGEU;
- 1. Calls for the implementation of gender mainstreaming at all stages of the budget; stresses the importance of gender impact assessments ex ante and ex post as an effective tool to foster gender equality across the EU; stresses the importance of earmarking and safeguarding dedicated funding and establishing specific objectives for gender equality within the programmes of the next MFF to ensure effective tracking of resources and to ensure that the "gender equality principle" is a genuine horizontal priority across programmes, rather than merely a consideration; underlines that a gender perspective must be integrated into the preparation, design, monitoring and evaluation of expenditure; reiterates the need to further develop the gender tracking methodology, in order to track the overall funding volume dedicated to gender equality in the Union budget; stresses that Union expenditure should support equal opportunities, increase women's participation in education, training and the labour market; reiterates the importance of disaggregated data collection, monitoring and reporting; calls for the mandatory collection, reporting and evaluation of comparable gender-disaggregated data to ensure the budget works for all, and is flexible and targeted;
 - 2. Recalls the Commission's decision of 26 February 2026 and positive reply to the My Voice My Choice European Citizen's Initiative (ECI); calls on the Commission to support, including through sufficient budgeting and providing information and guidelines, Member States in the implementation of this decision on My Voice My Choice ECI; reminds the Member States to make full use of the possibility to include spending on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), including safe and legal abortion, in their national ESF+ envelopes; calls for an increase in the budget allocated to

sexual and reproductive rights in general, and access to the right to abortion under the EU4Health Programme;

3. Stresses that infertility is an important public health challenge and that people experiencing infertility often face significant medical, psychological and financial burdens; calls on the Commission and the Member States to improve equal access to infertility prevention, diagnosis, medically assisted reproduction services and psychosocial support through existing Union funding instruments, including ESF+ and EU4Health, to reduce inequalities between Member States;
4. Calls on the Member States to timely and fully implement the Pay Transparency directive, Combating Violence Against Women directive and the revised Victims' Rights Directive and calls for sufficient funding in the 2027 budget for the Justice programme, CERV+, Daphne and ESF+ to support implementation; calls for sufficient funding for guidance and training for equality bodies, stresses that EIGE expertise and other relevant EU agencies should support implementation and monitoring, without replacing Member States' responsibility to transpose and apply Union law;
5. Calls for the 2027 budget to safeguard a strong twin-track approach in Global Europe: gender mainstreaming across all external action and targeted funding for women's and girls' rights; insists that GAP III include measurable targets, country-level implementation, annual reporting and clear budget tracking, including the ambition that 85% of external spending contributes to gender equality and 5% has gender equality as a principal objective; calls for maintain the same targets in the next GAP IV;
6. Calls for adequate funding to strengthen the implementation of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan with a dedicated focus on breast cancer, ovarian cancer and other gynaecological cancers, including increased awareness, support for earlier diagnosis, timely referral pathways, equitable access to testing and innovative treatments, while reducing inequalities between Member States;
7. Underlines the need for adequate, continued, and increased funding for advancing gender equality, amidst the ongoing backlash against gender equality and women's rights; calls for continued and increased funding of the Daphne programme in CERV, calls to ensure that Daphne remains a separate strand in the next MFF in the proposed AgoraEU and calls to increase the overall AgoraEU envelope to €10,72 billion, supporting and funding CSOs active in women's rights, including SRHR; underlines the importance of allocating at least 16% to activities which prevent and combat all forms of gender-based violence under the AgoraEU budget and the Daphne strand; applauds, in this regard, the Daphne Programme's efficiency, which should serve as additional reason for increased budget allocations as well as a template for sound financial use of the Union budget; calls on the Commission to explore the core mission of those to whom Union funds are granted and to withhold funding from actors who seek to use Union funds for the purposes of backsliding human rights, promoting racist, xenophobic, anti-trans and homophobic sentiments, attacking LGBTIQ+ individuals and families, restricting access to abortion and generally contributing to the degradation of women's rights and gender equality; calls to counter coordinated campaigns targeting gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights;

8. Stresses the importance of using European Structural and Investment Funds such as the ESF+ to promote gender equality, women's employment, access to the labour market and affordable childcare and long-term care facilities, sexual and reproductive rights, rights to abortion and LGBTBIQ+ equality; stresses that Union funding programmes should support women and girls, particularly through measures that promote participation in the labour market, entrepreneurship, STEM education and high-growth sectors; stresses that care investments must support labour market participation and a fairer sharing of care between women and men; calls for the 2027 budget to support follow-up to Parliament's work on closing the gender care gap and welcomes the Commissions announcement of a comprehensive European Care Deal to be published in 2027, thereby renewing the European care strategy as a more ambitious and coherent framework with clear objectives for gender equality;
9. Calls for dedicated budgetary allocations under the EU4Health programme to support research into gender specific health conditions, including those pertaining to sexual and reproductive health and rights, infertility prevention, diagnosis, counselling, and social support, oncofertility, menopause, endometriosis and fibroids, and trans-specific health care alongside the provision of quality, affordable, timely and accessible healthcare and cross-border services to ensure the provision of free, safe and legal abortion to all citizens;
10. Recalls the crucial role played by EIGE in producing independent research and sharing best practices to promote gender equality and eliminate discrimination based on gender; calls on EIGE to continue providing high-quality, reliable and comparable data on the situation of women and girls across the Union; notes that if EIGE is to perform its duties, it requires adequate funding to that end; recalls that over the years, EIGE has been entrusted with significant additional responsibilities under several newly adopted directives, such as Directive (EU) 2023/970 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 May 2023 (Pay Transparency Directive), the Directive (EU) 2019/1158 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 (Work-Life Balance Directive) and Council Directive (EU) 2024/1499 of 7 May 2024 and Directive (EU) 2024/1500 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 (directives on Equality Bodies), which requires additional funding and staff to provide the work; reminds that EIGE needs to fulfil Regulation (EU) 2024/2847 of the European Parliament and of the Council (the new EU Cybersecurity Regulation) and has a sensitive location with its proximity to Russia and Belarus and can be impacted by anti-gender campaigns, as defined above.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

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²⁹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

Date adopted	1.9.2026	
Result of final vote	+:	21
	—:	8
	0:	1

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

21	+
PPE	Regina Doherty, Loucas Fourlas, Ewa Kopacz, Eleonora Meleti
Renew	Abir Al-Sahlani, Valérie Devaux, Lucia Yar
S&D	Helène Fritzon, Lina Gálvez, Elisabeth Grossmann, Alessandra Moretti, Maria Noichl, Joanna Scheuring-Wielgus, Marko Vešligaj, Marianne Vind
The Left	Hanna Gedin, Elena Kountoura, Carolina Morace
Verts/ALE	Mélissa Camara, Katrin Langensiepen, Anna Strolenberg

