## Basic information

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|---|---|
| **2001/2057(COS)**<br>COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) | Procedure completed |
| Structural Funds. 11th annual report 1999<br>**Subject**<br>4.70.01 Structural funds, investment funds in general, programmes | |

## Key players

### European Parliament

| Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| RETT Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism | NOGUEIRA ROMÁN Camilo (V/ALE) | 24/01/2001 |

| Committee for opinion | Rapporteur for opinion | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| BUDG Budgets | PITTELLA Gianni (PSE) | 27/02/2001 |
| EMPL Employment and Social Affairs | AVILÉS PEREA María Antonia (PPE-DE) | 05/12/2000 |
| PECH Fisheries | VARELA SUANZES-CARPEGNA Daniel (PPE-DE) | 23/01/2001 |
| FEMM Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities | KRATSA-TSAGAROPOULOU Rodi (PPE-DE) | 23/01/2001 |

### Council of the European Union

### European Commission

| Commission DG | Commissioner |
|---|---|
| Regional and Urban Policy | |

## Key events

| Date | Event | Reference | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 13/11/2000 | Non-legislative basic document published | COM(2000)0698 | Summary |

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|---|---|---|---|
| 15/03/2001 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 20/06/2001 | Vote in committee | | Summary |
| 20/06/2001 | Committee report tabled for plenary | A5-0247/2001 | |
| 19/09/2001 | Debate in Parliament |  | |
| 20/09/2001 | Decision by Parliament | T5-0474/2001 | Summary |
| 20/09/2001 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 28/03/2002 | Final act published in Official Journal | | |

| Technical information | |
|---|---|
| **Procedure reference** | 2001/2057(COS) |
| **Procedure type** | COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) |
| **Procedure subtype** | Commission strategy paper |
| **Legal basis** | Rules of Procedure EP 148 |
| **Stage reached in procedure** | Procedure completed |
| **Committee dossier** | RETT/5/14018 |

Documentation gateway

**European Parliament**

| Document type | Committee | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading | | A5-0247/2001 | 20/06/2001 | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, single reading | | T5-0474/2001<br>OJ C 077 28.03.2002, p. 0021-0119 E | 20/09/2001 | Summary |

**European Commission**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Non-legislative basic document | COM(2000)0698 | 13/11/2000 | Summary |

**Other institutions and bodies**

| Institution/body | Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| EESC | Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report | CES0714/2001<br>OJ C 221 07.08.2001, p. 0091 | 30/05/2001 | |
| CofR | Committee of the Regions: opinion | CDR0184/2001<br>OJ C 107 03.05.2002, p. 0060 | 15/11/2001 | |

# Structural Funds. 11th annual report 1999

2001/2057(COS) - 13/11/2000 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE: to present the Commission's 11th Annual Report on the Structural Funds (1999). CONTENT: This Report describes how the Structural Funds regulations were implemented during 1999, with a particular focus on Objectives 1 to 6 and the Community Initiatives. As the last year of the programming period, 1999 saw the programmes fully implemented. This meant that very few new items of assistance were adopted during the year. In all, only five such items were adopted in 1999 for the various Objectives. These comprised two operational programmes for Objective 1 (regions whose development is lagging behind), one concerning the territorial pacts for employment in Spain, the other a programme to develop ecological buses in Greece. In general, three global grants were adopted in Italy. All together, these five items account for only 0.1% of assistnace from the Funds for the period. At the same time, 24 small Community Initiative programmes were also adopted. As in 1997 and 1998, the implementation of appropriations speeded up considerably in 1999, in many cases enough to make up for the backlogs which had accumulated during the early years of the programming period. This was true of both the national initiatives programmes (CSFs/SPDs) and the Community Initiatives. As in 1998, Objective 1 and 3 (combatting unemployment and exclusion) achieved the best implementation rates. Again as in 1998, the Member States which had the best rates of implementatoin of appropriations were the least prosperous Member States (Spain, Portugal, Ireland) and therefore the main beneficiaries of the Funds. By contrast, the more prosperous countries continued to lag behind in the implementation of payments. The implementation of the Community Initiatives (CIs) also speeded up considerably, partly thanks to the reallocation of finance carried out in 1998. The Commission devoted special efforts in 1999, as it did in previous years, to giving fresh impetus to a number of its activities and priorities. Safeguarding and promoting employment, in particular, continued to be a priority receiving sustained support. A complete review of the national action plans for employment were undertaken and resulted in recommendations to the Member States on how best to honour their commitments. The Commission guidelines on employment adopted in 1998 were expanded in 1999 to include new goals, such as lifelong training, access to the information society, the involvement of the social partners in the organisation of work and the incorporation in the programmes of equal opportunities for men and women. In its resolution on the employment guidelines, the Council stressed the role of the Structural Funds, and particularly the ESF, in achieving the goals of the European Employment Strategy. The regulations governing the Structural Funds in 2000-06 require the Member States to include the employment guidelines and more generally the principles set out in the European Employment Strategy, in their programmes. Following the proposed regulations to govern the Structural Funds which the Commission had drawn up in 1998, 1999 was a crucial year for actual preparations for 2000-06, since it saw the adoption of a large number of decisions. Finally, this year's report looks at measures topromote equality between men and women and more specifically, the improvements made in incorporating this political priority in the Funds' programmes.

# Structural Funds. 11th annual report 1999

2001/2057(COS) - 20/09/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

By adopting the report by Mr Camilio NOGUEIRA ROMAN (Greens/ALE, E), the European Parliament acknowledges the efforts of the Commission to provide an overview of the results for the whole 1994-1999 period, but regrets that the Commission does not provide a more extensive analysis of the budgetary performance over the period, but limits itself to a description of the actual out-turn. The Parliament also notes that indirect reference is made to the backlog of outstanding commitments remaining to be paid at the end of the period (reste à liquider) and invites the Commission to remedy this situation. It also underlines the lack of quantitative descriptions or detailed explanations in the use of the community initiatives. The Parliament calls for the Funds to have as a policy priority and effect the incorportation of small businesses (creation, expansion, technological equipment, development and innovation, internalisation of markets etc.) by their inclusion in all priority projects of the Community Support Frameworks and their substantial participation in the take-up of such funds. The Parliament is also calling for a more effective policy to promote women's interests in the implementation of the Structural and Cohesion Funds, considering that the objective of gender quality has only partly been taken into account. Special measures should be taken to link the Funds to the 60% target for female employment to be achieved by 2010 and also to deal the large problem of insecure employment. With regard to the enlargement process, the Parliament calls for an immediate start to be made on the determination, on the basis of consultation which should be as wide as possible, of cohesion policy for the period after 2006 with a view to ensuring both continued support for the sectors and regions of the current Member States which will continue to be eligible in an enlarged Union, adn specific supplementary cohesion arrangements for the new Member States. The Parliament is dismayed that the principle of additionality, one of the four basic principles underlying the Structural Funds, is not been respected by the Member States. It regrets the fact that no penalty can be imposed when Member States infringe the additionality principle.