



**2018/0207(COD)**

21.11.2018

# **OPINION**

of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

for the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council  
establishing the Rights and Values programme  
(COM(2018)0383 – C8-0234/2018 – 2018/0207(COD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Josep-Maria Terricabras

PA\_Legam

## SHORT JUSTIFICATION

Your rapporteur supports the aim of the new funding programme ‘Rights and Values’ to protect and promote rights and values as enshrined in the EU Treaties and in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, including by supporting civil society organisations, in order to sustain open, democratic and inclusive societies. To this end, the Commission proposes that the two existing programmes ‘Rights, Equality and Citizenship’ and ‘Europe for Citizens’ be merged and replaced by the new programme and that this new programme, together with the Justice programme, will be part of a new Justice, Rights and Values Fund of the EU budget. Your rapporteur considers, however, that the level of ambition of the Commission proposal should have been higher. In particular, he proposes the addition of a fourth strand focusing on actions promoting democracy, fundamental rights and the rule of law (the Union values strand). He also proposes a conditionality mechanism whereby, in case of indirect management of resources and if a government entity is the recipient, where the Commission has reasonable grounds to believe that a generalised deficiency as regards the values enshrined in Article 2 TEU in the Member State concerned affects or risks affecting the protection of the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may resort to direct management. He furthermore proposes that the work programmes carrying out the new ‘Rights and Values’ programme in accordance with Article 110 of the Financial Regulation be adopted by means of delegated acts so as to allow better scrutiny on the part of Parliament. Finally, he wonders why some distinctive elements of the existing programmes, such as the fight against xenophobia or the promotion of volunteering at EU level, have been left out of the current proposal. He therefore suggests amendments which aim at reinstating those elements and, in general, at improving the proposal with a view to making it more effective in creating an authentic European culture of rights and values.

## AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Constitutional Affairs calls on the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

### Amendment 1

#### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(1a) The rule of law, as enshrined in Article 2 TEU, is the backbone of European democracy and is one of the fundamental values of the European Union stemming from the common constitutional traditions of all Member States. Full respect and promotion of the rule of law and democracy is the basic***

*condition for building citizens' trust in the Union. Respect for the rule of law within the Union is also a prerequisite for the protection of fundamental rights, as well as for upholding all rights and obligations deriving from the Treaties.*

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 1 b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(1b) The way in which the rule of law is implemented in the Member States plays a key role in ensuring mutual trust among Member States and in their legal systems. Unfortunately, in certain Member States, infringements of the values and principles enshrined in the Treaties are being compounded by serious breaches of agreements adopted by the Union institutions and fresh obstacles in the full implementation of Union law. Actions promoting respect for fundamental rights, democracy and the rule of law at local, regional, national and transnational level should therefore be supported by the Union.*

## Amendment 3

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(2) Those rights and values must continue to be promoted ***and enforced and shared*** among the citizens and peoples and be at the heart of the EU project. Therefore, a new Justice, Rights and Values Fund, comprising the Rights and Values and the Justice programmes shall be created in the EU budget. At a time where European societies are confronted

(2) Those rights and values must continue to be ***cultivated, protected and*** promoted among the citizens and peoples and be at the heart of the EU project. Therefore, a new Justice, Rights and Values Fund, comprising the Rights and Values and the Justice programmes shall be created in the EU budget. At a time where European societies are confronted

with extremism, radicalism and divisions, it is more important than ever to promote, strengthen and defend justice, rights and EU values: human rights, respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law. This will have profound and direct implications for political, social, cultural and economic life in the EU. As part of the new Fund, the Justice Programme will continue to support the further development of Union area of justice and cross-border cooperation. The Rights and Values Programme will bring together the 2014-2020 Programme Rights, Equality and Citizenship established by Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>8</sup> and the Europe for Citizens programme established by Council Regulation (EU) No 390/2014<sup>9</sup>, (hereafter 'the predecessor Programmes').

---

<sup>8</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme for the period 2014 to 2020 (OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 62)

<sup>9</sup> Council Regulation (EU) No 390/2014 of 14 April 2014 establishing the 'Europe for Citizens' programme for the period 2014-2020 (OJ L 115, 17.4.2014, p.3)

#### **Amendment 4**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

with extremism, radicalism, ***excessive populism*** and divisions, it is more important than ever to promote, strengthen and defend justice, rights and EU values: human rights, respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law. ***It is also crucial to create an environment enabling peaceful democratic dialogue between representatives of different views.*** This will have profound and direct implications for political, social, cultural and economic life in the EU. As part of the new Fund, the Justice Programme will continue to support the further development of Union area of justice and cross-border cooperation. The Rights and Values Programme will bring together the 2014-2020 Programme Rights, Equality and Citizenship established by Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>8</sup> and the Europe for Citizens programme established by Council Regulation (EU) No 390/2014<sup>9</sup>, (hereafter 'the predecessor Programmes'), ***and it will be adjusted to address new challenges to the European values.***

---

<sup>8</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme for the period 2014 to 2020 (OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 62)

<sup>9</sup> Council Regulation (EU) No 390/2014 of 14 April 2014 establishing the 'Europe for Citizens' programme for the period 2014-2020 (OJ L 115, 17.4.2014, p.3)

*Amendment*

(3) The Justice, Rights and Values Fund and its two underlying funding programmes will focus **primarily** on people and entities, which contribute to make our common values, rights and rich diversity alive and vibrant. The ultimate objective is to nurture and sustain rights-based, equal, inclusive and democratic society. **That includes** a vibrant civil society, **encouraging** people's democratic, civic and social participation and **fostering** the rich diversity of European society, based on our common history and memory. Article 11 of the Treaty of the European Union **further specifies** that the institutions shall, by appropriate means, give citizens and representative associations the opportunity to make known and publicly exchange their views in all areas of Union action.