8	-
ECR	Chiara Gemma, Laurence Trochu
NI	Fernand Kartheiser
PfE	Barbara Bonte, Elisabeth Dieringer, Viktória Ferenc, Sebastian Kruis, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión

1	0
ECR	Assita Kanko

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

03.09.2026

LETTER OF THE COMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE

Mr Johan Van Overtveldt
Chair
Committee on Budgets
BRUSSELS

Subject: SEDE Opinion on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 (SEDE/10/06039 – 2026/0196(BUD))

Dear Mr Chair,

Under the procedure referred to above, the Committee on Security and Defence has been asked to submit an opinion to your committee. At its meeting of 14 July 2026 SEDE Coordinators decided to send the opinion in the form of a letter. On the basis of a draft prepared by the rapporteur, Mārtiņš Staķis, the Committee adopted the opinion at its meeting of 2 September 2026.

Yours sincerely,

Marie-Agnes STRACK-ZIMMERMANN

OPINION

The Committee on Security and Defence calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

1. Reaffirms that the 2027 budget, as the final year of the 2021 - 2027 MFF, must consolidate the Union's shift towards defence readiness; stresses that Europe faces an unprecedented

convergence of security pressures linking internal and external security: Russia's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine, conflict in the Middle East, a shift in the United States' security posture, escalating hybrid attacks, cyberattacks, incursions into EU airspace, terrorist attacks, serious international organised crime, instrumentalization of migration and foreign interference that no Member State can counter alone; underlines that the White Paper for European Defence — Readiness 2030 and the ReArm Europe Plan are the direct institutional response and must be reflected in 2027 and onwards budgetary choices; emphasises that strengthening the Union's security and defence also requires enhanced support for civilian CSDP missions, including in the areas of the rule of law, law enforcement and criminal justice cooperation, recognising that effective crisis management requires a comprehensive approach combining military and civilian instruments.

2. Welcomes that Member States' defence spending increased by 47% between 2022 and 2025 according to the European Defence Agency; observes that the increase in defence spending does not necessarily lead to deeper European integration nor stops market fragmentation; regrets the lack of reliable statistical data on the development of the single market for defence, especially regarding the implementation of the EU defence transfer and procurement directives; calls on the Commission to address this data gap as a matter of priority;
3. Notes that the entire remaining commitment margin under the Heading 5 ceiling amounts to EUR 13.6 million; regrets that the Single Margin Instrument Article 11(1), point (a) is fully exhausted in the draft budget, leaving no additional flexibility mechanism available for defence reinforcement;
4. Observes that the next MFF 2028-2034 relocates all defence programmes to Heading 2; underlines that 2027 is therefore the final year in which the Committee exercises direct budgetary authority over dedicated defence lines and that the available margin must accordingly be directed towards priorities that deliver the greatest impact on European defence readiness, capability development and strategic resilience;
5. Underlines that the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East have demonstrated the decisive operational role of drones, electronic warfare, cyber capabilities and other disruptive technologies in modern combat; stresses that rapid investment in emerging and disruptive defence solutions has become a precondition of European defence readiness; further stresses that ensuring cost-effective air and missile defence, including through the accelerated development and deployment of layered air defence systems, counter-UAS capabilities and directed energy weapons (DEWs), is essential to counter increasingly affordable and mass-produced aerial threats; calls on the Commission to proceed without delay to the next step identified in its own Action Plan — the upgrade of the Counter-UAS Living Lab into a full EU Counter-Drone Centre of Excellence — ensuring that Ukrainian operational expertise is systematically integrated into its work programme; emphasises that this requires the rapid testing, validation and integration of emerging technologies into defence capabilities, alongside continuous engagement with the European defence innovation ecosystem, as well as the need to accelerate the delivery of all operational capabilities; recalls that these technologies must be developed and deployed in full compliance with international law, including international humanitarian law, and in accordance with the Union's values and principles, ensuring appropriate human oversight and accountability within the framework of the Common Security and Defence Policy

(CSDP);

6. Stresses that strengthening the Union's security and defence requires a comprehensive approach addressing not only military threats but also terrorism, organised crime, cyber and hybrid threats, through reinforced law enforcement and criminal justice cooperation; calls for enhanced support for civilian CSDP missions to promote the rule of law, human rights, access to justice and effective criminal justice systems, recognising their essential contribution to crisis management, conflict prevention and post-conflict stabilisation, particularly in Ukraine, Moldova, the Middle East, North Africa and the Sahel; underlines the need to strengthen Member States' capabilities in the fields of cyber resilience, hybrid threats, law enforcement and criminal justice under the EU's integrated approach to crisis management and through closer coordination between civilian and military CSDP missions;
7. Notes that the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East have highlighted the need for the Union to strengthen its capacity to generate timely strategic situational awareness and intelligence;
8. Underlines that the Union's intelligence architecture remains largely dependent on national capabilities and the willingness of Member States to share information, and therefore stresses the urgent need to strengthen mechanisms for information sharing and intelligence cooperation, including cross-border pattern recognition in order to support fast and informed decision-making;
9. Highlights the strategic role of space capabilities in enabling military operations, situational awareness and the resilience of European defence; calls for increased investment in secure space-based infrastructure and enhanced space situational awareness to ensure the continuity and strategic autonomy of critical European satellite services in times of crisis and conflict;
10. Welcomes the provisional agreement of 15 July 2026 on the Regulation establishing the Programme for Agile and Rapid Defence Innovation (AGILE) as the first Union instrument offering rapid, flexible grants directly to individual companies with a targeted time-to-grant of four months, and opening the possibility for Ministries of Defence to purchase the resulting solutions directly; stresses that AGILE is intended to significantly accelerate innovation cycles for emerging defence products developed by SMEs, while addressing the urgent capability needs of Member States and associated countries; notes that all EUR 115 million in AGILE commitment appropriations remain in reserve under Article 49 of the Financial Regulation; notes further that AGILE is financed through redeployment, including EUR 35 million drawn from the component of the European Defence Industry Programme initially allocated to support actions targeting SMEs; calls on the Commission to present a long term strategic plan on financial support for defence industry going beyond 2030 and provide new legislative initiatives with fresh funds rather than cutting existing programmes and re-deploying funds;
11. Recalls that the EDIP Regulation (EU) 2025/2643 establishes an indicative allocation of at least EUR 150 million for the Fund Accelerating the defence Supply Chains Transformation (FAST) over the 2025-2027 programme period; proposes therefore to direct part of the margin available under the Heading 5 in support of SMEs and innovative

companies and start-ups in the European defence sector, including by facilitating the industrialisation and market uptake of the results of joint R&D initiatives; invites the Commission to deploy this amount where it can achieve the greatest strategic impact, following an assessment of the expected strategic and operational impact of the remaining funding, to consider reallocating this amount to the AGILE programme where such allocation would provide a greater contribution to European defence innovation, capability development and defence readiness, if practically and legally feasible;

