Basic information

2014/2003(BUD) BUD - Budgetary procedure	Procedure completed
2015 budget: estimates of revenue and expenditure - Section I, Parliament **Subject** 8.70.55 2015 budget	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	GARRIGA POLLEDO Salvador (PPE)	09/12/2013
	Shadow rapporteur GEIER Jens (S&D) LYON George (ALDE) TRÜPEL Helga (Verts/ALE) ASHWORTH Richard (ECR) KLUTE Jürgen (GUE/NGL) WŁOSOWICZ Jacek (EFD)	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	3343	2014-11-07

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Budget	LEWANDOWSKI Janusz

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
10/04/2014	Vote in committee		
11/04/2014	Committee report tabled for plenary	A7-0277/2014	Summary
14/04/2014	Draft budget approved by Council		
14/04/2014	End of procedure in Parliament		
17/04/2014	Decision by Parliament	T7-0450/2014	Summary

17/04/2014	Results of vote in Parliament		
07/11/2014	Debate in Council		Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2014/2003(BUD)
Procedure type	BUD - Budgetary procedure
Procedure subtype	Budgetary preparation
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	BUDG/7/15010

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE528.202	07/02/2014	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE529.866	04/04/2014	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A7-0277/2014	11/04/2014	Summary
Parliament's opinion on budgetary estimates/guidelines		T7-0450/2014	17/04/2014	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

2015 budget: estimates of revenue and expenditure - Section I, Parliament

2014/2003(BUD) - 17/04/2014 - Parliament's opinion on budgetary estimates/guidelines

The European Parliament adopted by 343 votes to 199 with 32 abstentions, a resolution on Parliament’s estimates of revenue and expenditure for the financial year.

Parliament recalled that the 2015 budgetary procedure would run during a European election year, when the estimates of the Parliament for the financial year 2015 would be adopted by the current Parliament and the final budget will be **approved by the new Parliament** in the autumn. It noted that the sub-ceiling for overall administrative expenditure of the institutions has been set at EUR 7 351 million.

It indicated that, despite little room for manoeuvre and the need to counterbalance savings in other areas, certain investments should be considered in order to strengthen the institutional role of the Parliament and to improve the sustainability of the budget.

Parliament stressed that in order to allow the Members of the new Parliament to fulfil their mandate and to empower the Parliament's capacity to comply with all its powers, a sufficient level of resources should be ensured. It recalled that the level of the preliminary draft estimates for the 2015 budget, as suggested by the Secretary-General's Report, amounted to EUR 1 822 929 112 (20.09 % of heading V), noting also that:

- 0.67 % of this increase corresponds to the Members’ allocation for the end of their mandate, which are statutory and obligatory costs and
- 1.42 % to long term investments in the construction of the KAD building.

At the same time, Parliament stressed that the 2015 budget should be set on a realistic basis and should be in line with the principles of budgetary discipline and sound financial management. It believed that the Union budget should reflect the current economic situation experienced by citizens across the Union, as the well as the fiscal constraints faced by many Member States, some of whom were engaged in serious efforts to bring their budgets onto a more sustainable long-term footing.

In any event. Parliament believed that the next legislature would have the possibility of reconsidering and adapting the budgetary priorities and take the final decision in October 2014.

Draft estimates: Parliament recalled that the draft estimates for the year 2015 stood at **EUR 1 794 929 112**, corresponding to an overall rate of increase of 1.8 % over the 2014 budget and to agree furthermore to include in its draft estimates the obligatory extraordinary expenditure of 0.4 % resulting from the new agreement on the coefficient for the adjustment of the remunerations and pensions. It invited the Secretary-General to present before the reading of the budget an estimate of the costs of the construction of the KAD building over the coming years in order to provide the correct amount in the 2015 budget. It also asked the Secretary General to evaluate, at the end of the year, the funds not used in the 2014 budget and to commit them to the **KAD project.**

In an amendment adopted in plenary, Parliament stated that further savings could be achieved by having a **critical look at the ICT budget lines, the expenditures on vehicles and the contingency reserve.**

Specific issues: Parliament stressed that structural economic measures undertaken throughout the 7th legislature had led to significant savings in the Parliament's budget, such as EUR 15 million and EUR 10 million annually in the field of interpretation and translation respectively, an additional EUR 4 million in travel expenses and EUR 28 million of savings of interest by pre-financing buildings. Members noted that once exceptional and non-recurrent expenditure, such as Union enlargements or other expenditure linked to the entry in force of the Treaty of Lisbon, European elections and the financing of building projects were taken out, it showed a decrease in Parliament's budget, stressing also that the Members' allowances had been frozen since 2011.

The Plenary also reiterated Parliaments' responsibility to **act in a sustainable way** and believed that the EMAS process needs continued support.

It also recalled that that the capacity to exercise scrutiny, as well as support to the Members, should be further improved to **strengthen Parliament's work as an institution vested with legislative and democratic scrutiny powers**. Parliament regretted the freezing of allocations for political groups, recalling that the latter were indispensable contributors when it came to Parliament's legislative and non-legislative work and its exercise of scrutiny.

In order to achieve Parliament's objectives, the following actions should be undertaken:

- develop a system of translation on demand by Members of committee amendments;
- explore possibilities for interinstitutional cooperation with the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee;
- explore the offer of interpretation capacities to other institutions during off-peak times;
- migration from the present human resources management system, Streamline, to Sysper2;
- prepare for the more efficient structure of the working rhythm of the Parliament;
- prepare for a paperless Parliament, wherever possible, through best practice and the full implementation of the e-meetings project;
- develop a system of on-request interpretation for meetings other than the Plenary.

