Basic information

2021/0077(BUD)

BUD - Budgetary procedure

Procedure completed

Mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund: assistance to Greece and France in relation to natural disasters and to Albania, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain in relation to a public health emergency

See also 2021/0078(BUD)

Subject

3.70.11 Natural disasters, Solidarity Fund
4.20 Public health
8.70.51 2021 budget

Geographical area

Albania
Austria
Belgium
Croatia
Czechia
Estonia
France
Germany FR
Greece
Hungary
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Montenegro, from 06/2006
Portugal
Romania
Serbia, from 06/2006
Spain

Legislative priorities

The EU's response to the Covid-19 pandemic

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	GARDIAZABAL RUBIAL Eider (S&D)	24/03/2021
	Shadow rapporteur RESSLER Karlo (EPP) GHEORGHE Vlad (Renew)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed

	REGI Regional Development	Chair on behalf of committee OMARJEE Younous (The Left)	30/03/2021
Council of the European Union			

European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner
	Budget	HAHN Johannes

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
24/03/2021	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2021)0201	Summary
23/04/2021	Draft budget approved by Council		
26/04/2021	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
10/05/2021	Vote in committee		
11/05/2021	Budgetary report tabled for plenary	A9-0157/2021	
18/05/2021	Decision by Parliament	T9-0230/2021	Summary
02/06/2021	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2021/0077(BUD)
Procedure type	BUD - Budgetary procedure
Procedure subtype	Mobilisation of funds
Amendments and repeals	See also 2021/0078(BUD)
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	BUDG/9/05689

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE691.201	31/03/2021	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE691.310	14/04/2021	

Specific opinion	REGI	PE691.448	21/04/2021	
Budgetary report tabled for plenary, 1st reading		A9-0157/2021	11/05/2021	
Budgetary text adopted by Parliament		T9-0230/2021	18/05/2021	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2021)0201	24/03/2021	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2021/0885
OJ L 194 02.06.2021, p. 0040

Mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund: assistance to Greece and France in relation to natural disasters and to Albania, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain in relation to a public health emergency

2021/0077(BUD) - 18/05/2021 - Budgetary text adopted by Parliament

The European Parliament adopted by 669 votes to 7, with 17 abstentions, a resolution approving the European Parliament and Council decision to mobilise the European Union Solidarity Fund to help Greece and France in relation to natural disasters, as well as Albania, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Portugal, Romania, Serbia and Spain in relation to a public health emergency.

The European Union Solidarity Fund aims to enable the Union to respond in a rapid, efficient and flexible manner to emergency situations in order to show solidarity with the population of regions struck by major or regional natural disasters or a major public health emergency. Members stated that the maximum amount available under the Fund at this stage in 2021 is EUR 525 525 348, which is sufficient to cover the needs under the proposed decision.

Natural disasters in Greece and France

As part of the EU's general budget for the 2021 financial year, the following amounts, in commitment and payment appropriations, are mobilised under the European Union Solidarity Fund in connection with natural disasters:

- EUR 3 300 100 shall be provided to Greece in relation to the floods in Sterea Ellada, including the amount of EUR 330 010 as advance payment;

- EUR 21 588 519 shall be provided to Greece in relation to cyclone Ianos, including the amount of EUR 2 158 852 as advance payment;

- EUR 2 531 301 shall be provided to Greece in relation to the earthquake in the islands of Samos, Chios and Ikaria, including the amount of EUR 253 131 as advance payment;

- EUR 59 325 000 shall be provided to France in relation to the storm Alex, including the amount of EUR 5 932 500 as advance payment.

COVID-19 related applications

The following amounts in commitment and payment appropriations should be mobilised under the European Union Solidarity Fund in relation to a major public health emergency:

- EUR 905 271 for Albania;

- EUR 31 755 580 for Austria;

- EUR 37 298 777 to Belgium;

- EUR 17 373 205 to the Czech Republic;

- EUR 3 588 755 to Estonia;

- EUR 91 365 053 to France;

- EUR 13 648 386 to Germany;

- EUR 3 994 022 to Greece;

- EUR 13 136 857 to Hungary;

- EUR 20 480 330 to Ireland;

- EUR 76 271 930 to Italy;

- EUR 1 177 677 to Latvia;

- EUR 2 828 291 to Lithuania;

- EUR 2 857 025 to Luxembourg;

- EUR 199 505 to Montenegro;

- EUR 18 039 670 to Portugal;

- EUR 13 926 870 to Romania;

- EUR 11 968 276 to Serbia;

- EUR 36 639 441 for Spain.

Members stressed the urgency of mobilising financial assistance, regretting that it had taken a considerable amount of time to assess applications for financial assistance due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

Recalling that the Fund is only a curative instrument, the resolution stressed the need for a preventive policy in the future to tackle climate change, in line with the Paris Agreement and the European Green Deal. For particularly vulnerable regions, investments should be made in climate change mitigation and adaptation and effective synergies should be ensured between the Fund and the relevant EU funding programmes.

Mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund: assistance to Greece and France in relation to natural disasters and to Albania, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain in relation to a public health emergency

2021/0077(BUD) - 24/03/2021 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE: to mobilise the EU Solidarity Fund to provide assistance to Greece and France further to regional natural disasters that took place in these countries in the course of 2020, as well as to 20 Member States and accession countries in relation to a public health emergency.

PROPOSED ACT: Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council.

CONTENT: the European Union Solidarity Fund aims to enable the Union to respond in a rapid, efficient and flexible manner to emergency situations in order to show solidarity with the population of regions struck by major or regional natural disasters or major public health emergency.

In accordance with the MFF Regulation, the maximum amount that can be mobilised by the EUSF from the 2021 allocation until 1 September 2021 is EUR 477 543 750. The amount of EUR 50 million has been already inscribed in the General Budget 2021 (in commitments and payments) for the payment of advances. In addition, an amount of EUR 47 981 598 of the 2020 allocation was not used until the end of that year and is carried over to 2021.

This mobilisation is accompanied by Draft Amending Budget (DAB) No 2/2021.

Natural disasters in Greece and France

In 2020, Greece submitted applications to mobilise the Fund following:

- the floods in Sterea Ellada;

- damages caused by the cyclone Ianos that affected the Regions of Ionia Nisia, Sterea Ellada, Ditiki Ellada, Thessalia and Peloponnisos;

- the earthquake that affected the islands of Samos, Ikaria and Chios.

France submitted an application following the damages caused by Storm Alex in Provence-Alpes-Côtes d'Azur region.

Major public health emergencies

Also in 2020, Albania, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Portugal, Romania, Serbia and Spain submitted applications to mobilise the Fund in relation to the major public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020.

Conclusion

Given that the applications by those Member States meet the conditions for providing a financial contribution from the Fund, the Commission proposes to mobilise the Fund in order to provide a financial contribution to Greece and France in relation to the natural disasters and to Albania, Austria, Belgium, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain in relation to the major public health emergency.

Financing

The maximum amount available under the EUSF at this point in 2021 is ***EUR 525 525 348***, which is enough to cover the needs under this Mobilisation Decision as outlined above (EUR 484 199 841, of which EUR 86 744 920 related to the natural disasters in Greece and France and EUR 397 454 921 related to COVID-19 applications).

In order to minimise the time taken to mobilise the Fund, this Decision should apply from the date of its adoption.