12. Reiterates its unconditional support for Ukraine; welcomes the Ukraine Support Loan of up to EUR 90 billion enabling Member States to invest jointly in key defence capabilities; welcomes also the EUR 107 million in payment appropriations under the Ukraine Support Instrument (line 13 08 02), reflecting the programme's accelerating delivery of direct support to Ukraine's defence industrial base; calls on the Council and the Commission to continue exploring ways in which the frozen Russian assets can be deployed in support of Ukraine;
13. Stresses that the forthcoming entry into force of the Military Mobility framework regulation and of the CEF 2028-2034 regulation make 2027 a critical transition year requiring uninterrupted payment flows for projects committed under the current CEF Regulation; calls on the Commission to ensure that the transition provisions fully cover payment obligations arising from commitments made under the current MFF, and to present to the budgetary authority before Q1 2028 a project-by-project mapping of outstanding Military Mobility commitments and their projected payment profile for 2028-2030; proposes in this regard to allocate part of the margin available under Heading 5 to Military Mobility under line 13 04 01 (Military Mobility), recognising its essential contribution to the Union's security and defence objectives, the rapid movement of military personnel and assets across the Union, and the development of resilient dual-use transport infrastructure; calls on the Commission to deploy these additional appropriations to projects with the highest European added value and the greatest strategic impact; reiterates its position that resources allocated to military mobility within the next MFF be drastically increased to bring them into line with the estimated investment need of at least EUR 100 billion for addressing the 500 hotspots identified in the EU as needing urgent upgrading, and that at least the indicated amount of EUR 17 billion for military mobility in the next MFF be preserved;
14. Recognises that the growing scale, sophistication and frequency of cyberattacks and hybrid threats require a more coordinated and integrated European response, combining prevention, preparedness, detection, response and recovery; notes that the Commission removed all 15 additional external staff positions requested by the EEAS — including 10 positions specifically earmarked for the EU Cyber Defence Coordination Centre — by applying uniformly a 2% non-salary expenditure cap, without distinguishing between ordinary administrative costs and operationally critical security and defence requirements;
15. Welcomes the official launch of the EU Cyber Defence Coordination Centre on 1 July 2026 as the successor to the PESCO Cyber and Information Domain Coordination Centre and as the Union's essential instrument for connecting fragmented national cyber intelligence, coordinating crisis responses and ensuring complementarity with NATO; notes with concern that the CDCC is working towards Initial Operational Capability by mid-2027 and requires a phased and predictable staffing increase to reach that milestone; deeply regrets

that the Commission removed the 10 positions specifically requested for the CDCC; calls for the reinstatement of the 10 positions requested for the EU CDCC, financed by redeployment within Section X;

16. Underlines that European strategic autonomy requires not only ambition but capability; stresses that the Union cannot credibly claim to be a defence actor without a genuine military strategic headquarters able to plan and conduct the full spectrum of military operations; considers that the Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) must evolve into a fully-fledged EU-level command and control structure, and that the repeated failure to resource the MPCC in line with the PSC-endorsed business case represents a direct contradiction between the Union's stated ambitions under the White Paper for European Defence - Readiness 2030 and its budgetary choices; calls for the full reinforcement of the MPCC, including the necessary staffing, secure communications and IT infrastructure;
17. Welcomes the announcement by the EEAS of a possible civilian CSDP mission to Lebanon; underlines the potential contribution such a mission could make to strengthening the capacities of the Lebanese state, including in the areas of border management, the rule of law and civilian security; insists that, should such a mission be established, adequate and predictable appropriations be included in the 2027 Union budget to ensure its rapid deployment and effective functioning, including the provision of the necessary financial, human and operational resources to fulfil its mandate effectively;
18. Reaffirms its support for Operation ASPIDES and calls for adequate and predictable appropriations in the 2027 Union budget to ensure its continued operational effectiveness and the resources necessary to fulfil its mandate;
19. Insists that increased ambition in security and defence must be matched by adequate implementation capacity; stresses that fragmented national procurement delivers less capability at greater cost; reiterates that enhanced cooperation within a single market for defence could lead to enormous efficiency savings of up to 30 % of annual defence spending across the EU; calls for the next MFF to structurally embed joint EU procurement as the default logic for European defence investment.
20. Calls for closer coordination between the Member States' Foreign Affairs, Defence, Justice and Home Affairs Ministers, as well as the relevant Council formations, in order to strengthen the Union's ability to address the growing nexus between internal and external security and to respond more effectively to evolving security threats, including hybrid threats, cyberattacks, terrorism and organised crime.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

The rapporteur for opinion declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his opinion input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from representatives of public authorities

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European

of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

**FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL
BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION**

26	+
PPE	Wouter Beke, Salvatore De Meo, Michael Gahler, Christophe Gomart, Vangelis Meimarakis, Angelika Niebler, Andrey Novakov, Nicolás Pascual de la Parte, Alice Teodorescu Măwe, Pekka Toveri, Marta Wcisło

Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

Renew	Petras Auštrevičius, Nathalie Loiseau, Marjan Šarec, Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann, Lucia Yar
S&D	Lucia Annunziata, Vasile Dîncu, Costas Mavrides, Ana Catarina Mendes, Sven Mikser, Tonino Picula, Thijs Reuten
Verts/ALE	Hannah Neumann, Mārtiņš Staķis, Reinier Van Lanschot

7	-
ESN	Hans Neuhoﬀ
NI	Kostas Papadakis
PfE	Rachel Blom, György Hölvényi, Petra Steger
The Left	Marc Botenga, Marina Measure

5	0
ECR	Elena Donazzan, Alberico Gambino, Reinis Pozņaks, Alexandr Vondra
PfE	Pierre-Romain Thionnet

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

23.7.2026

LETTER OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETARY CONTROL

Mr Johan Van Overtveldt
Chair
Committee on Budgets
BRUSSELS

Subject: Opinion on General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 - all sections (2026/0196(BUD))

Dear Mr Chair,

Under the procedure referred to above, the Committee on Budgetary Control has been asked to submit an opinion to your committee.