Parliament recalled that the cost-efficiency of interpretation must not erode the availability of live and accessible information across the Union, **considering that multilingualism and interpretation for web-streaming and Parliament transparency were of key importance for the public** and thus for the Members of the Parliament.

It reiterated that long-term investments, such as Parliament's building projects, needed to be handled prudently and transparently, asking for precise information on the progress of buildings projects and its financial implication to be provided. Similarly, it wanted more information on the creation of the new Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services on 1 November 2013 and recalled that it was created in a budgetary neutral way by redeployments from DGs PRES and IPOL. Parliament wanted information on the number of posts in the new Directorate in August/September 2014, as compared to the situation in January 2014.

Taking note of the fact that the opening of the European House of History was envisaged at the end of 2015, Parliament adopted the draft estimates for the financial year 2015, as set out in the Annex to the resolution.

2015 budget: estimates of revenue and expenditure - Section I, Parliament

2014/2003(BUD) - 07/11/2014

The Council took note of the Italian Presidency conclusions on the budgetary issues and on the request to the Commission to submit a proposal for amendment of regulation on the VAT- and GNI- based own resources, pursuant to Article 10, paragraphs 4 to 8 of Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1150/2000.

In particular due to the major revisions of the GNI of several Member States, their additional contributions to the EU budget will be substantial. In addition, the regulatory delay until the payment date of the first working day of December is short. This may result in exceptionally high fiscal implications for those Member States.

The Council therefore invited the Commission to come forward with a proposal for a targeted and limited amendment to the Council Regulation No 1150/2000 to take account of such exceptional circumstances. This should allow for the Member State concerned to defer the required payment over a reasonable period of time (no later than 1 September). For the sake of equal treatment of all Member States, deferral should then be an option for all if the overall sum of the GNI balances is exceptionally high.

Taken into account the tight deadlines, this amendment should come into effect by the 1 December 2014 (retroactively if needed).

At the same time, recognising the need to address the unprecedented increase of unpaid claims across all headings and programmes in the EU budget, the Council agreed to work constructively, including the use of the flexibility instruments agreed in the MFF 2014-2020, to adopt a position on the draft amending budgets for 2014 in a timely manner, while recalling the position already adopted by the Council on the draft budget for 2015.

2015 budget: estimates of revenue and expenditure - Section I, Parliament

2014/2003(BUD) - 11/04/2014 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgets adopted the report by Salvador GARRIGA POLLEDO (EPP, ES) on Parliament's estimates of revenue and expenditure for the financial year 2015.

Members recalled that the 2015 budgetary procedure will run during a European election year, when the estimates of the Parliament for the financial year 2015 will be adopted by the current Parliament and the final budget will be **approved by the new Parliament** in the autumn. They noted that the sub-ceiling for overall administrative expenditure of the institutions has been set at EUR 7 351 million.

Members indicated that, despite little room for manoeuvre and the need to counterbalance savings in other areas, certain investments should be considered in order to strengthen the institutional role of the Parliament and to improve the sustainability of the budget.

General framework and overall budget: the report stressed that in order to allow the Members of the new Parliament to fulfil their mandate and to empower the Parliament's capacity to comply with all its powers, a sufficient level of resources should be ensured. It recalled that the level of the preliminary draft estimates for the 2015 budget, as suggested by the Secretary-General's Report, amounted to EUR 1 822 929 112 (20.09 % of heading V), noting also that:

- 0.67 % of this increase corresponds to the Members' allocation for the end of their mandate, which are statutory and obligatory costs and
- 1.42 % to long term investments in the construction of the KAD building.

Draft estimates: Members called on Parliament to approve the draft estimates for the year 2015 at **EUR 1 794 929 112**, corresponding to an overall rate of increase of 1.8 % over the 2014 budget and to agree furthermore to include in its draft estimates the obligatory extraordinary expenditure of 0.4 % resulting from the new agreement on the coefficient for the adjustment of the remunerations and pensions. They Invited the Secretary-General to present before the reading of the budget an estimate of the costs of the construction of the KAD building over the coming years in order to provide the correct amount in the 2015 budget. They also asked the Secretary General to evaluate, at the end of the year, the funds not used in the 2014 budget and to commit them to the **KAD project.**

Specific issues: the report stressed that structural economic measures undertaken throughout the 7th legislature had led to significant savings in the Parliament's budget, such as EUR 15 million and EUR 10 million annually in the field of interpretation and translation respectively, an additional EUR 4 million in travel expenses and EUR 28 million of savings of interest by pre-financing buildings. Members noted that once exceptional and non-recurrent expenditure, such as Union enlargements or other expenditure linked to the entry in force of the Treaty of Lisbon, European elections and the financing of building projects were taken out, it showed a decrease in Parliament's budget, stressing also that the Members' allowances had been frozen since 2011.

The report also recalled that that the capacity to exercise scrutiny, as well as support to the Members, should be further improved to strengthen Parliament's work as an institution vested with legislative and democratic scrutiny powers.

In order to achieve this, the following actions should be undertaken:

- develop a system of translation on demand by Members of committee amendments;
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Members recalled that the cost-efficiency of interpretation must not erode the availability of live and accessible information across the Union, **considering that multilingualism and interpretation for web-streaming and Parliament transparency were of key importance for the public** and thus for the Members of the Parliament.

They reiterated that long-term investments, such as Parliament's building projects, needed to be handled prudently and transparently, asking for precise information on the progress of buildings projects and its financial implication to be provided.

Taking note of the fact that the opening of the European House of History was envisaged at the end of 2015, Members called on Parliament to adopt the draft estimates for the financial year 2015, as set out in the Annex to the resolution.