



2021/2226(BUI)

26.1.2022

COMPROMISE AMENDMENTS

1 - 9

Draft report
Committee on Budgets
(PE703.025v01-00)

Guidelines for the 2023 Budget – Section III
(2021/2226(BUI))

Amendment 1
Drago Pîslaru
Compromise amendment replacing amendments 4, 5 and 6
Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Points to the economic recovery in 2021 and expected further growth in 2022; notes nonetheless uncertainty in the economic outlook, in the light of factors such as supply chain disruption, high energy prices, rising inflation and the continuing COVID-19 pandemic; recalls therefore that the 2023 Union budget will play an important role in strengthening the Union economy, ensuring that no one is left behind, and in fostering economic, social and territorial cohesion;

Amendment

1. Points to the economic recovery in 2021 and expected further growth in 2022; notes ***that 2023 will continue to be an important year for the social and economic recovery from the crisis following the COVID-19 pandemic with*** nonetheless uncertainty in the economic outlook, in the light of factors such as supply chain disruption, high energy prices, rising inflation, ***significant social impact such as rising unemployment and poverty*** and the continuing COVID-19 pandemic; ***notes that in this social landscape of growing inequalities, women, children, young people and the elderly are especially affected by the various precarious socio-economic situations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and are exposed to the risk of being left behind; stresses that social and employment related challenges caused by the pandemic have had a disproportionate impact on some Member States, regions and social groups, impacting the most vulnerable ones and affecting the labour market***; recalls therefore that the 2023 Union budget will play an important role in strengthening the Union economy ***and competitiveness***, ensuring ***just transition, social justice and resilience*** so that no one is left behind, and in fostering economic, social and territorial cohesion ***and upward social convergence***;

Or. en

Amendment 2
Drago Pîslaru

Compromise amendment replacing amendments 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Commits therefore to ***working to adopt*** a future-oriented budget that matches the Union's political priorities, ensuring a stronger Health Union, making a success of the green and digital transitions and fostering ***the*** recovery, including increased support for SMEs, promoting the rule of law and its application, contributing to greater opportunities for young people throughout the Union, and ensuring a stronger Europe;

Amendment

2. Commits therefore to ***work towards the adoption of a*** future ***and investment-oriented budget with a strong social and economically sustainable dimension*** that matches the Union's political priorities, ***and the six pillars of the Recovery and Resilience Facility***, ensuring a stronger Health Union, ***leaving no one behind in*** the green and digital transitions and fostering ***an inclusive, sustainable and resilient*** recovery, including increased support for SMEs, promoting the rule of law and its application, ***investing in the new generations and*** contributing to greater opportunities for young people ***and for the most deprived and other disadvantaged groups, such as children, LGBTIQ+ families, single parent families, persons with disabilities, migrants and refugees and Roma people*** throughout the Union ***adapting to the imminent labour market changes with the support of well-equipped public employment services, preserve and create quality and sustainable employment with full respect of labour rights and decent employment and working conditions, contributing to the fight against poverty, and reducing social exclusion, inequalities and discrimination, in particular affecting children and youth, as well as greater social inclusion of older people,*** and ensuring a stronger, ***more resilient and competitive*** Europe ***based on strategic autonomy and sovereignty***;

xOr. en

Amendment 3
Drago Pîslaru

Compromise amendment replacing amendments 23 and 27

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Welcomes the priority given to Union health policy and highlights in that connection the EU4Health programme and Cluster Health in Horizon Europe; notes that the budget for preparedness activities by the Health Emergency Response Authority is drawn from those programmes and from the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, and expresses deep concern that this could compromise the attainment of other important health objectives; stresses the need to ensure adequate funding for the Beating Cancer Plan;

Amendment

3. Welcomes the priority given to Union health policy and highlights in that connection the EU4Health programme and Cluster Health in Horizon Europe; ***acknowledges recent data¹ depicting how mental well-being has reached its lowest level across all age groups of Europeans since the beginning of the pandemic;*** notes that the budget for preparedness activities by the Health Emergency Response Authority is drawn from those programmes and from the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, and expresses deep concern that this could compromise the attainment of other important health objectives; stresses the need to ensure adequate funding for the Beating Cancer Plan ***and highlights in this context the importance of EU legislation laying down minimum standards in occupational health and safety and in ensuring the highest technically possible protection for workers; Stresses the need for the Commission to secure sufficient staffing in order to meet its tasks as regards health and safety at work, and notably to prepare an action plan covering at least 25 additional occupational exposure limits and ensure legislative follow up without delay.***

X

Amendment 4

Drago Pîslaru

Compromise amendment replacing amendments 24, 25, 26

¹ <https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/report/2021/living-working-and-covid-19-update-april-2021-mental-health-and-trust-decline-across-eu-as-pandemic>

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Recognises the importance of other Union programmes, including the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), in providing investment in health *measures* and infrastructure and stresses the need for synergies between those activities and EU4Health; recalls also the importance of steady implementation and access to technical assistance for Member States with low administrative capacity; emphasises that the decentralised health agencies should be adequately funded;

Amendment

4. Recognises the importance of other Union programmes, including the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), in providing investment in health *prevention, resilient healthcare systems* and infrastructures and stresses the need for synergies between those activities and EU4Health; recalls also the importance of steady implementation and access to technical assistance for Member States with low administrative capacity; emphasises that the decentralised health agencies should be adequately funded *in order to be able to fulfil their mandated tasks and responsibilities; and calls for transparency as regards public investments*; x

Or. en

x

Amendment 5
Drago Pîslaru
Replacing amendments 29, 30, 31,32, 33, 34
Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Acknowledges that implementing the Green Deal and achieving the Union's emission reduction goals *will require* massive investment, whilst stressing that the cost of inaction would be much higher; emphasises that the Union budget is *at the heart of efforts* to make a just transition towards a greener and more resilient Union in which no one is left behind; in that regard, highlights the need to fully implement the Just Transition Mechanism;

Amendment

5. Acknowledges that implementing the Green Deal and achieving the Union's emission reduction goals *requires urgent and* massive investment *including to adapt industrial production facilities and to improve related infrastructure*, whilst stressing that the cost of inaction would be much higher; emphasises that *climate measures should be accompanied by adequate social policies including social infrastructure, not least to support the creation of decent and sustainable jobs, the reskilling and upskilling of workers fit for jobs in the just transition highlights the urgency of adopting instruments that*

prevent vulnerable groups from suffering any negative social consequence that might arise from the implementation of the Green Deal climate actions; insists that in order to design new generation game changer policies, social and environmental policies and objectives must be given the same importance as economic ones; emphasises that the Union budget is instrumental to make a just transition towards a greener and more resilient Union in which no one is left behind; stresses the importance of policies and measures to support labour market transition and the need to strengthen the competitiveness of our economies in the context of the green and digital transitions; in that regard, highlights the need to fully implement the Just Transition Mechanism in full complementarity with other instruments, such as the European Social Fund + and the upcoming Social Climate Fund to accompany the most vulnerable people in this transition, be it in terms of labour market inclusion or with respect to their capacity to invest in more efficient energy devices;

Or. en

Amendment 6
Drago Pîslaru
Compromise amendment replacing, 37, 38 39, 40
Draft opinion
Paragraph 8

Draft opinion

8. Considers it essential to Union competitiveness to further digitalise the economy and the public sector; believes that a successful digital transition requires research and innovation efforts under Horizon Europe, significant investment in digital infrastructure through CEF-Digital, and support in areas such as artificial

Amendment

8. Considers it essential to Union competitiveness to further digitalise the economy and the public sector *while overcoming fragmentation and ensuring a level-playing field for all economic actors, ensuring labour rights and decent jobs for all workers, including for non-standard and platform workers and fully respecting*

intelligence and cybersecurity through the Digital Europe Programme; points to the need to tackle the digital skills gap by promoting advanced digital skills;

the GDPR; acknowledges the advantages brought by digital transformation and artificial intelligence in regards to the creation of new jobs; stresses, however, that automation and artificial intelligence (AI) might also lead to loss of jobs and disruptions in the labour market and recalls the need for adequate protection of workers affected by these changes and the need to ensure decent working conditions and the right to disconnect especially in the context of the growing use of AI and telework; stresses the need for unemployment prevention mechanisms and professional reconversion tools to be made available to workers in order to sustainably support the digital transition as well as investments in improving related infrastructures, connectivity, network security, and the future organisation of work; believes that a successful digital transition requires research and innovation efforts under Horizon Europe, significant investment in digital infrastructure through CEF-Digital, and support in areas such as artificial intelligence and cybersecurity through the Digital Europe Programme; points to the need to tackle the digital skills gap by promoting advanced digital skills and equal access to such education and training programmes, not least by ensuring that EU funds target advanced digital skills are in line with the socio-economic needs of the future labour market; notes the need for investment in digital skills also for older people and people living in remote areas;