The EP Reform 2024 emphasised, inter alia, that the budgetary and discharge procedures are linked, and that results of the discharge procedure should naturally feed back into the budgetary procedure, and vice-versa. The CONT Committee considers that the resolutions of the discharge procedure for 2024, adopted in plenary in April 2026, contain several observations and recommendations relevant for the budgetary procedure 2027.

The Committee on Budgetary Control considered the matter at its meeting of 14 July 2026 and decided to send the opinion in the form of a letter and call on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution. This opinion, in the form of a letter, should be read in conjunction with the budgetary amendments tabled by the Committee on Budgetary Control.

Yours sincerely,

Andreas Schwab

Daniel Freund

CONT Chair

Rapporteur for the Commission Discharge 2024
SUGGESTIONS

1. Reaffirms its strong commitment to the fundamental principles and values enshrined in the Treaty on European Union (TEU) and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU); underlines that the EU's financial interests are to be protected and its actions to be carried out in accordance with the general principles embedded in the Treaties, in particular the values enshrined in Articles 1, 2, 10 and 11 TEU and Article 15 TFEU, and with the principle of sound financial management enshrined in

Article 317 TFEU and in the Financial Regulation¹;

2. Considers that the development of genuine new own resources is essential to ensure that debt repayment does not come at the expense of the EU's policy priorities under future multiannual financial frameworks;
3. Notes with concern the shortcomings affecting the rule of law, anti-corruption frameworks and institutional checks and balances in some Member States, which pose risks to the protection of the financial interests of the EU and the sound management of EU funds; emphasises, in this respect, the importance of the rule of law conditionality mechanism for the protection of the EU budget; calls on the Commission to continue to address the breaches of the principles of the rule of law in accordance with the Rule of Law Conditionality Regulation² when they affect or seriously impact the EU's financial interests; recalls that the Commission has a wide range of instruments at its disposal to address such risks and protect the EU budget; stresses that these instruments should be used in a coherent, consistent, objective and transparent manner; underlines, therefore, the importance of clear benchmarks, verifiable implementation steps and effective monitoring when applying measures under the Rule of Law Conditionality Regulation and the Common Provisions Regulation³, as well as any other EU funding instruments, in order to ensure legal certainty and alignment with the Commission's annual rule of law reports; recalls its position that funds suspended pursuant to the Rule of Law Conditionality Regulation or due to non-fulfilment of horizontal enabling conditions should not be eligible for programme amendments or transfers;
4. Emphasises that EU funds must not be allocated to activities undermining democracy, the rule of law or other EU values, or fundamental rights; recognises the important role played by relevant stakeholders in safeguarding the rule of law, democracy and fundamental rights; stresses that EU funding provided to stakeholders should be transparent, subject to accountability and oversight mechanisms, and implemented in full compliance with the principles of sound financial management and the Financial Regulation; recalls, in this regard, the recommendation made by the discharge authority in its resolution on discharge to the Commission for the financial year 2024⁴ as regards compliance with the principles of a transparent, evidence-based and inclusive lawmaking process; stresses the need to fully implement all Commission discharge recommendations, including those on EU4Health;
5. Stresses the importance of further simplifying EU funding programmes while maintaining a high level of financial control; calls on the Commission to reduce

¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>).

² Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget (OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 1. ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2020/2092/oj>).

³ Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy (OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, p. 159, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1060/oj>).

⁴ Texts adopted, P10_TA(2026)0125.

unnecessary administrative burdens for final beneficiaries without weakening safeguards against fraud, corruption and conflicts of interest;

6. Calls on the Commission to continue strengthening the prevention and management of conflicts of interest, including through greater transparency of beneficial ownership information and effective risk-based controls across all management modes;
7. Recalls the importance of making use of new technologies in order to protect the EU budget against fraud and the misuse of funds; urges the Commission to accelerate the deployment of interoperable anti-fraud, risk-scoring and data mining tools across management modes, enabling cross-checks on beneficial ownership, procurement risk indicators and double funding signals; reiterates the urgent need for the wider use of data mining and artificial intelligence tools, where appropriate and in compliance with EU data protection rules, to effectively combat fraud and irregularities; expects the interoperable risk-scoring and data mining tool based on ARACHNE to be fully running by the end of 2027, in accordance with the agreement reached during the recast of the Financial Regulation;
8. Underlines the importance of transparency, including under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, and reiterates that full and reliable information on the final recipients is essential to prevent the misuse of funds, detect fraud and ensure equal standards of accountability across all management modes and all Member States;
9. Welcomes the Commission's work on the Single Gateway and stresses the importance of ensuring its timely development and full operational readiness by 1 January 2028; emphasises that the information available through the Single Gateway should be updated in real time, or as soon as information becomes available, be presented in a user-friendly manner and allow the extraction of data relating to specific reporting periods and time frames, including through historic snapshots, in order to facilitate effective monitoring, risk assessment, audit and scrutiny; stresses that the Single Gateway should make available the broadest possible range of data, and that any restrictions on data availability should be strictly necessary and duly justified in line with the relevant provisions of EU law; recalls, furthermore, the importance of ensuring the reliability and quality of the performance data available through the Single Gateway by establishing robust data governance arrangements, including clear rules on the interoperability of IT systems, record-keeping, minimum verification requirements and responsibilities for ensuring data quality;
10. Recalls the essential role that the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) continues to play in the protection of the EU's budget expenditure and revenues, notably through its administrative investigations focusing on preventing money from being unduly spent or making recommendations for financial recovery, as well as through detecting, reporting, supporting and coordinating activities in the area of customs fraud; welcomes the announcement that OLAF has been assigned the task of closely monitoring financial recoveries to the EU budget, including as a follow-up to notifications from the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO), but regrets that no new posts have been allocated to these tasks and, moreover, that the draft budget for 2027 continues to reduce the number of OLAF statutory posts; calls, therefore, on the Commission to provide OLAF with the necessary statutory staff resources to fulfil its mission;

considers, in this regard, that an increase of EUR 512 000 in OLAF's budget for 2027 is justified, as reflected in the corresponding budgetary amendment (CONT/3);

11. Considers that the EPPO is an indispensable component of the EU anti-fraud architecture; notes with concern the recent attempts to limit the EPPO's ability to carry out its mandate in some Member States and calls on the Commission to ensure that the principle of sincere cooperation as laid out in Article 4(3) TEU is at all times respected; reiterates that the EPPO should be provided with the necessary resources to guarantee its full operational independence and carry out its mandate, especially given the increasing number of investigations and high estimated damages; notes the amount assigned to the EPPO in the 2027 draft budget of EUR 99 737 568 in commitment and payment appropriations; further notes the EPPO's estimate that, compared to the 2027 draft budget, additional funds are required to cover its staffing needs; considers that an increase of EUR 3.16 million in the EPPO's budget for 2027 is justified, as reflected in the corresponding budgetary amendments (CONT/2 and CONT/4);
12. Notes the intention of two additional Member States to join the EPPO in 2027, with the possibility for retrospective investigations; stresses that the accession of additional Member States will require not only adequate funding for European Delegated Prosecutors (EDPs), but also sufficient reinforcement of the EPPO's central office with the necessary operational and administrative support staff, including translators and interpreters, to ensure that the EPPO functions effectively; considers that, in view of the possible accessions to EPPO in 2027, the Commission should ensure that the EPPO is equipped with the necessary resources also through amendments to the 2026 budget;
13. Emphasises that the activities of the EPPO must contribute to the protection of the EU's financial interests and are expected to result in the recovery of amounts disbursed from the EU's budget that were not used for their intended purpose on account of criminal activities; observes that the confiscation process, allowing the recovery of such amounts, is carried out by the national authorities and that the relevant confiscated amounts, or asset value, resulting from measures adopted by the EDPs in the Member States should be returned to the EU budget after the deduction of costs incurred by the Member States' authorities in implementing those measures in accordance with Article 38 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1939⁵ referring to assets or proceeds to be disposed of in accordance with applicable national law without prejudice to the rights of the Union or other victims to be compensated for damage that they have suffered; reiterates its position that the potential revenue resulting from seizing and confiscating measures is to be accounted for in the EU budget as non-assigned revenue, under a separate budget line, as created by budgetary amendment CONT/1; deems it necessary to amend Article 38 to make possible its effective implementation and monitoring, in order to ensure the protection of the EU budget and invites the Commission to assess whether the current legal framework provides adequate mechanisms for ensuring the effective return of recovered amounts to the EU budget and to propose the necessary legislative improvements to recover the EU funds affected by fraud.

⁵ Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO') (OJ L 283, 31.10.2017, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/1939/oj>).

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

The rapporteur for opinion declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his opinion input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

22	+
ECR	Cristian Terheş
NI	Fidias Panayiotou
PPE	Georgios Aftias, Caterina Chinnici, Raúl de la Hoz Quintano, Monika Hohlmeier, Jacek Protas, Andreas Schwab, Tomáš Zdechovský
Renew	Gilles Boyer, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Michal Wiezik
S&D	José Cepeda, Jens Geier, Giuseppe Lupo, Marit Majj, Thomas Pellerin-Carlin, Carla Tavares
The Left	Jonas Sjöstedt, Pasquale Tridico
Verts/ALE	Daniel Freund, Rasmus Nordqvist

6	-
ECR	Joachim Stanisław Brudziński
ESN	Arno Bausemer
PfE	Tamás Deutsch, Virginie Joron, Ondřej Knotek, Julien Sanchez

1	0
ECR	Dick Erixon

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

10.9.2026

LETTER OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY

Mr Johan Van Overtveldt
Chair
Committee on Budgets
BRUSSELS

Subject: Opinion on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2027 - all sections (2026/0196(BUD))

Dear Mr Chair,

Under the procedure referred to above, the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy has been asked to submit an opinion to your committee. At its meeting of 6 May 2026, the committee decided to send the opinion in the form of a letter.

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy considered the matter at its meeting of 10 September 2026. At that meeting, it decided to call on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution.

Yours sincerely,

Borys Budka
Chair

SUGGESTIONS

1. Recalls the ITRE committee opinion on the guidelines for the 2027 Budget, which called for an ambitious EU Budget reflecting the challenges facing Europe such as the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine and hybrid attacks on Member States' critical infrastructure, the crisis in the Middle East and rising energy prices, and the need for investment in industrial competitiveness and quality jobs, twin clean and digital

transition, technological sovereignty, critical raw materials, energy independence, and the defence industry, as well as sustained support for Ukraine;

2. Underlines the need to develop a more resilient and competitive industrial base in the Union and calls on the Council to support an EU budget allocating the necessary investment; notes the external dependencies of the Union in areas of key strategic and economic interest, such as critical raw materials, energy, digital and defence technologies; calls for these vulnerabilities to be addressed; looks forward to an EU Critical Materials Centre, for which the Commission should make funding and staff available already from the 2027 budget;
3. Underlines the need to ensure the security of energy supply for Europe; stresses the need to rapidly phase out all remaining energy imports from Russia, and to reduce overall the EU's dependence on fossil fuels; calls therefore for continued investments in resilient energy infrastructure, electrification, industrial decarbonisation, energy efficiency measures and in affordable homegrown renewable and clean energy production, and supply chains in Europe, to deepen the EU energy market;
4. Therefore, calls for an increase to the Connecting Europe Facility – Energy programme by 50 million euros compared to the Commission's draft budget, in support of continued investments in high-performance, sustainable, and cross-border energy infrastructure and cross-border renewable energy projects, in particular addressing the need to increase grid capacity, flexibility and energy storage facilities; strongly rejects the proposed decrease of commitments in the Council's position (-10.0 million euros) to this budget; calls for increased funding of 1.05 million Euros under the LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme, which contributes to empowering consumers and energy communities, thereby tackling energy poverty;
5. Reiterates the call for adequate support for fundamental and applied research to foster collaborative research and facilitate the scale-up and commercialisation of research results; strongly regrets the cuts proposed by the Council to research and innovation (-312.1 million euros) of which -231.4 million euros to Horizon Europe, which contradicts the conclusions of the Draghi report deploring insufficient focus on breakthrough innovation; welcomes the 760.30 million euros allocated to Cluster "Health" in the draft budget, as public-health research and investments in health innovations and technologies are crucial for the EU to remain at the scientific forefront of human health; deplores therefore the cuts proposed by the Council to this budget line (-74.50 million euros); recalls the Parliament insisted on Cluster "Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society" spending at least 45 % on the Cultural and Creative Industries; regrets that the Commission has failed to translate the significant budgetary increase for this Cluster into the expected amount of spending dedicated to cultural and creative industries; believes that in such cases, when the Commission does not respect its political commitments regarding the allocation of funds within budget lines, it is appropriate for the respective funds to be held in reserve;
6. Rejects the Council cuts to the Cluster "Climate Energy and Mobility" and the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking; recalls Article 16(5) of the Horizon Regulation, underlining the importance of the principle of ensuring that participation from associated countries does not come at the expense of European researchers; welcomes the appropriations for

the Euratom Research and Training Programmes, especially considering the need for innovative developments in small modular reactors;

