Basic information

2024/0275(COD)

COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation

RESTORE – Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction

Amending Regulation 2021/1058 2018/0197(COD) Amending Regulation 2021/1057 2018/0206(COD)

Subject

3.70.11 Natural disasters, Solidarity Fund

4.10.15 European Social Fund (ESF), Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)

4.70.07 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Procedure completed, awaiting publication in Official Journal

Key players

Furonoan	Parliament
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Joint committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	BUA Andrzej (EPP)	15/11/2024
REGI Regional Development	OMARJEE Younous (The Left)	15/11/2024
	Shadow rapporteur	
	ABADÍA JOVER Maravillas (EPP)	
	ROS SEMPERE Marcos (S&D)	
	MAIJ Marit (S&D)	
	BORRÁS PABÓN Mireia (PfE)	
	NESCI Denis (ECR)	
	ALLIONE Grégory (Renew)	
	KARVAŠOVÁ ubica (Renew)	
	BOSANAC Gordan (Greens /EFA)	3
	SØVNDAL Villy (Greens /EFA)	
	BOSSDORF Irmhild (ESN)	

Committee for budgetary assessment	Rapporteur for budgetary assessment	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	GÓMEZ LÓPEZ Sandra (S&D)	12/11/2024

Council of the European Union					
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner			
	Regional and Urban Policy	FITTO Raffaele			
European Economic and Social Committee					
European Committee of the Regions					

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
21/10/2024	Legislative proposal published	COM(2024)0496	Summary
13/11/2024	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
13/11/2024	Referral to joint committee announced in Parliament		
13/11/2024	Urgent procedure requested by a committee		
25/11/2024	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
10/12/2024	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A10-0031/2024	
16/12/2024	Debate in Parliament	CRE link	
17/12/2024	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T10-0059/2024	Summary
18/12/2024	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
19/12/2024	Final act signed		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2024/0275(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Nature of procedure	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Amending Regulation 2021/1058 2018/0197(COD) Amending Regulation 2021/1057 2018/0206(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 170 Rules of Procedure EP 58 Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 178-p1 Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 175-p3 Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 164
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee European Committee of the Regions
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed, awaiting publication in Official Journal
Committee dossier	CJ51/10/01255

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary

Amendments tabled in committee		PE765.346	15/11/2024		
Committee opinion	BUDG	PE765.338	22/11/2024		
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A10-0031/2024	10/12/2024		
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T10-0059/2024	17/12/2024	Summary	
Council of the EU					
Document type		erence	Date	Summary	
Draft final act)2/2024/LEX	19/12/2024		
European Commission					
Document type	Refe	erence	Date	Summary	
Legislative proposal	COM	1(2024)0496	21/10/2024	Summary	
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RESTORE – Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction

2024/0275(COD) - 21/10/2024 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to provide additional assistance and further flexibility to Member States affected by natural disasters.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and 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: the recent natural disasters in Central, Eastern and Southern Europe have had a devastating effect on the populations living in these regions. **Extensive reconstruction works will be required** in many cities, towns and villages to repair damaged infrastructure and equipment. Immediate measures will be needed to alleviate the social and economic consequences of such natural disasters.

In order to tackle the devastating effect of natural disasters on people's health, access to healthcare including for people who are not in imminent socio-economic vulnerability should also be allowed. Europe needs to be able to rapidly provide additional, effective support through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) to Member States, regions, local authorities and people severely affected by regional disasters, complementing the resources available from the European Union Solidarity Fund.

CONTENT: in order to provide additional assistance and further flexibility to Member States affected by natural disasters, the Commission proposes to amend Regulation (EU) 2021/1058 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund:

- introduce a **new specific objective** under Policy Objective 2 within the existing scope of the ERDF support in response to natural disasters that occur as from 1 January 2024. This would allow Member States to reprogramme under their 2021-2027 programmes under the Investments for Jobs and Growth goal amounts for the reconstruction following natural disasters as defined in Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 establishing the European Union Solidarity Fund or recognised as such by a competent public authority of a Member State:
- allow for the application of a **Union financing rate of up to 100%** from the EU budget for a separate priority established within a programme to support operations linked to reconstruction and repair. Member States should also ensure that support from other national or Union instruments or private insurance schemes is taken into account so that overpayment is excluded:
- provide additional **pre-financing** for this separate priority by applying 30% to the allocation of the priority as set out in the decision approving the programme where the new dedicated priority is established. Where subsequently the allocation for the priority is increased as a result of further natural disasters, the additional pre-financing will only be paid on the amount by which the allocation to the priority is increased;
- allow Member States to select for support operations that have been physically completed or fully implemented before the application for the funding under the programme is duly submitted to the managing authority where they provide a response to a natural disaster occurring as of 1 January 2024;
- set out a deadline of **four months** after the first occurrence of damage as a result of a natural disaster or the entry into force of the amending Regulation where a disaster occurred before that date to submit corresponding programme amendments.

In order to ensure **further flexibility** for Member States in response to natural disasters that occur as from 1 January 2024 it is proposed to amend Regulation (EU) 2021/1057 to:

- provide flexibility for Member States in the implementation of the ESF+, including the additional pre-financing and the Union financing of up to 100%, to alleviate the socio-economic consequences of natural disasters and;

- provide immediate food and/or basic material assistance to people directly affected by natural disasters, as well as short-time work schemes for employees and self-employed without active measures and access to healthcare including for people who are not in imminent socio-economic vulnerability.

In order to safeguard the long-term strategic nature of cohesion policy investments, the total amount allocated to such dedicated priorities cannot exceed 10% of the total initial national allocation of the ERDF, the ESF+ and the Cohesion Fund taken together in a Member State for the 2021-2027 programming period. Member States should also ensure that support from other national or Union instruments or private insurance schemes is taken into account so that overpayment is excluded.

Budgetary implications

The proposal concerns cohesion policy programmes from the 2021-2027 programming period and does not modify existing budgetary commitments. It remains within the limits of the overall allocation for the period 2021-2027 and is therefore budgetarily neutral.

The proposal will result in additional pre-financing to be paid under the ERDF and ESF+ and will lead to frontloading of payment appropriations.

For 2025, the additional pre-financing was not envisaged in the draft budget. In order to address the urgent needs and provide swift support to the disaster-stricken Member States, the Commission proposed to cover the additional payment needs through an amending letter to the 2025 draft budget. The additional amount for 2025 is **EUR 3 billion** - for the ERDF and the ESF+ taken together - and corresponds to the 30% pre-financing to the estimated allocation (EUR 10 billion) of the dedicated priorities subsequent to the natural disasters having taken place as from 1 January 2024.

RESTORE – Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction

2024/0275(COD) - 17/12/2024 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 638 votes to 10, with 5 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council RESTORE – Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1058 and Regulation (EU) 2021/1057.

Parliament adopted its position at first reading following the ordinary legislative procedure by amending the Commission proposal as follows:

Support for investments for reconstruction in response to natural disasters

In order to alleviate the burden on the budgets of the Member States concerned and to reduce the risk of new territorial disparities, the amending regulation will provide effective support from the **European Social Fund Plus** (ESF+), as well as from the **European Regional Development Fund** (ERDF) and the **Cohesion Fund**, to Member States, regions and local authorities, as well as to people seriously affected by natural disasters occurring **between 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2025**, in addition to the resources available under the European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF).

To provide additional flexibility to Member States affected by natural disasters, the regulation provides a **new specific objective** under the Investment for jobs and growth goal to channel the financial support of the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund for reconstruction in response to such disasters. In the context of reconstruction in response to natural disasters, operations based on the "**build back better**" principle should be prioritised in the selection process.

Where the natural disaster resulting in direct damage below certain thresholds occurs after the date of entry into force of this amending Regulation, it will be understood to be a natural disaster provided that it is recognised as such by a **competent public authority** of the relevant Member State within 12 weeks of the date of the first occurrence of damage as a consequence of that natural disaster.

Financing

The ERDF will be able to finance reconstruction projects up to **95%** of their total cost. In order to provide rapid liquidity to those in need, additional prefinancing of up to **25%** of the total amount will also be made available. The proposal will also allow for a more flexible use of European Social Fund Plus funds to finance the immediate provision of food aid and/or basic material assistance to people directly affected by natural disasters, and to finance short-time working schemes for employees and the self-employed, without active measures, as well as access to healthcare.