(3) The Justice, Rights and Values Fund and its two underlying funding programmes will focus on people and entities, which contribute to make our common values, rights and rich diversity alive and vibrant. The ultimate objective is to nurture and sustain rights-based, equal, **open**, inclusive and democratic society **by funding activities that promote** a vibrant, **well-developed, resilient, self-reliant and empowered** civil society, **including advocacy for the promotion and protection of our common values, and that fosters peace**, people's democratic, civic and social participation and **cultivates** the rich diversity of European society, based on our common **values**, history and memory. Article 11 of the Treaty of the European Union **requires** that the institutions **shall maintain an open, transparent and regular dialogue with civil society and** shall, by appropriate means, give citizens and representative associations the opportunity to make known and publicly exchange their views in all areas of Union action. **The Commission should maintain a regular dialogue with the beneficiaries of the Rights and Values Programme as well as other relevant stakeholders by setting up a Civil Dialogue Group.**

## Amendment 5

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) The Rights and Values programme (the 'Programme') should **allow developing synergies to tackle the challenges that are common** to the promotion and protection of values **and to reach a critical dimension to have concrete results in the field. That should be achieved by building** on the **positive experience** of the predecessor Programmes. **This will enable to fully**

*Amendment*

(4) The Rights and Values programme (the 'Programme') should **address the most important** challenges to the promotion and protection of values, **taking into account that the challenges may vary across the Union. To ensure concrete impact, the Programme should build** on the lessons of the predecessor Programmes. **It should also take advantage** of synergies **with**

*exploit the potential* of synergies, *to more effectively support the policy areas covered and to* increase their potential to reach people. To be effective, the Programme should take into account the specific nature of the different policies, their different target groups and their particular needs through tailor-made approaches.

## **Amendment 6**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*other policies and programmes of the Union and of other actors. This should increase their effectiveness and efficiency as well as* their potential to reach people. To be effective, the Programme should take into account the specific nature of the different policies, their different target groups and their particular needs through tailor-made approaches.

*Amendment*

***(4a) The rule of law, as enshrined in Article 2 TEU, is the backbone of European democracy and is one of the fundamental values of the European Union stemming from the common constitutional traditions of all Member States. Full respect and promotion of the rule of law and democracy is the basic condition for building citizens' trust in the Union. Respect for the rule of law within the Union is also a prerequisite for the protection of fundamental rights, as well as for upholding all rights and obligations deriving from the Treaties. The way in which the rule of law is implemented in the Member States plays a key role in ensuring mutual trust among Member States and their legal systems. Actions promoting respect for fundamental rights, democracy and the rule of law at local, regional, national and transnational level should therefore be supported by the Union.***

## **Amendment 7**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(5) In order to bring the European Union closer to its citizens, a variety of actions and coordinated efforts are necessary. Bringing together citizens in town-twinning projects or networks of towns and supporting civil society organisations in the areas covered by the programme will contribute to increase citizens' engagement in society and ultimately their involvement in the democratic life of the Union. At the same time supporting activities promoting mutual understanding, diversity, dialogue and respect for others fosters a sense of belonging and a European identity, based on a shared understanding of European values, culture, history and heritage. The promotion of a greater sense of belonging to the Union and of Union values is particularly important amongst citizens of the EU outermost regions due to their remoteness and distance from continental Europe.

**Amendment 8**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Recital 6**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) Remembrance activities and critical reflection on Europe's historical memory are **necessary** to make citizens aware of the common history, as the foundation for a common future, moral purpose and shared values. The relevance of historical, cultural and intercultural aspects should also be taken into account, as well as the links between remembrance and the creation of a European identity and sense of belonging together.

**Amendment 9**

PE628.563v03-00

*Amendment*

(5) In order to bring the European Union closer to its citizens, a variety of actions and coordinated efforts are necessary. Bringing together citizens in town-twinning projects or networks of towns and supporting civil society organisations in the areas covered by the programme will contribute to increase citizens' engagement in society and ultimately their involvement in the democratic life of the Union. At the same time supporting activities promoting mutual understanding, diversity, dialogue, **social inclusion** and respect for others fosters a sense of belonging and a European identity, based on a shared understanding of European values, culture, history and heritage. The promotion of a greater sense of belonging to the Union and of Union values is particularly important amongst citizens of the EU outermost regions due to their remoteness and distance from continental Europe.

*Amendment*

(6) Remembrance activities and critical reflection on Europe's historical memory are **important** to make citizens aware of the common history **and core values**, as the foundation for a common future, moral purpose and shared values. The relevance of historical, cultural and intercultural aspects should also be taken into account, as well as the links between remembrance and the creation of a European identity **based on diversity, solidarity** and sense of belonging together.

8/37

AD\1169763EN.docx



**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 13 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(13a) Freedom of expression and information is enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Community. Free access to information, evaluation of media framework conditions and the responsible and safe use of information and communication networks are directly linked to free public opinion and are essential for guaranteeing a functional democracy. It is necessary for the public to acquire the media literacy skills necessary for critical thinking and discernment and the ability to analyse complex realities, recognise differences between opinions and facts and resist any form of incitement to hatred. To this end, the Union should promote the development of media literacy for all citizens, regardless of their age, through training, awareness raising, studies and other relevant activities.***

**Amendment 10**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 18**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(18) Independent human rights bodies and civil society organisations play an essential role in promoting, safeguarding and raising awareness of the Union's common values under Article 2 TEU, and in contributing to the effective enjoyment of rights under Union law, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU. As reflected in the European Parliament Resolution of **18** April 2018, adequate financial support is key to the development of a conducive and sustainable environment for civil society organisations to strengthen their role and perform their

(18) Independent human rights bodies and civil society organisations play an essential role in promoting, safeguarding and raising awareness of the Union's common values under Article 2 TEU, and in contributing to the effective enjoyment of rights under Union law, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU. As reflected in the European Parliament Resolution of **19** April 2018, adequate financial support is key to the development of a conducive and sustainable environment for civil society organisations to strengthen their role and perform their

functions independently and effectively. Complementing efforts at national level, EU funding should therefore contribute to support, empower and build the capacity of independent civil society organisations active in the promotion of *human* rights whose activities help the strategic enforcement of rights under EU law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, including through advocacy and watchdog activities, as well as to promote, safeguard and raise awareness of the Union's common values at national level.

functions independently and effectively. Complementing efforts at national level, EU funding should therefore contribute to support, empower and build the capacity of independent civil society organisations active in the promotion of *Union values such as democracy, rule of law and fundamental* rights, whose activities help the strategic enforcement of rights under EU law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, including through advocacy and watchdog activities, as well as to promote, safeguard and raise awareness of the Union's common values at national level.

## Amendment 11

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 20

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(20) The Programme should be open, subject to certain conditions, to the participation of European Free Trade Association (EFTA) members which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA) and EFTA members which are not members of the EEA and other European countries. Acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidate countries benefiting from a pre-accession strategy should also be able to participate in the Programme.

#### *Amendment*

(20) ***With respect to the implementation of the specific objectives of promoting equality and rights, citizens' engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union, and combating violence against groups at risk***, the Programme should be open, subject to certain conditions, to the participation of European Free Trade Association (EFTA) members which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA) and EFTA members which are not members of the EEA and other European countries. Acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidate countries benefiting from a pre-accession strategy should also be able to participate in the Programme.

## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 21

(21) In order to ensure efficient allocation of funds from the general budget of the Union, it is necessary to ensure the European added value of all actions carried out, ***their*** complementarity ***to*** Member States' actions, ***while consistency, complementarity and synergies shall be sought*** with funding programmes supporting policy areas with close links to ***each other, in particular within the Justice, Rights and Values Fund — and thus with the Justice Programme — as well as*** with Creative Europe programme, and Erasmus+ ***to realise the potential of cultural crossovers in the fields of culture, media, arts, education and creativity. It is necessary to create synergies with other European funding programmes, in particular in the fields of employment, internal market, enterprise, youth, health, citizenship, justice, migration, security, research, innovation, technology, industry, cohesion, tourism, external relations, trade and development.***

(21) In order to ensure efficient allocation of funds from the general budget of the Union, it is necessary to ensure the European added value of all actions carried out, ***including at local, regional and national level, directed at promoting and safeguarding the values enshrined in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union. The Commission is to seek consistency, synergies and complementarity with*** Member States' actions, ***and*** with ***other*** funding programmes supporting policy areas with close links to Justice, Rights and Values Fund, ***including*** with Creative Europe programme, and Erasmus+, ***as well as with relevant policies of the Union.***

### **Amendment 13**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 23**

(23) Regulation (EU, Euratom) No [the new FR] (the 'Financial Regulation') applies to this Programme. It lays down rules on the implementation of the Union budget, including the rules on grants, prizes, procurement, indirect implementation, financial assistance, financial instruments and budgetary guarantees.

(23) Regulation (EU, Euratom) No [the new FR] (the 'Financial Regulation') applies to this Programme. It lays down rules on the implementation of the Union budget, including the rules on grants, prizes, procurement, indirect implementation, financial assistance, financial instruments and budgetary guarantees. ***It is necessary to ensure that the Programme's grant-making procedures and requirement user-friendly for potential beneficiaries, including for grassroots local civil society organisations, and that they ensure full***

*transparency on the use of resources, sound financial management and prudent use of resources. Rules concerning the possibility for local, regional, national and transnational civil society organisations to be funded through multiannual operating grants, cascading grants, provisions ensuring fast and flexible grant-making procedures, such as a two-step-application procedure, user-friendly applications and reporting procedures should be operationalised and further strengthened as part of the implementation of this Programme.*

## Amendment 14

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 24

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(24) The types of financing and the methods of implementation under this Regulation should be chosen on the basis of their ability to achieve the specific objectives of the actions and to deliver results, taking into account, in particular, the costs of controls, the administrative burden, and the expected risk of non-compliance. This should include consideration of the use of lump sums, flat rates *and* unit costs, as well as financing not linked to costs as referred to in Article 125(1) of the Financial Regulation. In accordance with the Financial Regulation, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>20</sup> Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2988/95<sup>21</sup> Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96<sup>22</sup> and Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939<sup>23</sup> the financial interests of the Union are to be protected through proportionate measures, including the prevention, detection, correction and investigation of irregularities and fraud, the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used and, where appropriate,