7. Requests adequate support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), mid-caps and start-ups, including greater assistance for them to scale up and compete globally;
8. Takes note of the Digital Europe Programme appropriations in the draft budget, in support of accelerating the digital transformation of society and the economy; welcomes the significant increase compared to 2026 in commitments towards skills (+70.8 million euros), acknowledging the need for digital skills build-up and workforce reskilling across Europe; supports the proposed increase for Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the rollout of AI, cloud and computing capacity, in light of the need for a strong EU-based energy efficient AI-sector, as well as rapid adoption of AI by other sectors; considers that an adequate budget should be allocated for cybersecurity, given the increased AI-driven cyber threats the Union is facing; ask therefore for 5 million euros increase for cybersecurity rejects the Council's position to decrease commitments to the budget for skills by -33.0 million euros, Artificial Intelligence by -11.0 million euros and by -12.6 million euros for EuroHPC, which risk deepening Europe's dependence on foreign providers of computing capacity and AI models
9. Welcomes the Commission's draft budget appropriations for Heading 5 – defence (+ 13,42 % in CA); calls for an increase of 5 million Euros in commitments for defence research, key for funding collaborative, cross-border research and development of innovative defence and dual-use technologies;
10. Welcomes the AGILE (Accelerating Groundbreaking Innovation for Defence in Europe) programme aiming to enhance the EU's capacity to deliver defence innovation more rapidly and effectively; regrets that this new initiative will be financed from reallocations from existing space and defence programmes and therefore does not constitute entirely new EU funds;
11. Recalls the importance of the Union's space programmes for security, to drive innovation and technological sovereignty and to support climate action; deplores the Council's position to decrease by -10.0 million euros in commitments the Copernicus programme;
12. Calls on the European Commission and the Council to provide adequate funding and staff for all Union agencies and bodies in the policy areas of industry, research, space, energy and cybersecurity, in order to properly carry out their activities;

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

The rapporteur for opinion declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not include in his opinion input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

57	+
PPE	Hildegard Bentele, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Raúl de la Hoz Quintano, Niels Flemming Hansen, Krzysztof Hetman, Seán Kelly, Łukasz Kohut, Willemien Koning, Angelika Niebler, Andrey Novakov, Mirosława Nykiel, Virgil-Daniel Popescu, Jüri Ratas, Aura Salla, Paulius Saudargas, Oliver Schenk, Matej Tonin, Marion Walsmann, Andrea Wechsler, Iuliu Winkler, Angelika Winzig, Tomáš Zdechovský
PfE	Jana Nagyová
Renew	João Cotrim De Figueiredo, Sigrid Friis, Bart Groothuis, Michał Kobosko, Ilhan Kyuchyuk, Morten Løkkegaard, Anna Stürgh, Brigitte van den Berg, Yvan Verougstraete
S&D	Estelle Ceulemans, Christophe Clergeau, Annalisa Corrado, Niels Fuglsang, Lina Gálvez, Jens Geier, Bruno Gonçalves, Nicolás González Casares, Maria Grapini, Eero Heinäluoma, Evin Incir, Thomas Pellerin-Carlin, Tsvetelina Penkova, René Repasi, Elena Sancho Murillo, Bruno Tobback, Nicola Zingaretti
The Left	Jussi Saramo
Verts/ALE	Michael Bloss, Damian Boeselager, Markéta Gregorová, Ville Niinistö, Majdouline Sbai, Lena Schilling, Villy Søvnal

3	-
ESN	Markus Buchheit
PfE	András Gyürk, Auke Zijlstra

15	0
ECR	Elena Donazzan, Rihards Kols, Daniel Obajtek, Diego Solier, Claudiu-Richard Târziu, Francesco Torselli, Kris Van Dijck, Mariateresa Vivaldini
PPE	Eszter Lakos
PfE	Majbritt Birkholm, Mélanie Disdier, Pierre-Romain Thionnet
The Left	Marina Measure, Gaetano Pedulla, Dario Tamburrano

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

3.8.2026

LETTER OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND TOURISM

Mr Johan Van Overtveldt
Chair
Committee on Budgets
BRUSSELS

Subject: Opinion on the General budget of the European Union for the financial year
2027 – all sections 2026/0196(BUD)

Dear Chair,

Under the procedure referred to above, the Committee on Transport and Tourism has been asked to submit an opinion to your committee. At its meeting of 2 December 2025, TRAN Coordinators decided to send the opinion in the form of a letter, which TRAN adopted at its meeting of 15 July 2026¹.

Entering the final year of the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), the committee underscores once again that the Connecting Europe Facility for Transport (CEF-T) is indispensable to advancing strategic, sustainable and high-quality TEN-T infrastructure across the Union.

The committee recalls that the entire CEF budget was already committed under the 2024 call – the last regular call – once again demonstrating the programme's success but also signalling that major projects will only be able to secure new funding under the next MFF, when fresh resources become available.

In this context, the committee draws attention to the CEF-T multiannual work programme 2021-2027², which provides for a single reflow call launched in June 2026³. The committee stresses that the 2026 call, with around EUR 1.11 billion available, covers a broad set of priorities, with objectives and funding levels calibrated to strategic needs despite the tight budgetary margins. Indeed, over and above the outstanding needs arising from the binding completion deadlines for the Trans-European core, extended core and comprehensive networks, a diverse range of further priorities is introduced through recently adopted strategic documents, including the High-Speed Rail Communication⁴, the Automotive Action Plan⁵, the EU industrial maritime

¹ The following were present for the final vote: ...

² Commission Implementing Decision of 5 June 2026 amending Implementing Decision C(2021) 5763 final on the financing of the Connecting Europe Facility – Transport sector and the adoption of the work programme for 2021-2027 (C 2026) 3720 final).

³ [2026 CEF Transport Calls for proposals](#)

⁴ COM(2025) 903 final.

⁵ COM(2025) 95 final.

strategy⁶, the EU ports strategy⁷, the Industrial Accelerator Act⁸ and others. The committee stresses that these new priorities should complement and strengthen the CEF's core objectives of improving safe, sustainable and interoperable transport infrastructure with high European added value, while ensuring balanced territorial development across the Union. Due recognition must also be given to national sections with cross-border relevance, as they are indispensable for ensuring the proper and reliable performance of the network.

