

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Foreign Affairs

2008/2117(INI)

20.1.2009

OPINION

of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

for the Committee on Development

with recommendations to the Commission on the financing of actions other than Official Development Assistance in countries falling under Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 (2008/2117(INI))

Draftsman (*): Angelika Beer

(Initiative – Rule 39 of the Rules of Procedure)

(*): Associated Committee – Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Foreign Affairs calls on the Committee on Development, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution and in the recommendations (annexed to the motion for a resolution):

1. Welcomes the 2006 reform of the EU's foreign policy instruments which set up for the first time a clear framework for the EU's Official Development Assistance (ODA) under one regulation, the Instrument for Development Cooperation (DCI);
2. Stresses, however, that this new framework has created a legal gap as regards all EU activities with third countries under the DCI which do not fulfil ODA criteria, such as cultural, scientific and economic exchange programmes, citizen-to-citizen contacts, or political dialogue;
3. Calls on the Commission to submit to it, within six months of the date of adoption of this resolution, on the basis of Articles 179 and 181a of the Treaty, a legislative proposal amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1934/2006 of 21 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for cooperation with industrialised and other high-income countries and territories; requests the Commission to make this an "Instrument for Non-ODA Cooperation with Third Countries";
4. Considers it crucial that the Commission ensures that the instrument is adequately financed; suggests that the funding be drawn from the share under the DCI earmarked for non-ODA activities in thematic programmes, supplemented by the funds available under budget lines 19 09 02, 19 10 01 03, 19 10 01 04 and 19 10 01 05; is of the view that, given the thematic and geographical breadth of this instrument, those funds should be supplemented initially by recourse to the Flexibility Instrument as well as from other sources; believes that, subsequently, in the context of the Mid-term Review, the Commission should consider sources of more permanent funding of the Multiannual Financial Framework;
5. Requests that the legislative proposal follow the recommendations set out in the annex established by the lead committee, except that paragraph 3 of point 1 should be replaced by the following:

"The cooperation covered by the proposal should aim to engage with partners towards achieving the following goals:

- enhancing dialogue with the third countries concerned by means of cooperation, mutual exchange and information;
- sharing and promoting common political, economic, scientific, educational and cultural activities, structures and values;
- increasing exchanges with key bilateral and multilateral partners in global governance".

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	20.1.2009
Result of final vote	+: 33 -: 0 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Vittorio Agnoletto, Angelika Beer, Monika Beňová, Giorgos Dimitrakopoulos, Michael Gahler, Alfred Gomolka, Klaus Hänsch, Ioannis Kasoulides, Maria Eleni Koppa, Helmut Kuhne, Johannes Lebech, Francisco José Millán Mon, Philippe Morillon, Raimon Obiols i Germà, Janusz Onyszkiewicz, Ioan Mircea Pașcu, Alojz Peterle, João de Deus Pinheiro, Samuli Pohjamo, Bernd Posselt, Libor Rouček, Christian Rovsing, Flaviu Călin Rus, György Schöpflin, Hannes Swoboda, István Szent-Iványi, Charles Tannock, Ari Vatanen, Zbigniew Zaleski, Josef Zieleniec
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Árpád Duka-Zólyomi, Kinga Gál, Inger Segelström