Or. en

Amendment 7
Drago Pîslaru
Compromise amendment replacing 59,60,61,62, 63, 64

Draft opinion
Paragraph 12

Draft opinion

12. Recognises that the COVID-19 crisis has had a severe negative impact on young people and has led to lost opportunities and diminished prospects; believes strongly that the 2023 budget should include a focus on youth, building on the momentum of the 2022 European Year of Youth; highlights the importance of Erasmus+, which should become more inclusive, offering greater opportunities to people from disadvantaged backgrounds;

Amendment

12. Recognises that the COVID-19 crisis has had a severe negative impact on young people, ***in particular on their mental health*** and has led to lost opportunities, ***less employment perspectives, precarious work situations, financial insecurity*** and diminished prospects; believes strongly that the 2023 budget should include a focus on youth ***and assess the impact on youth across policy areas and offer possibilities to support them in new challenges that the pandemic has brought to them, especially as regards mental health***, building on the momentum of the 2022 European Year of Youth ***and the European Pillar of Social Rights***; highlights the importance of ***the Reinforced Youth Guarantee and Erasmus+***, which should become more inclusive ***and accessible***, offering ***greater diversity and*** greater opportunities to ***people from minorities, such as Roma people or with a migrant background, the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities or from disadvantaged economic backgrounds***;

12a. Underlines in this context the importance of reforming national education programmes and strengthening EU action in this area by making sure that training and education systems and programmes and workers' qualifications are adapted to the needs of the economy and the society; underlines the need for policymakers at both EU and national level to ensure sustainable and quality learning and training and to facilitate and support young people (re-) entering and staying in the labour market, accessing good quality housing, and completing their educational trajectory and developing skills, including digital and green skills ;

12b Calls on Member States and the Commission to make combating youth unemployment a priority, in particular as part of the European recovery effort, allocate adequate funding to the implementation of the reinforced Youth Guarantee and make sure that available financial instruments under the NextGenerationEU are fully used; calls on all Member States, not only those the most affected by youth unemployment, to continue to invest in the RRF and allocate sufficient ESF+ resources in measures and reforms to support quality youth employment, including in upskilling and lifelong learning;

Or. en

Amendment 8
Drago Pîslaru
Compromise amendment replacing 66, 67, 68 and 69
Draft opinion
Paragraph 13

Draft opinion

13. Points also to the need to bolster the European Solidarity Corps (ESC), which helps young people gain practical experience in another Member State thereby increasing their employability and life chances; *recalls the importance of activities for young people under the European Social Fund Plus, in particular with regard to training, and the RRF;*

Amendment

13. Points also to the need to bolster the European Solidarity Corps (ESC), which helps young people gain practical experience in another Member State thereby increasing their employability and life chances *as well as their pro-EU sentiment;*

Or. en

Amendment 9
Drago Pîslaru
Compromise amendment replacing 58, 76, 78, 79, 80 , 81
Draft opinion
Paragraph 24

Draft opinion

24. Recalls that the Commission must implement, no later than 1 January 2023 and for certain centrally managed programmes, a methodology to measure expenditure relevant to the promotion of gender equality as well as rights and equal opportunities for all;

Amendment

24. *Calls for a mainstreaming of gender responsive budget to better align policies and activities that promote the equal participation of women in the labour market and to have comprehensive systems to monitor and measure gender budget allocations, women participation in the labour market, access to non-standards contracts, and employment and pay gaps; Calls for the implementation of gender budgeting in the general budget 2023 by assigning budget allocations taking into account a gender-responsive evaluation of the previous budgetary period and ensuring equal participation in the budgetary process; recalls that the Commission must implement, no later than 1 January 2023 and for certain centrally managed programmes, a methodology to measure expenditure relevant to the promotion of gender equality as well as rights and equal opportunities for all; recalls the importance of ambitious funding and other instruments that promote the support of anti-discrimination legislation and policies and the implementation thereof; requests in this regards increased funding for the Daphne Programme; underlines the important role played by the European Institute for Gender Equality and the need to ensure adequate funding and staff for its tasks;*

Paragraph 24 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

24a. *Recalls that women have been particularly negatively affected by the pandemic in terms of health risks, job losses, pre-existing unemployment inequalities, precarious working*

conditions and care responsibilities, and are more at risk of suffering the employment and social fallout of the crisis as the gender gap widened during the pandemic; Stresses that employment headline target adopted in Porto can only be achieved by adopting ambitious targets at national level to include women in the labour market; strongly promotes solutions to stop direct and indirect discrimination affecting women, and calls for adequate funding to support measures for the promotion of equality and equal access to the labour market;