#### *Amendment*

(24) The types of financing and the methods of implementation under this Regulation should be chosen on the basis of their ability to achieve the specific objectives of the actions and to deliver results, taking into account, in particular, the costs of controls, the administrative burden *for Commission and beneficiary, capacity of potential beneficiary* and the expected risk of non-compliance. This should include consideration of the use of lump sums, flat rates, unit costs, *financial support for third parties*, as well as financing not linked to costs as referred to in Article 125(1) of the Financial Regulation. *Co-funding criteria should be accepted in kind, including in form of voluntary work, and could be waived in cases of limited complementary funding.* In accordance with the Financial Regulation, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>20</sup> Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2988/95<sup>21</sup> Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96<sup>22</sup> and Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939<sup>23</sup>

the imposition of administrative sanctions. In particular, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 and Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) may carry out administrative investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections, with a view to establishing whether there has been fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/1939, the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) may investigate and prosecute fraud and other criminal offences affecting the financial interests of the Union as provided for in Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>24</sup>. In accordance with the Financial Regulation, any person or entity receiving Union funds is to fully cooperate in the protection of the Union's financial interests, to grant the necessary rights and access to the Commission, OLAF, the EPPO and the European Court of Auditors (ECA) and to ensure that any third parties involved in the implementation of Union funds grant equivalent rights.

---

<sup>20</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999, (OJ L248, 18.9.2013, p. 1.

<sup>21</sup> Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities

the financial interests of the Union are to be protected through proportionate measures, including the prevention, detection, correction and investigation of irregularities and fraud, the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used and, where appropriate, the imposition of administrative sanctions. In particular, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 and Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) may carry out administrative investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections, with a view to establishing whether there has been fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/1939, the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) may investigate and prosecute fraud and other criminal offences affecting the financial interests of the Union as provided for in Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>24</sup>. In accordance with the Financial Regulation, any person or entity receiving Union funds is to fully cooperate in the protection of the Union's financial interests, to grant the necessary rights and access to the Commission, OLAF, the EPPO and the European Court of Auditors (ECA) and to ensure that any third parties involved in the implementation of Union funds grant equivalent rights.

---

<sup>20</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999, (OJ L248, 18.9.2013, p. 1.

<sup>21</sup> Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities

financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.95, p.1).

<sup>22</sup> Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L292.15.11.96,, p.2).

<sup>23</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO') (OJ L283, 31.10.2017,, p.1).

<sup>24</sup> Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29).

financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.95, p.1).

<sup>22</sup> Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L292.15.11.96,, p.2).

<sup>23</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO') (OJ L283, 31.10.2017,, p.1).

<sup>24</sup> Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29).

## Amendment 15

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 24 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(24a) In order to increase accessibility and provide guidance and practical information in relation to the Programme, Contact Points in Member States should be set up to provide assistance to both beneficiaries and applicants.***

## Amendment 16

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 25

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(25) Third countries which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA) may participate in Union programmes in the framework of the cooperation established under the EEA agreement,

***(25) In relation to the implementation of the specific objectives of promoting equality and rights, citizens' engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union, and combating violence***

which provides for the implementation of the programmes by a decision under that agreement. Third countries *may* also participate on the basis of other legal instruments. A specific provision should be introduced in this Regulation to grant the necessary rights for and access to the authorizing officer responsible, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) as well as the European Court of Auditors to comprehensively exert their respective competences.

*against groups at risk*, third countries which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA) may participate in Union programmes in the framework of the cooperation established under the EEA agreement, which provides for the implementation of the programmes by a decision under that agreement. Third countries may also participate on the basis of other legal instruments. A specific provision should be introduced in this Regulation to grant the necessary rights for and access to the authorizing officer responsible, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) as well as the European Court of Auditors to comprehensively exert their respective competences.

## Amendment 17

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 30

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(30) In order to ensure *uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation*, the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission in respect of indicators as indicated in *Article 14 and 16 and Annex II*. It is of particular importance that the Commission carry out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level, and that those consultations be conducted in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016. In particular, to ensure equal participation in the preparation of delegated acts, the European Parliament and the Council receive all documents at the same time as Member States' experts, and their experts systematically have access to meetings of Commission expert groups dealing with the

#### *Amendment*

(30) In order to *carry out the Programme and ensure effective assessment of its progress towards the achievement of its objectives*, the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission in respect of *work programmes as indicated in Article 13 and* indicators as indicated in *Articles 14 and 16 and Annex II*. It is of particular importance that the Commission carry out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level, and that those consultations be conducted in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016. In particular, to ensure equal participation in the preparation of delegated acts, the European Parliament and the Council receive all documents at the same time as Member States' experts, and their experts

preparation of delegated acts.

systematically have access to meetings of Commission expert groups dealing with the preparation of delegated acts.

*(see amendments to Recital 31 and Articles 13, 16 and 19)*

#### *Justification*

*The work programmes should be adopted by means of delegated acts and this recital needs to be adapted accordingly. It should also be aligned with the wording of the delegation of powers referred to in Article 16.*

### **Amendment 18**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Recital 31**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(31) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council .***

***deleted***

*(see amendments to Recital 30 and Articles 13, 16 and 19)*

#### *Justification*

*This recital needs to be deleted since the proposal should not include any reference to implementing acts.*

### **Amendment 19**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 1 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

It lays down the objectives of the Programme, the budget for the period 2021 – 2027, the forms of Union funding and the **rules** for providing such funding.

It lays down the objectives **and scope** of the Programme, the budget for the period 2021 – 2027, the forms of Union funding and the **conditions** for providing



such funding.

## Amendment 20

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The general objective of the Programme is to protect and promote rights and values as enshrined in the EU Treaties, **including** by supporting civil society organisations, in order to sustain open, democratic and inclusive societies.

*Amendment*

1. The general objective of the Programme is to protect and promote rights and values as enshrined in the EU Treaties, **in particular** by supporting civil society organisations **at local, national and transnational level**, in order to sustain open, **rights-based**, democratic, **equal** and inclusive societies.

## Amendment 21

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 2 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**2a. to promote and safeguard fundamental rights and values, democracy and the rule of law at local, regional, national and transnational level (Union values strand);**

## Amendment 22

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Article 2a**

**Union values strand**

**Within the specific objectives set out in point (-a) of Article 2(2), the Programme shall focus on:**

**(a) protecting and promoting:**

- (i) democracy and the rule of law, including ensuring the independence of the judiciary;**
- (ii) availability and effectiveness of judicial protection by impartial courts, including protection of fundamental rights; timely and correct implementation of judgments; effectiveness of investigation, prosecution or sanctioning of breaches of law;**
- (ii) transparency and non-arbitrariness of decisions by public authorities, including by law enforcement bodies;**
- (b) providing support for independent human rights defenders and civil society organisations undertaking the monitoring of compliance with the rule of law;**
- (c) providing support for whistleblower defence and initiatives that promote transparency, accountability, integrity and absence of corruption and conflicts of interest in public authorities;**
- (d) protecting and promoting fundamental rights, including strengthening freedom of expression, peaceful assembly or association, media freedom and pluralism of the media, including investigative journalism, academic freedom, freedom of religion or belief and the right to privacy and family life;**
- (e) supporting, empowering and building the capacity of independent civil society organisations active in the fields referred to in points (a) to (d) of this article.**

*(see amendments to Recital 4 a (new), Articles 2(2)(-a)(new) and 6 and Annex I)*

#### *Justification*

*The new Programme should include a specific objective relating to the promotion of democracy, fundamental rights and the rule of law (the Union values strand).*

## Amendment 23

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 3 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Within the specific objective set out in point (a) of Article 2(2), the Programme shall focus on:

*Amendment*

***Within the general objective set out in Article 2(1) and*** within the specific objective set out in point (a) of Article 2(2), the Programme shall focus on:

## Amendment 24

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) preventing and combating inequalities and discrimination on grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and supporting comprehensive policies to promote gender equality and anti-discrimination and their mainstreaming as well policies to combat racism and all forms of intolerance;

*Amendment*

(a) preventing and combating inequalities and discrimination on grounds of sex, ***gender***, racial, ***social, cultural*** or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and supporting comprehensive policies to promote gender equality and anti-discrimination and their mainstreaming as well policies to combat racism, ***xenophobia, homophobia*** and all ***other*** forms of intolerance;

*Justification*

*This amendment reinstates elements of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme.*

## Amendment 25

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(aa) promoting equality as a universal fundamental right and a core value of the Union;***

## Amendment 26

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) protecting and promoting the rights of the child, the rights of people with disabilities, Union citizenship rights and the right to the protection of personal data.

*Amendment*

(b) protecting and promoting the rights of the child, the rights of people with disabilities, Union citizenship rights and the right to the protection of **privacy and** personal data; **raising awareness of such rights**.

*Justification*

*This amendment reinstates elements of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme.*

## Amendment 27

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Within the specific objective set out in point (b) of Article 2(2), the Programme shall focus on:

*Amendment*

**Within the general objective set out in Article 2(1) and** within the specific objective set out in point (b) of Article 2(2), the Programme shall focus on:

## Amendment 28

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) increasing citizens' understanding of the Union, its history, cultural heritage **and** diversity;

*Amendment*

(a) increasing citizens' understanding of the Union, **and its integration**, history, , **institutions, values, aim, and** cultural heritage, **which make up European identity in its** diversity;

*Justification*

*This amendment reinstates elements of the Europe for Citizens programme.*

## Amendment 29

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) promoting exchange and cooperation between citizens of different countries; to promote citizens' civic and democratic participation allowing citizens and representative associations to make known and publicly exchange their views in all areas of Union action;

*Amendment*

(b) promoting exchange and cooperation between citizens of different countries; to promote citizens' civic and democratic participation allowing citizens and representative associations to make known and publicly exchange their views in all areas of Union action, ***so as to increase the understanding of a pluralistic and participatory democracy, the rule of law and fundamental rights and values;***

**Amendment 30**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(b a) promoting citizens' civic and democratic participation at Union level allowing citizens and representative associations to make known and publicly exchange their views in all areas of Union action and debate the future of European integration;***

*(see amendment to Article 4(1)(b))*

**Amendment 31**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(b b) promoting opportunities for societal, intercultural and inter-religious engagement and volunteering at Union level;***

## Justification

*This amendment reinstates elements of the Europe for Citizens programme.*

### Amendment 32

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) preventing and combating all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk;

*Amendment*

(a) preventing and combating all forms of violence ***in particular*** against children, young people and women, as well as violence against ***all*** other groups at risk;

### Amendment 33

#### Proposal for a regulation

##### Article 6

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Article 6

Budget

1. The financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021 – 2027 shall be EUR [***641 705 000***] in current prices.

2. Within the amount referred to in paragraph 1 the following indicative amount shall be allocated to the following objective:

(a) EUR [***408.705.000***] for the specific objectives referred to in article 2(2)(a) and 2(2)(c);

(b) EUR [***233.000.000***] for the specific objective referred to in Article 2(2)(b);

*Amendment*

Article 6

Budget

1. The financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021 – 2027 shall be EUR [***1 834 000 000***] in current prices.

2. Within the amount referred to in paragraph 1 the following indicative amount shall be allocated to the following objective:

***(-a) EUR [850 000 000] for the specific objectives referred to in point (-a) of article 2(2);***

(a) EUR [***484.000.000***] for the specific objectives referred to in ***points (a) and (c)*** of article 2(2);

(b) EUR [***500.000.000***] for the specific objective referred to in ***point (b)*** of Article 2(2);

***2a. No less than 65% of funds referred to in Article 6 (2)(a) and Art 6(2)(b) shall***

***be allocated to action grants, operating grants and core funding for civil society organisations.***

3. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 may be used for technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the Programme, such as preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities including corporate information technology systems, studies, meetings of experts, communications on priorities and areas related to the general objectives of the programme.

4. Without prejudice to the Financial Regulation, expenditure for actions resulting from projects included in the first work programme may be eligible as from 1 January 2021.

5. Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be transferred to the Programme. The Commission shall implement those resources directly in accordance with Article 62(1)(a) of the Financial Regulation or indirectly in accordance with Article 62(1)(c). Where possible those resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned.

3. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 may be used for technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the Programme, such as preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities including corporate information technology systems, studies, meetings of experts, communications on priorities and areas related to the general objectives of the programme.

4. Without prejudice to the Financial Regulation, expenditure for actions resulting from projects included in the first work programme may be eligible as from 1 January 2021.

5. Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be transferred to the Programme. The Commission shall implement those resources directly in accordance with Article 62(1)(a) of the Financial Regulation or indirectly in accordance with Article 62(1)(c). Where possible those resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned.

## **Amendment 34**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The Programme may provide funding in any of the forms laid down in the Financial Regulation.

*Amendment*

2. The Programme may provide funding in any of the forms laid down in the Financial Regulation, ***which shall ensure sound financial management, prudent use of public funds, low administrative burdens for the Programme operator and for beneficiaries as well as accessibility of the Programme funds to potential beneficiaries. The Programme shall provide funding primarily through action grants, annual***

*and multiannual operating grants and core funding. It may use lump sums, unit costs, flat rates and financial assistance for third parties. Co-funding requirements shall be accepted in kind and may be waived in cases of limited complementary funding.*

## **Amendment 35**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 9 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### *Article 9a*

##### *Activities eligible for funding*

*The general and specific objectives of the Programme shall be pursued in particular, but not exclusively, through support to the following activities carried out by one or several eligible entities:*

- (a) awareness raising, public education, promotion and dissemination of information to improve the knowledge of the policies, principles and rights in the areas covered by the Programme and its objectives;*
- (b) analytical monitoring, reporting and advocacy activities to improve the understanding of the situation in the Member States and at Union level in the areas covered by the Programme as well as to improve the proper transposition and implementation of Union law, policies and common Union values within Member States;*
- (c) training relevant stakeholders to improve their knowledge of the policies and rights in the fields covered and strengthening relevant stakeholders' capability to advocate for the policies and rights in the fields covered;*
- (d) promoting public awareness and*



*understanding of the risks, rules, safeguards and rights in relation to the protection of personal data, privacy, and digital security, as well as addressing fake news and targeted misinformation through awareness raising, trainings, studies and monitoring activities;*

*(e) strengthening citizen's awareness of European integration, culture, history, core values and remembrance as well as their sense of solidarity and belonging to the Union;*

*(f) bringing together Europeans of different nationalities and cultures by giving them the opportunity to participate in town-twinning activities, projects and volunteering at Union level;*

*(g) encouraging and facilitating active and inclusive participation in the construction of a more democratic Union as well as raising awareness, promoting and defending rights and values through support to civil society organisations;*

*(h) financing the technical and organisational support to implement Regulation [(EU)No 211/2011], thereby underpinning the exercise by citizens of the right to launch and support European citizens' initiatives;*

*(i) supporting civil society organisations active in the areas covered by the Programme at all levels, as well as developing the capacity of European networks and civil society organisations to contribute to the development, awareness raising and monitoring of the implementation of Union law, policy goals, values and strategies;*

*(j) strengthening the capacity and independence of human rights defenders and civil society organisations monitoring the situation of the rule of law and supporting actions at the local, regional and national level;*

*(k) supporting initiatives and measures to promote and protect freedom and pluralism of the media, and to build capacity for the new challenges such as new media and countering hate speech;*

*(l) support and build capacity for civil society organisations active in promoting and monitoring transparency and integrity of public administration and fighting corruption;*

*(m) supporting civil society organisations active in the area of protection and promotion of fundamental rights, including support for actions to raise awareness of fundamental rights and contribute to social support and human rights education;*

*(n) supporting initiatives and measures to promote and protect freedom and pluralism of the media, and to build capacity for the new challenges such as new media and countering hate speech;*

*(o) supporting activities aimed at promoting peaceful democratic dialogue between people of different political views.*

*(p) supporting information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools development and maintenance and measures to promote media literacy among the public;*

## **Amendment 36**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 12 – paragraph 2 – point a – indent 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

– a Member State or an overseas country or territory linked to *it*;

*Amendment*

– a Member State or an overseas country or territory linked to *a Member State*;

## **Amendment 37**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 12 – paragraph 2 – point a – indent 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

– a third country associated to the Programme;

*Amendment*

– a third country associated to the Programme ***in accordance with Article 7 of this Regulation***;

**Amendment 38**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 13 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Programme shall be ***implemented*** by work programmes referred to in Article 110 of Financial Regulation.

*Amendment*

1. The Programme shall be ***carried out*** by work programmes referred to in Article 110 of Financial Regulation.

*(see amendments to Recitals 30 and 31 and Articles 13(2), 16 and 19)*

**Amendment 39**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 13 – paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1a. The Commission shall apply the partnership principle when deciding its priorities under the Programme and provide for a comprehensive involvement of stakeholders into planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this Programme and its work programmes in accordance with Article 15a.***

**Amendment 40**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 13 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

2. The **work programme shall be adopted by the Commission by means of an implementing act. That implementing act shall be adopted in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 19.**

2. The Commission **is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 16 to supplement this Regulation by establishing the appropriate work programme.**

*(see amendments to Recitals 30 and 31 and Articles 13(1), 16 and 19)*

*Justification*

*The work programmes should be adopted by means of delegated acts. This amendment proposes the appropriate wording.*

#### **Amendment 41**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 14 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

3. The performance reporting system shall ensure that data for monitoring programme implementation and results are collected efficiently, effectively, and in a timely manner. To that end, proportionate reporting requirements shall be imposed on recipients of Union funds and Member States.

3. The performance reporting system shall ensure that data for monitoring programme implementation and results are collected efficiently, effectively, and in a timely manner. To that end, proportionate **and least burdensome** reporting requirements shall be imposed on recipients of Union funds and Member States. ***In order to facilitate reporting requirements being met, the Commission shall make available user-friendly formats and provide orientation and support programmes particularly targeted to social partners and organisations, who may not always have the know-how and adequate resources and staff to meet reporting requirements.***

#### **Amendment 42**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 15 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The interim evaluation of the Programme shall be performed once there is sufficient information available about the implementation of the Programme, but no later than four years after the start of the programme implementation. The **mid-term** evaluation shall take into account the results of the evaluations of the long-term impact of the predecessor programmes (Rights Equality and Citizenship and Europe for Citizens).

*Amendment*

2. The interim evaluation of the Programme shall be performed once there is sufficient information available about the implementation of the Programme, but no later than four years after the start of the programme implementation. The **interim** evaluation shall take into account the results of the evaluations of the long-term impact of the predecessor programmes (Rights Equality and Citizenship and Europe for Citizens).

*Justification*

*This amendment aims at ensuring a more consistent wording within the same paragraph.*

**Amendment 43**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 15 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. The Commission shall communicate the conclusions of the evaluations accompanied by its observations, to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.

*Amendment*

4. The Commission shall communicate the conclusions of the evaluations accompanied by its observations, to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. ***The Commission shall make the evaluation public and easy accessible by publishing it on its website.***

**Amendment 44**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 16 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in **Article 14** shall be conferred on the Commission until 31 December

*Amendment*

2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in **Articles 13 and 14** shall be conferred on the Commission until 31

*(see amendments to Recitals 30 and 31 and Articles 13, 16(3) and (6) and 19)*

*Justification*

*The work programmes should be adopted by means of delegated acts. This amendment proposes the appropriate wording.*

**Amendment 45**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 16 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. The delegation of power referred to in **Article 14** may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.

*Amendment*

3. The delegation of power referred to in **Articles 13 and 14** may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.

*(see amendments to Recitals 30 and 31 and Articles 13, 16(2) and (6) and 19)*

*Justification*

*The work programmes should be adopted by means of delegated acts. This amendment proposes the appropriate wording.*

**Amendment 46**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 16 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State in accordance with the principles laid down in

*Amendment*

4. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State in accordance with the principles laid down in

the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016.

the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016. *When preparing and drawing up delegated acts, the Commission shall ensure a timely and simultaneous transmission of all documents, including the draft acts, to the European Parliament and the Council at the same time as to Member States' experts. Where they consider this necessary, the European Parliament and the Council may each send experts to meetings of the Commission expert groups dealing with the preparation of delegated acts to which Member States' experts are invited.*

#### Amendment 47

##### Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 5

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

5. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.

###### *Amendment*

5. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council. *Based on the Interinstitutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making, citizens and other stakeholders may express their opinion on the draft text of a delegated act during a four-week period. The European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of Regions shall be consulted on the draft text with respect to the implementation of the Programme.*

#### Amendment 48

##### Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 6

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to *Article* 14 shall enter into force if no objection has been expressed either by the

###### *Amendment*

6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to *Articles 13 and* 14 shall enter into force if no objection has been expressed either by

European Parliament or by the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.

the European Parliament or by the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.

*(see amendments to Recitals 30 and 31 and Articles 13, 16(2) and (3) and 19)*

#### *Justification*

*The work programmes should be adopted by means of delegated acts. This amendment proposes the appropriate wording.*

### **Amendment 49**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 18 – paragraph 1**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The recipients of Union funding shall acknowledge the origin and ensure the visibility of the Union funding (in particular when promoting the actions and their results) by providing coherent, effective and proportionate targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media and the public.

##### *Amendment*

1. The recipients of Union funding shall acknowledge the origin and ensure the visibility of the Union funding (in particular when promoting the actions and their results), by providing coherent, effective and proportionate targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media and the public ***and, where appropriate, beneficiaries of actions funded in this way and participants therein.***

### **Amendment 50**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 18 a (new)**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

##### *Amendment*

##### ***Article 18a***

##### ***Programme contact points***



*The Commission shall set up Contact Points in Member States in cooperation with local partners and/or Member States. The contact points shall provide stakeholders and beneficiaries of the Programme with impartial guidance and practical information and assistance in relation to all aspects of the Programme, including in relation to the application procedure, project implementation procedures, reporting and other formalities. The contact points may be managed by Member States or civil society organisations or consortia thereof.*

## **Amendment 51**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 19**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### *Article 19*

*deleted*

- 1. The Commission shall be assisted by a committee. This committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.*
- 2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.*
- 3. The committee may meet in specific configurations to deal with the individual strands of the Programme.*

*(see amendments to Recitals 30 and 31 and Articles 13 and 16)*

*Justification*

*This article needs to be deleted since the proposal should not include any reference to implementing acts.*

## **Amendment 52**

### **Proposal for a regulation Annex I**

***Annex I***

***deleted***

***Activities of the Programme***

***The specific objectives of the Programme referred to in Article 2(2) will be pursued in particular through support to the following activities:***

- (a) awareness raising, dissemination of information to improve the knowledge of the policies and rights in the areas covered by the Programme;***
- (b) mutual learning through exchange of good practices among stakeholders to improve knowledge and mutual understanding and civic and democratic engagement;***
- (c) analytical and monitoring activities<sup>31</sup> to improve the understanding of the situation in the Member States and at EU level in the areas covered by the Programme as well as to improve the implementation of EU law and policies ;***
- (d) training relevant stakeholders to improve their knowledge of the policies and rights in the fields covered;***
- (e) information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools development and maintenance;***
- (f) strengthening citizen's awareness of European culture, history and remembrance as well as their sense of belonging to the Union;***
- (g) bringing together Europeans of different nationalities and cultures by giving them the opportunity to participate in town-twinning activities;***
- (h) encouraging and facilitating active participation in the construction of a more democratic Union as well as awareness of rights and values through support to civil society organisations***
- (i) financing the technical and***

*organisational support to implement Regulation [(EU)No 211/2011], thereby underpinning the exercise by citizens of the right to launch and support European citizens' initiatives;*

*(j) developing the capacity of European networks to promote and further develop Union law, policy goals and strategies as well as supporting civil society organisations active in the areas covered by the Programme.*

*(k) enhancing knowledge of the programme and dissemination and transferability of its results and fostering citizen outreach, including by setting up and supporting programme desks/national contact network.*

---

*<sup>31</sup> These activities include for instance the collection of data and statistics; the development of common methodologies and, where appropriate, indicators or benchmarks; studies, researches, analyses and surveys; evaluations; impact assessment; the elaboration and publication of guides, reports and educational material.*

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	Establishing the Rights and Values programme	
<b>References</b>	COM(2018)0383 – C8-0234/2018 – 2018/0207(COD)	
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	LIBE 14.6.2018	
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	AFCO 14.6.2018	
<b>Rapporteur</b> Date appointed	Josep-Maria Terricabras 24.9.2018	
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	22.10.2018	12.11.2018
<b>Date adopted</b>	21.11.2018	
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 20 –: 2 0: 0	
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Mercedes Bresso, Elmar Brok, Richard Corbett, Pascal Durand, Danuta Maria Hübner, Ramón Jáuregui Atondo, Jo Leinen, Morten Messerschmidt, Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz, Markus Pieper, Paulo Rangel, Helmut Scholz, György Schöpflin, Pedro Silva Pereira, Barbara Spinelli, Kazimierz Michał Ujazdowski	
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Enrique Guerrero Salom, Jérôme Lavrilleux, Georg Mayer, Jasenko Selimovic, Rainer Wieland	
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Pavel Svoboda	

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>20</b>	<b>+</b>
ALDE	Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz, Jasenko Selimovic
GUE/NGL	Helmut Scholz, Barbara Spinelli
NI	Kazimierz Michał Ujazdowski
PPE	Elmar Brok, Danuta Maria Hübner, Jérôme Lavrilleux, Markus Pieper, Paulo Rangel, György Schöpflin, Pavel Svoboda, Rainer Wieland
S&D	Mercedes Bresso, Richard Corbett, Enrique Guerrero Salom, Ramón Jáuregui Atondo, Jo Leinen, Pedro Silva Pereira
VERTS/ALE	Pascal Durand

<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>
ECR	Morten Messerschmidt
ENF	Georg Mayer

<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Key to symbols:**

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention