

Basic information	
<p>2025/0239(COD)</p> <p>COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation</p>	Awaiting committee decision
<p>European Social Fund 2028–2034</p> <p>Subject</p> <p>4.10.15 European Social Fund (ESF), Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)</p> <p>Legislative priorities</p> <p>Joint Declaration 2026</p>	

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	EMPL	Employment and Social Affairs	CASA David (EPP)	16/12/2025
			MAIJ Marit (S&D)	16/12/2025
			Shadow rapporteur	
			WERBROUCK Séverine (P/E)	
			TEODORESCU Georgiana (ECR)	
			VAN DEN BERG Brigitte (Renew)	
			SØVNDAL Villy (Greens /EFA)	
			GALÁN Estrella (The Left)	
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
REGI	Regional Development	MEBAREK Nora (S&D)	16/01/2026	
CULT	Culture and Education	GOMES Isilda (S&D)	09/12/2025	
FEMM	Women's Rights and Gender Equality	MORETTI Alessandra (S&D)	12/01/2026	
Committee for budgetary assessment		Rapporteur for budgetary assessment	Appointed	

	BUDG Budgets	LUPO Giuseppe (S&D)	23/01/2026
Council of the European Union			
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	MÎNZATU Roxana	
European Economic and Social Committee			
European Committee of the Regions			

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
16/07/2025	Legislative proposal published	COM(2025)0558 	Summary
23/10/2025	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		

Forecasts	
14/12/2026	Indicative plenary sitting date, 1st reading

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2025/0239(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 58 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 175-p3 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 164
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee European Committee of the Regions
Stage reached in procedure	Awaiting committee decision
Committee dossier	EMPL/10/03686

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE784.181	20/04/2026	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2025)0558 	16/07/2025	Summary

National parliaments

Document type	Parliament /Chamber	Reference	Date	Summary
Contribution	ES_PARLIAMENT	COM(2025)0558	28/10/2025	
Contribution	RO_SENATE	COM(2025)0558	28/10/2025	
Contribution	CZ_SENATE	COM(2025)0558	12/12/2025	
Contribution	DE_BUNDESRAT	COM(2025)0558	15/12/2025	
Contribution	PT_PARLIAMENT	COM(2025)0558	04/02/2026	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES3058/2025	22/01/2026	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
EP Research Service	Briefing	16/12/2025
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure**Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs**

Transparency				
Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
CASA David	Rapporteur	EMPL	26/03/2026	European Commission
				COFACE S.A. Caritas Europa Deutscher Caritasverband e. V. EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION Eurocarers Eurochild AISBL Eurocities Eurodiaconia European Anti Poverty Network

CASA David	Rapporteur	EMPL	05/03/2026	European Association of Service providers for Persons with Disabilities European Disability Forum European Youth Forum Inclusion Europe aisbl. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants Save the Children Europe Special Olympics Europe Eurasia Social Platform
CASA David	Rapporteur	EMPL	05/02/2026	European Commission
CASA David	Rapporteur	EMPL	02/02/2026	Special Olympics Europe Eurasia
MAIJ Marit	Rapporteur	EMPL	29/01/2026	Metropoolregio Amsterdam (MRA)
MAIJ Marit	Rapporteur	EMPL	22/01/2026	Social Platform
MAIJ Marit	Rapporteur	EMPL	02/12/2025	Eurochild AISBL

European Social Fund 2028–2034

2025/0239(COD) - 16/07/2025 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to establish the European Social Fund as part of the National and Regional Partnership Plan set out in the Regulation establishing the National and Regional Partnership Fund (NRP) establishing conditions for the implementation of the Union support to quality employment, skills and social inclusion for the period from 2028 to 2034.

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

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: on 16 July 2025, the Commission adopted a proposal for the next [Multiannual Financial Framework 2028-2034](#) (MFF) for the period 2028-2034. This proposal concerns, in particular, the European Social Fund (ESF).

Despite progress, tackling unemployment, skills gaps, labour shortages and persistently high poverty rates remain a priority across the EU. Targeted action to address these challenges is increasingly needed.

The ESF supports policies and priorities aimed at contributing to the creation of full employment, improving the quality and productivity of work, increasing the geographical and occupational mobility of workers within the Union, improving education and training systems and promoting intergenerational fairness, social inclusion and health. The ESF, within the framework of cohesion policy, will be operating within the **national and regional partnership plan** and its single rulebook.

CONTENT: the proposed regulation establishes **specific conditions for the implementation of the European Social Fund for the 2028-2034 programming period** as part of Union support, in accordance with the general objectives set out in the Regulation establishing the National and Regional Partnership Fund (NRP). Its objective is to enhance the effectiveness of labour markets and promote access to quality employment, improve access to education and training, promote social inclusion and health, and reduce poverty.

The ESF should:

- contribute to progression in **education and training** and the transition to the world of work, support lifelong learning, including formal, non-formal and informal learning, and contribute to societal and economic competitiveness and innovation;
- facilitate **access to services**, including strengthening the modernisation, digitalisation and resilience of health care and long-term care services;
- assist Member States in implementing measures to eliminate all forms of **discrimination** and ensure equal opportunities for all, particularly for groups under-represented in the labour market;
- ensure that everyone, including children in accordance with the European Child Guarantee, has access to **quality essential services**;
- contribute to the modernisation of **social protection systems**, in particular with a view to promoting their accessibility;
- support **children in poverty** and address measures under the Child Guarantee;
- contribute to **poverty reduction** by supporting national schemes aimed at alleviating food and material deprivation and promoting the social integration of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion and the most deprived;

- allocate resources to support **the employability of young people**, in particular young people who are neither in employment, education nor training, and promote youth employment, including through the implementation of the Youth Guarantee.

Member States should also be encouraged to use the ESF to supports targeted actions to promote horizontal principles such as the promotion of **gender equality** and ensuring the accessibility of services for people with disabilities and to enable **people with disabilities** to actively participate.