Furthermore, in today's geopolitical environment, the committee highlights transport as a strategic pillar of Europe's defence. It underscores the priorities under the Military Mobility Package⁹, reiterating that military mobility depends entirely on civilian infrastructure and operator responsiveness in emergencies, including a skilled workforce, and stressing that the 2026 call will also fund dual-use works and studies along the four EU military mobility priority corridors, reflecting the specific infrastructure requirements applicable to dual-use infrastructure.

The committee underlines the need to maintain strong backing for the EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes, recalling that they have already enabled EUR 282 billion in shared trade and remain the essential conduit for industrial commodities, despite the gradual return of Black Sea shipping. It observes that performance on the Solidarity Lanes in the first half of 2026 remained broadly steady, with the corridor consistently carrying most of Ukraine's imports and roughly half of its non-agricultural exports. The committee also notes that the Solidarity Lanes have received support from several EU funding instruments, including Cohesion Policy and CEF-T, with investments across the network – especially in the eastern border regions – to strengthen dual-use infrastructure and increase the capacity of border crossings and ports. These efforts demonstrate the strategic value of transport investment in reinforcing the security, resilience and connectivity of the European Union as a whole.

Consequently, with 2027 representing the final round of project selections under the present MFF, the committee stresses that the programme's proven effectiveness makes strengthening the 2027 CEF budget both necessary and justified. Therefore, it calls for a coherent EU funding strategy and urges the Commission to allocate the resources required to meet TEN-T deadlines and objectives, while integrating new priority strategies and projects in line with CEF eligibility rules. Simultaneously, it invites the European Investment Bank (EIB) to intensify its support for the newly established strategic orientations and encourages Member States to fully deploy cohesion funds for transport and military mobility projects within their programmes.

Against this background – and ahead of the imminent negotiations on the next MFF – the committee is clear in stating that this pivotal bridging year must set the course for a reinforced and more ambitious CEF III. In this respect, the committee underscores that the Council negotiation box indicates a reduction of the CEF budget for both transport and military mobility, and – considering the heightened geopolitical pressures that make a strong budget in these fields indispensable – firmly opposes such cuts. By contrast, the committee recalls that European Parliament's interim report on the 2028-2034 MFF¹⁰, recognising the scale of the needs, called

⁶ COM(2026) 111 final.

⁷ COM(2026) 112 final.

⁸ COM(2026) 100 final.

⁹ [Commission moves towards 'Military Schengen' and transformation of defence industry](#)

¹⁰ [European Parliament resolution of 28 April 2026 on the proposal for a Council regulation laying down the Multiannual Financial Framework for the years 2028 to 2034](#)

for an increase of approximately 12.7 % to the CEF budget. It further recalls that the absence of strategic foresight regarding dual use infrastructure once led to a 75 % cut in the military mobility envelope during the MFF 2021-2027 negotiations, which resulted in the budget being frontloaded and entirely consumed at the start of 2024, and insists that such a situation must not occur again.

The committee welcomes the higher 2027 allocations to the three transport agencies yet warns that their expanding mandates will require significantly greater resources to sustain core safety, sustainability, interoperability and modernisation objectives.

The committee reiterates that the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA) is expected to face a substantial increase in workload due to its broadened responsibilities under the Rail Infrastructure Capacity Regulation, now in force¹¹, the Military Mobility Package and other new legislation, including the Common Safety Methods on Assessment of Safety Level and Safety Performance, and the forthcoming revision of the ERA Regulation¹². It acknowledges the additional funding foreseen for the Agency in the Regulation on establishing a framework of measures to facilitate the transport of military equipment, goods and personnel across the Union¹³ and the Rail Infrastructure Capacity Regulation. In addition, it welcomes the increase in the Agency's staffing levels, aligned with the current and expected growth in its certification workload.

The committee welcomes the proposal to reinforce the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) with 29 establishment-plan posts to handle sharply increased workload in the certification of Air Traffic Management / Air Navigation Services equipment and Design or Production Organisations approval, where application volumes far surpass the levels anticipated when the revised Basic Regulation was concluded in 2018. However, the committee notes that EASA has faced an accumulating EU-contribution deficit in recent years, resulting from growing workload, high inflation, digitalisation demands and the imbalance between mandate extensions and available resources. In this regard, the committee takes note of the proposed EUR 2 million increase for EASA's regulatory work, crucial to Europe's aviation competitiveness, and particularly for European start-ups and SMEs operating in innovative sectors such as unmanned aircraft systems and advanced air mobility, yet first underlines that it remains insufficient, and, secondly, regrets that, despite its earlier warnings, the increase has been drawn from CEF-T.

The committee expresses disappointment that the adjustment of the staffing level of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) is limited to a single post, a thoroughly insufficient adjustment considering the Agency's role amid the current geopolitical challenges, and the renewed interest and priority on the maritime sector as reflected through the Ports and Industrial maritime strategies.

The committee highlights the strategic necessity of a climate-resilient TEN-T network and of proactive preparedness planning to safeguard the EU's long-term competitiveness, cohesion and connectivity. Recognising the contribution of the European Climate, Infrastructure and

¹¹ Regulation (EU) 2026/1184 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2026 on the use of railway infrastructure capacity in the single European railway area, amending Directive 2012/34/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) No 913/2010

¹² Regulation (EU) 2016/796 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the European Union Agency for Railways and repealing Regulation (EC) No 881/2004

¹³ COM(2025) 847

Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) in supporting smart, sustainable and resilient mobility and the need to ensure adequate resources, the committee welcomes the proposal to increase its staffing levels in 2027 compared with 2026.

The committee takes positive note of the substantial boost in the EU's financial contribution to the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking but observes that SESAR 3 gains only marginally and that Europe's Rail faces a cut to around two-thirds of its previous budget. It underlines that strong, forward-looking investment in all three joint undertakings is vital, given their ability to leverage valuable additional resources and drive the EU's green and digital transitions and competitiveness. In line with this approach, the committee urges safeguarding the three transport JUs in the next Horizon Programme. Moreover, the committee reiterates its call for a comprehensive strategy on Hyperloop, with clear timelines, detailed investment frameworks and support for research, development and deployment, building on the experience of recent developments of cutting-edge hyperloop initiatives facing strong financial and operational difficulties.

Mindful that transport and tourism are among the sectors most exposed to the EU's economic transformation, the committee takes note of the Commission's ongoing assessment of working conditions in transport and calls for the appropriate measures to address the challenges that may surface. Accordingly, it considers it essential that, during the final year of the current MFF, the Social Climate Fund and the Just Transition Fund serve as pillars of a fair transition, placing reskilling and upskilling measures for the workforce at the forefront. In addition, the Committee takes note of the decision of the Commission to explore, together with the EIB, the new EU Emissions Trading System 2 (ETS2) Frontloading Facility for Member States. This facility would prefinance measures to address transport poverty, improve affordability for vulnerable transport users and households and accelerate the uptake of clean mobility technologies, thus supporting the implementation of the Social Climate Fund.

Lastly, the committee firmly underscores tourism's key and strategic role in the Union's economy. Accordingly, it urges an ambitious delivery of the forthcoming EU sustainable tourism strategy, prioritising improved infrastructure for smart, sustainable, safe and resilient transport; smoother cross-border mobility; a more balanced spread of tourism across Europe; stronger destination management; building destination resilience to support effective climate adaptation; and support for growth, quality employment and local economic opportunities while protecting community well-being. The committee recalls that these priorities reflect those set out in its recently adopted own initiative report 'Enhancing connectivity, preserving (in)tangible cultural heritage and driving local excellence in European tourism – destination management and regional tourism growth'¹⁴.

In a similar spirit, the committee observes the renewed political momentum for islands¹⁵ and coastal communities¹⁶, as evidenced by the Commission's newly released strategies and the upcoming strategy on the outermost regions. Taken together, these initiatives represent the first coordinated European approach to addressing permanent structural handicaps and unlocking the long-term potential of these regions, tackling shared pressures while factoring in their distinct realities, including acute social challenges such as housing shortages, seasonality, unbalanced tourism, limited services and connectivity constraints. The committee warns that

¹⁴ Texts adopted (P10_TA(2026)0123).

¹⁵ (COM(2026) 520 final)

¹⁶ (COM(2026) 530 final)

fully reflecting the specific needs of islands and coastal communities in future proposals – and aligning them with broader EU priorities – will require targeted and predictable budgetary support. It therefore underlines the importance of incorporating dedicated measures for the development of these areas in future National and Regional Partnership Plans.

A final consideration is that tourism can only fulfil its potential – and be guided responsibly – if it is accorded a greater prominence in the priorities and financial allocations of the 2028-2034 MFF. However, even if the architecture of the next MFF offers a clearer path to anchor tourism as a strategic industrial priority, the committee judges that current progress remains far from sufficient. Furthermore, the committee regrets that, yet again, the proposal falls short of establishing a dedicated programme and a specific budget line for sustainable tourism.

Yours sincerely,

Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi

Rosa Serrano Sierra

the Rapporteur

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

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¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

32	+
ECR	Carlo Ciccioli, Șerban Dimitrie Sturdza, Kris Van Dijck
NI	Luis-Vicențiu Lazarus
PPE	Nina Carberry, Gheorghe Falcă, Jens Gieseke, Borja Giménez Larraz, Dariusz Joński, Martine Kemp, Willemien Koning, Verena Mertens, Lidia Pereira, Flavio Tosi, Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi, Marion Walsmann
Renew	Oihane Agirregoitia Martínez, Benoit Cassart, Valérie Devaux, Jan-Christoph Oetjen, Marjan Šarec
S&D	Vivien Costanzo, Sérgio Gonçalves, Elisabeth Grossmann, François Kalfon, Ștefan Mușoiu, Matteo Ricci, Rosa Serrano Sierra, Marianne Vind
Verts/ALE	Vicent Marzá Ibáñez, Jutta Paulus, Kai Tegethoff

3	-
ESN	Milan Mazurek
PfE	Julien Leonardelli, Philippe Olivier

4	0
ESN	Volker Schnurrbusch, Stanislav Stoyanov
PfE	Roman Haider
The Left	Merja Kyllönen

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

JOINT STATEMENT ADOPTED AT THE BUDGETARY TRILOGUE OF 14 APRIL 2026

Dates for the budgetary procedure and modalities for the functioning of the Conciliation Committee in 2026

- A. In accordance with Part A of the annex to the interinstitutional agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources, the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission agree on the following key dates for the 2027 budgetary procedure:
1. The Commission will endeavour to present the Statement of Estimates 2027 by early June;
 2. A trilogue will be called on 16 July (in the morning), after the adoption of the Council's position by the Permanent Representatives Committee;
 3. The Council will endeavour to adopt its position and transmit it to the European Parliament at the end of week 37, in order to facilitate a timely agreement with the European Parliament;
 4. The European Parliament's Committee on Budgets will endeavour to vote on amendments to the Council's position by the end of week 41 (early October);
 5. A trilogue will be called on 14 October (in the afternoon), before the reading of the European Parliament;
 6. The European Parliament's Plenary will vote on its reading in week 43 (Plenary session of 19-22 October);
 7. The Conciliation period will start on 27 October. In agreement with the provisions of Article 314(4)(c) TFEU, the time available for conciliation will expire on 16 November 2026;
 8. The Conciliation Committee will meet on 3 November (in the afternoon), hosted by the European Parliament and on 10 November hosted by the Council (and may resume as appropriate); the sessions of the Conciliation Committee will be prepared by trilogue(s). A trilogue is scheduled on 3 November (in the afternoon). Additional trilogue(s) may

be called during the 21-day conciliation period, including on 9 November hosted by the Council.

- B. The modalities for the functioning of the Conciliation Committee are set out in Part E of the annex to the above-mentioned interinstitutional agreement.

**INFORMATION ON ADOPTION
BY THE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE**

Date adopted	12.10.2026	
Result of final vote	+: 24	
	–: 8	
	0: 2	

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

24	+
PPE	Georgios Aftias, Pascal Arimont, Fredis Beleris, Isabel Benjumea Benjumea, Céline Imart, Isabelle Le Callennec, Janusz Lewandowski, Helder Sousa Silva, Javier Zarzalejos, Milan Zver
Renew	Fabienne Keller, Moritz Körner, Lucia Yar
S&D	Matthias Ecke, Jean-Marc Germain, Giuseppe Lupo, Victor Negrescu, Thomas Pellerin-Carlin, Chloé Ridet, Carla Tavares, Nils Ušakovs
Verts/ALE	Rasmus Andresen, Rasmus Nordqvist, Nicolae Ștefănuță

8	-
ECR	Tobiasz Bocheński
ESN	Tomasz Froelich
NI	Thomas Geisel
PfE	Angéline Furet, Virginie Joron, André Rougé, Julien Sanchez
The Left	João Oliveira

2	0
PfE	Tamás Deutsch, Annamária Vicsek

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention