



Plenary sitting

A9-0197/2021

7.6.2021

*****II**

RECOMMENDATION FOR SECOND READING

on the Council position at first reading with a view to the adoption of a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013
(06980/2/2021 – C9-0195/2021 – 2018/0206(COD))

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Rapporteur: David Casa

Symbols for procedures

- * Consultation procedure
- *** Consent procedure
- ***I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- ***II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- ***III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

Amendments to a draft act

Amendments by Parliament set out in two columns

Deletions are indicated in ***bold italics*** in the left-hand column. Replacements are indicated in ***bold italics*** in both columns. New text is indicated in ***bold italics*** in the right-hand column.

The first and second lines of the header of each amendment identify the relevant part of the draft act under consideration. If an amendment pertains to an existing act that the draft act is seeking to amend, the amendment heading includes a third line identifying the existing act and a fourth line identifying the provision in that act that Parliament wishes to amend.

Amendments by Parliament in the form of a consolidated text

New text is highlighted in ***bold italics***. Deletions are indicated using either the ▬ symbol or strikeout. Replacements are indicated by highlighting the new text in ***bold italics*** and by deleting or striking out the text that has been replaced.

By way of exception, purely technical changes made by the drafting departments in preparing the final text are not highlighted.

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DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

on the Council position at first reading with a view to the adoption of a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013 (06980/2/2021 – C9-0195/2021 – 2018/0206(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: second reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Council position at first reading (06980/2/2021 – C9-0195/2021),
 - having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 17 October 2018¹,
 - having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions of 5 December 2018²,
 - having regard to its position at first reading³ on the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2018)0382),
 - having regard to the amended Commission proposal (COM(2020)0447),
 - having regard to Article 294(7) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to the provisional agreement approved by the committee responsible under Rule 74(4) of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to Rule 67 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the recommendation for second reading of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (A9-0197/2021),
1. Approves the Council position at first reading;
 2. Takes note of the Commission statements annexed to this resolution;
 3. Notes that the act is adopted in accordance with the Council position;
 4. Instructs its President to sign the act with the President of the Council, in accordance with Article 297(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;
 5. Instructs its Secretary-General to sign the act, once it has been verified that all the procedures have been duly completed, and, in agreement with the Secretary-General of the Council, to arrange for its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*;

¹ OJ C 62, 15.2.2019, p. 165.

² OJ C 86, 7.3.2019, p. 84.

³ Texts adopted of 4.4.2019, P8_TA(2019)0350.

6. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

ANNEX TO THE LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

Commission statement on ESF+ investments to combat child poverty

In 2019 there were 18 million children at risk of poverty and social exclusion in the EU with very high numbers in some Member States. The COVID-19 outbreak and its socio-economic consequences have exacerbated inequalities and poverty with a more pronounced effect on them. Child poverty is consistently present in all Member States and continues to be higher than for working-age adults.

The Commission therefore welcomes the balanced agreement making the ESF+ a decisive tool to address the challenge of child poverty. The agreement recognises the urgency to invest in children in all Member States.

The Commission will soon present a proposal for a Child Guarantee with the aim to tackle the challenge structurally. When programming the ESF+, the Commission will do its utmost to ensure that Member States dedicate appropriate ESF+ funding to contribute to implementing the Child Guarantee. Moreover, it will encourage Member States to also use other EU funding instruments and national resources available to support adequate investments in this area.

Commission statement on ESF+ investments in youth employment

The Commission underlines that young people have been disproportionately hit by the socio-economic crisis following the COVID-19 outbreak. From December 2019 to December 2020 youth unemployment has increased by 3 percentage points in the EU, bringing the number of unemployed young persons to over 3.1 million. The Commission also recalls that youth unemployment has been consistently and significantly higher than that of the adult population with the latest figures showing a difference of over 10 percentage points (17.8% compared to 6.6% in December 2020).

The Commission welcomes the agreement reached by the co-legislators which recognises the challenge across all Member States. The ESF+ is the most important EU funding instrument to implement the recently adopted reinforced Youth Guarantee as well as other relevant measures under the Youth Employment Support initiative.

When programming the ESF+, the Commission will do its utmost to ensure that Member States dedicate appropriate ESF+ funding to implement the reinforced Youth Guarantee. Moreover, it will encourage Member States to use also other EU funding instruments and national resources available to support adequate investments in this area.

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

Title	European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)			
References	06980/2/2021 – C9-0195/2021 – 2018/0206(COD)			
Date of Parliament's first reading – P number	4.4.2019	T8-0350/2019		
Commission proposal	COM(2018)0382 - C8-0232/2018			
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	EMPL 17.6.2020			
Rapporteurs Date appointed	David Casa 24.7.2019			
Previous rapporteurs	Verónica Lope Fontagné			
Discussed in committee	12.11.2019	22.1.2020	30.11.2020	14.1.2021
	1.2.2021			
Date adopted	7.6.2021			
Result of final vote	+: –: 0:	49 2 3		
Members present for the final vote	Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Abir Al-Sahlani, Marc Angel, Dominique Bilde, Gabriele Bischoff, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Milan Brglez, Sylvie Brunet, Jordi Cañas, David Casa, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión, Özlem Demirel, Jarosław Duda, Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová, Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Nicolaus Fest, Loucas Fourlas, Cindy Franssen, Heléne Fritzon, Helmut Geuking, Elisabetta Gualmini, Alicia Homs Ginel, France Jamet, Agnes Jongerius, Stelios Kypouropoulos, Katrin Langensiepen, Miriam Lexmann, Elena Lizzi, Kira Marie Peter-Hansen, Dragoş Pîslaru, Manuel Pizarro, Dennis Radtke, Elżbieta Rafalska, Guido Reil, Daniela Rondinelli, Mounir Satouri, Monica Semedo, Vincenzo Sofo, Beata Szydło, Eugen Tomac, Romana Tomc, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Nikolaj Villumsen, Marianne Vind, Maria Walsh, Anna Zalewska, Stefania Zambelli, Tatjana Ždanoka, Tomáš Zdechovský			
Substitutes present for the final vote	Brando Benifei, José Gusmão, Lukas Mandl, Eugenia Rodríguez Palop			
Date tabled	7.6.2021			

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

49	+
ECR	Elzbieta Rafalska, Vincenzo Sofo, Beata Szydło, Anna Zalewska
ID	Elena Lizzi, Stefania Zambelli
NI	Daniela Rondinelli
PPE	David Casa, Jarosław Duda, Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Loucas Furlas, Cindy Franssen, Helmut Geuking, Stelios Kypouropoulos, Miriam Lexmann, Lukas Mandl, Dennis Radtke, Eugen Tomac, Romana Tomc, Maria Walsh, Tomáš Zdechovský
Renew	Abir Al-Sahlani, Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Sylvie Brunet, Jordi Cañas, Dragoş Pîslaru, Monica Semedo, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová
S&D	Marc Angel, Brando Benifei, Gabriele Bischoff, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Milan Brglez, Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Helène Fritzon, Elisabetta Gualmini, Alicia Homs Ginel, Agnes Jongerius, Manuel Pizarro, Marianne Vind
The Left	Özlem Demirel, José Gusmão, Eugenia Rodríguez Palop, Nikolaj Villumsen
Verts/ALE	Katrin Langensiepen, Kira Marie Peter-Hansen, Mounir Satouri, Tatjana Ždanoka

2	-
ID	Nicolaus Fest, Guido Reil

3	0
ECR	Margarita de la Pisa Carrión
ID	Dominique Bilde, France Jamet

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention