Basic information

2021/2226(BUI) BUI - Budgetary initiative	Procedure completed
Guidelines for the 2023 Budget - Section III **Subject** 8.70.53 2023 budget	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	ȘTEFĂNUȚĂ Nicolae (Renew)	09/12/2021
	Shadow rapporteur LEWANDOWSKI Janusz (EPP) NEGRESCU Victor (S&D) GUERREIRO Francisco (Greens/EFA) RZOŃCA Bogdan (ECR) LAPORTE Hélène (ID) PAPADIMOULIS Dimitrios (The Left)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	GAHLER Michael (EPP)	08/11/2021
DEVE Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
INTA International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
CONT Budgetary Control	CHASTEL Olivier (Renew)	24/01/2022
ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	PÎSLARU Dragoş (Renew)	24/01/2022

ENVI Environment, Climate and Food Safety	CANFIN Pascal (Renew)	30/11/2021
ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	EHLER Christian (EPP)	09/12/2021
IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
TRAN Transport and Tourism	GHEORGHE Vlad (Renew)	08/12/2021
REGI Regional Development	SOKOL Tomislav (EPP)	06/12/2021
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	CAROPPO Andrea (EPP)	15/12/2021
PECH Fisheries	Chair on behalf of committee KARLESKIND Pierre (Renew)	09/02/2022
CULT Culture and Education	LØKKEGAARD Morten (Renew)	06/12/2021
JURI Legal Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AFCO Constitutional Affairs	TAJANI Antonio (EPP)	26/01/2022
FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality	VANA Monika (Greens/EFA)	12/01/2022
PETI Petitions	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Budget	HAHN Johannes

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
16/03/2022	Vote in committee		
24/03/2022	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0062/2022	Summary
05/04/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0106/2022	Summary
05/04/2022	Debate in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2021/2226(BUI)
Procedure type	BUI - Budgetary initiative
Procedure subtype	Budgetary preparation
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	BUDG/9/07735

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE703.025	12/01/2022	
Committee opinion	EMPL	PE704.834	03/02/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE704.812	04/02/2022	
Committee opinion	TRAN	PE702.958	08/02/2022	
Committee opinion	CULT	PE703.021	09/02/2022	
Committee opinion	FEMM	PE704.622	14/02/2022	
Specific opinion	ENVI	PE704.692	17/02/2022	
Specific opinion	PECH	PE719.567	17/02/2022	
Specific opinion	CONT	PE719.630	22/02/2022	
Specific opinion	AFET	PE704.714	28/02/2022	
Specific opinion	AFCO	PE704.839	28/02/2022	
Committee opinion	AGRI	PE703.181	02/03/2022	
Specific opinion	REGI	PE719.820	02/03/2022	
Committee opinion	ITRE	PE702.922	03/03/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0062/2022	24/03/2022	Summary
Parliament's opinion on budgetary estimates/guidelines		T9-0106/2022	05/04/2022	Summary

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Guidelines for the 2023 Budget - Section III

2021/2226(BUI) - 05/04/2022 - Parliament's opinion on budgetary estimates/guidelines

The European Union adopted by 463 votes to 71, with 97 abstentions, a resolution on general guidelines for the preparation of the 2023 budget, Section III – Commission.

Budget 2023: keeping the recovery on track for all

Members noted that despite the encouraging signals giving rise to expectations of further growth in 2022, uncertainty in the economic outlook persists, in the light of factors such as supply chain disruption, high energy prices, rising inflation and the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the consequences of the invasion of Ukraine.

Parliament therefore commits itself to working towards a **future-oriented budget** that responds to the Union's political priorities, namely (i) enabling the strengthening of the Health Union, (ii) delivering on the green and digital transitions and stimulating a fair, inclusive and sustainable recovery, (iii) promoting the rule of law, the Union's values and fundamental rights, (iv) helping to create more opportunities, especially for young people, and (v) ensuring a stronger Union for its people and in the world.

Stressing the central role of **EU cohesion policy** as the Union's key investment policy, Members expect a substantial increase in payment appropriations in the 2023 budget as 2023 will be the last year of implementation of the European programmes of the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), but also the year when the implementation of new programmes will start to accelerate.

Recalling that the **new Common Agricultural Policy** (CAP) will apply from 2023, Members stressed the central importance of the CAP and the Common Fisheries Policy in the European food system. They also stressed the importance of well-functioning agricultural markets, sustainable development of rural areas, stable and acceptable incomes for farmers and fishermen, sustainable management of natural resources and preservation of biodiversity, as well as the generational renewal of farmers.

A stronger Health Union

Recalling that the COVID-19 crisis has put public health systems under unprecedented stress and has exacerbated existing challenges, Parliament welcomed the priority given to Union health policy and highlights the EU4Health programme and health cluster within Horizon Europe.

Members called for the Health Emergency Response and Preparedness Authority (HERA) to be given new resources, for the European Medical Corps within the EU's civil protection mechanism to be strengthened with additional resources and for the European beating cancer plan to be adequately funded

Green and digital transitions

According to Members, additional financial efforts are needed to make a just transition to a greener, sustainable, socially inclusive, more resilient and competitive economy. They called for EU funding instruments to be deployed as a priority in the regions, sectors and areas that will be most affected by the green transition, taking into account the needs of Member States.

The resolution called for:

- an ambitious level of resources to be allocated to programmes supporting climate and biodiversity action and environmental protection, such as LIFE, and implementing the Just Transition Facility;

- investment in research and innovation in green technologies, processes and skills;

- the use of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) to modernise, connect and increase the sustainability of transport and energy infrastructure to enhance the Union's energy security and autonomy;

- the further digitalisation of the economy and the public sector and investment in digital infrastructure through CEF-Digital and by supporting areas such as artificial intelligence, cyber security and EU high performance computing;

- the closure of digital skills gap by promoting advanced digital skills;

- sufficient funding and alignment between EU programmes to create the conditions for market uptake of breakthrough technologies and innovations.

Promoting the rule of law, EU values and fundamental rights

Members consider it essential for the Union's credibility to ensure the proper use of Union funds and to take all steps to protect the Union's financial interests. They considered that Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 on a **general regime of conditionality** for the protection of the Union budget should be applied immediately and in full, as repeatedly requested by Parliament.

Concerned about the significant deterioration in the rule of law, democracy and fundamental rights, including the independence of the judiciary, the separation of powers, the fight against corruption and the freedom and independence of the media in some Member States, Parliament called for the 'Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values' programme to be given ambitious resources.

Greater opportunities for all, notably young people

Recalling the severe negative impacts of COVID-19 on young people, Members consider that the 2023 budget should include a **focus on youth** to build on the momentum of the 2022 European Year of Youth with concrete actions and policies to be continued in 2023. They stressed the importance of Erasmus+ and underlined the high importance of ensuring sufficient financial resources for that programme.

The resolution also pointed to the need to bolster the European Solidarity Corps, which helps young people gain practical experience in another Member State, thereby increasing their employability and life chances.

A stronger Union for its citizens and in the world

Parliament condemned Russia's illegal, unprovoked and unjustified invasion of Ukraine and all attempts to destabilise the EU's partners in the eastern neighbourhood, as well as Belarus' involvement in this aggression. While stressing the need for enhanced cooperation and solidarity between Member States, Members urged the Union to ensure **significant funding** to address the geopolitical consequences of the current crisis, including support for the deployment of humanitarian and refugee preparedness measures in Member States and the eastern neighbourhood.

The resolution also stressed the need to:

- provide adequate funding to the countries of the Western Balkans and the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhood, in particular those implementing Association Agreements with the EU;

- provide continued financial support for the reception, registration, examination and integration of asylum applicant and ensure adequate funding for the specific objectives of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund;

- provide adequate financial support for the Union's security and defence, including through the European Defence Fund, which supports research and development in the defence sector;

- provide all agencies operating in the fields of fundamental rights, asylum, security, justice and integrated border management with sufficient financial and human resources.

Given that the EU needs sufficient resources to respond to major crises and long-term challenges in its neighbourhood and worldwide, the resolution recalled that **the ceiling of heading 6 of the MFF is already too low** and that a revision of the current MFF is necessary. The Neighbourhood, Development Cooperation and International Cooperation Instrument and the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance should be adequately funded. It is also necessary to provide sustainable support for refugees, especially in Turkey, and to respond to developments in Afghanistan.

Guidelines for the 2023 Budget - Section III

2021/2226(BUI) - 24/03/2022 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgets adopted the report by Nicolae ŞTEFĂNUȚĂ (Renew Europe, RO) on general guidelines for the preparation of the 2023 budget, Section III – Commission.

Budget 2023: keeping the recovery on track for all

Members noted that despite the encouraging signals giving rise to expectations of further growth in 2022, uncertainty in the economic outlook persists, in the light of factors such as supply chain disruption, high energy prices, rising inflation and the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the consequences of the invasion of Ukraine. Therefore, they recalled that the 2023 Union budget will play an important role in **strengthening the Union economy and its competitiveness**, as well as in building our common resilience, contributing to the successful implementation of the European Green Deal and a just transition, fostering economic, social and territorial cohesion as one of the cornerstones of the recovery, in addition to responding to geopolitical challenges.

While underlining the pivotal role of EU cohesion policy as an essential Union investment policy and one of the cornerstones of a sustainable and inclusive recovery, Members expect this to be reflected, therefore, in a substantial increase in payment appropriations in the 2023 budget.

The report also highlighted the central importance of the **CAP** and the **common fisheries policy** to Europe's food system, delivering affordable, high-quality food and nutrition security for all Europeans. It called for particular attention to be paid to small-scale agriculture, young farmers and small fishing businesses by making the best use of all relevant EU programmes and supporting them in light of the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, rising energy prices and other crises.

A stronger Health Union

Recalling that the COVID-19 crisis has put public health systems under unprecedented stress and has exacerbated existing challenges, Members welcomed the priority given to Union health policy and highlights the EU4Health programme and health cluster within Horizon Europe.

The report noted that the budget for the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority's (HERA) preparedness activities is drawn from those programmes and from the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. Members are concerned that this could compromise the attainment of other important health objectives agreed by the legislators. Therefore, they called for fresh resources to be allocated to HERA.

Green and digital transitions

According to Members, further financial efforts are needed to make a just transition towards a greener, sustainable, socially inclusive, more resilient and competitive. More investment in research and innovation in green technologies is needed. Members considered that the EU must make full use of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) to modernise and connect its transport and energy infrastructure and to increase the sustainability thereof, **strengthening EU energy security and autonomy** and developing further the Energy Union via interconnectivity between the Member States.

The report stressed that a successful digital transition requires substantial research and innovation efforts under Horizon Europe, significant investment in digital infrastructure through CEF-Digital and support in areas such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and EU high-performance computing through the Digital Europe programme.

Promoting the rule of law, EU values and fundamental rights

Members consider it essential for the Union's credibility to ensure the proper use of Union funds and to take all steps to protect the Union's financial interests. They considered that Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 on a general regime of **conditionality** for the protection of the Union budget should be applied immediately and in full, as repeatedly requested by Parliament.

An ambitious level of resources should be allocated to the protection of the rule of law, democracy and fundamental rights, including independence of the judiciary, separation of powers, the fight against corruption and media independence and freedom in some Member States.

Greater opportunities for all, notably young people

Recalling the severe negative impacts of COVID-19 on young people, Members consider that the 2023 budget should include a focus on youth to build on the momentum of the 2022 European Year of Youth with concrete actions and policies to be continued in 2023. They stressed the importance of **Erasmus+** and underlined the high importance of ensuring sufficient financial resources for that programme.

The report also pointed to the need to bolster the **European Solidarity Corps**, which helps young people gain practical experience in another Member State, thereby increasing their employability and life chances.

A stronger Union for its people and in the world

Members condemn in the strongest possible terms the illegal, unprovoked and unjustified invasion of Ukraine by Russia and all the attempts to destabilise the EU's partners in the Eastern Neighbourhood, as well as the involvement of Belarus in this aggression. While underlining the need for enhanced cooperation and solidarity among Member States in this difficult context, Members urged the Union to guarantee **significant funding to address the geopolitical consequences of the current crisis** including support for the deployment of humanitarian and preparedness measures for welcoming refugees in the Member States and in the Eastern Neighbourhood.

The report underlined the strategic importance of enlargement policy in the Western Balkan countries and stressed the need to provide adequate funding to the Western Balkan countries and the countries of the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhoods, particularly those implementing Association Agreements with the EU, to support comprehensive political and socio-economic reforms and strengthen civil society and the rule of law, as well as to help with the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis and its long-term economic consequences.

The report stressed that asylum and migration issue are set to remain high on the EU's agenda beyond the ongoing crisis. Therefore, there is a need for continuous financial support for the reception, registration, examination and integration of asylum applicants, and to secure adequate funding for the specific objectives of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund.

Given that the EU requires sufficient resources to respond to major crises as well as the long-term challenges in its neighbourhood and throughout the world, the report called for a **revision of the current MFF, with a possible increase of Heading 6 (Global Europe)**. Continued support is called for in Turkey regarding refugees and in response to the development in Afghanistan.

The report reiterated that the Union should have sufficient means to react to **unexpected developments** inside and outside the EU. Therefore, Members called on the Commission to conduct an in-depth analysis of the different implications of the current ongoing challenges and their impact on the 2023 budget procedure as well as on the whole MFF 2021-2027, and to assess when an MFF revision would be appropriate.

Regarding **security and defence**, the report emphasised the growing need for adequate financial support in this area, including through the European Defence Fund. It called for increased efforts to enhance deployability and operational effectiveness and to improve military mobility, also with a view to contributing to strengthening stability in the EU's neighbourhood and beyond, and to deal with hybrid and cyber threats.