



2024/2019(DEC)

12.12.2024

AMENDMENTS

1 - 45

Draft opinion

Michael Gahler

(PE765.324v01-00)

2023 discharge: General budget of the EU - Commission
(2024/2019(DEC))

Amendment 1
Alexander Sell

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Points out to the unprecedented challenges in the global environment, peace and geopolitical instability in the current year of audit; recalls that since Russian's invasion of Ukraine, the EU has provided economic, humanitarian and military support for Ukraine worth over €88 billion;

Amendment

1. Points out to the unprecedented challenges in the global environment, peace and geopolitical instability in the current year of audit; recalls that since Russian's invasion of Ukraine, the EU has provided economic, humanitarian and military support for Ukraine worth over €88 billion; ***stresses that any support provided by the EU must be subject to stringent oversight mechanisms to ensure efficient use of resources; calls for a detailed assessment of expenditures related to Ukraine to guarantee accountability and measurable benefits for EU citizens;***

Or. en

Amendment 2
Hilde Vautmans, Dan Barna, Marjan Šarec, Lucia Yar, Ilhan Kyuchyuk, Malik Azmani

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Points out to the unprecedented challenges in the global environment, peace and geopolitical instability in the current year of audit; recalls that since Russian's invasion of Ukraine, the EU has provided economic, humanitarian and military support for Ukraine worth over €88 billion;

Amendment

1. Points out to the unprecedented challenges in the global environment, peace and geopolitical instability in the current year of audit; recalls that since Russian's invasion of Ukraine, the EU has provided economic, humanitarian and military support for Ukraine worth over €88 billion; ***emphasizes, in light of President Zelenskyy's mention of a potential peace process in 2025, the continued importance of providing military support to Ukraine and preparing to assist with the reconstruction of the***

country;

Or. en

Amendment 3
Roberto Vannacci

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Points out to the unprecedented challenges in the global environment, peace and geopolitical instability in the current year of audit; recalls that since Russian's invasion of Ukraine, the EU has provided economic, humanitarian and military support for Ukraine worth over €88 billion;

Amendment

1. Points out to the unprecedented challenges in the global environment, peace and geopolitical instability in the current year of audit; recalls that since Russian's invasion of Ukraine, the EU has provided economic, humanitarian and military support for Ukraine worth over €88 billion, ***points out that all efforts has to be made in order to reach a peace deal and that this has to be the priority, as this is the only means of restoring peace and prosperity to the continent;***

Or. en

Amendment 4
Sebastian Tynkkynen

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

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Amendment

1. Points out the unprecedented challenges in the global environment, peace and geopolitical instability in the current year of audit; recalls that since Russian's invasion of Ukraine, the EU has provided economic, humanitarian and military support for Ukraine worth over €88 billion; ***emphasises the need for a rapid and substantial increase in support for Ukraine;***

Amendment 5

Tineke Strik

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion

Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Points out to the unprecedented challenges in the global environment, peace and geopolitical instability in the current year of audit; recalls that since Russian's invasion of Ukraine, the EU has provided economic, humanitarian and military support for Ukraine worth over €88 billion;

Amendment

1. Points out to the unprecedented challenges in the global environment, peace and geopolitical instability in the current year of audit; recalls that since Russian's **full-scale** invasion of Ukraine, the EU has provided economic, humanitarian and military support for Ukraine worth over €88 billion;

Or. en

Amendment 6

Nacho Sánchez Amor

Draft opinion

Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 a. Notes that the efficiency of the EU's actions worldwide is subjected to ensuring the highest level of coordination and coherence in the EU's external action, particularly by ascertaining the HR/VP leading role as a bridge builder between the CFSP and EU external relations; whereas coordination among the Commission and the EEAS should be strengthened, particularly due to the lack of operational budget of the EEAS, including by guaranteeing full compliance of Article 3.2 and 9 of the EEAS Decision;

Or. en

Amendment 7
Cristian Terhes

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 a. Welcomes the launch of the Growth Plan for Moldova as a significant initiative to foster economic development and strengthen Moldova's resilience; Stresses the need for the Commission to adopt a more realistic approach when imposing conditionalities for financing, ensuring that the specific circumstances and needs of each country are properly considered, especially in the areas of energy and security, where tailored solutions are essential to address the unique challenges faced by each nation;

Or. en

Amendment 8
Tomasz Froelich

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 a. Regrets that EU funding to combat corruption in Ukraine is not leading to the detection and combating of corruption at the highest level, which was confirmed in a public opinion poll in the summer of 2024; calls for an assessment of the effectiveness of EU funding provided to Ukraine and to link funding more closely to conditionalities - including the fight against corruption;

Or. en

Amendment 9
Cristian Terheş

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 b. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the full restitution of the Romanian National Treasure and the national heritage of several other Member States is on the agenda of any potential future actions regarding the Russian Federation;

Or. en

Amendment 10
Roberto Vannacci

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

Amendment

2. Underlines that expenditures in heading 4 ‘Global Europe’ are considered high-risk except for budget support payments and administrative expenditure which represent around 20%; notes that most errors found in this area concern expenditure not incurred, ineligible costs and non-compliance with public procurement rules;

2. Underlines that expenditures in heading 4 ‘Global Europe’ are considered high-risk except for budget support payments and administrative expenditure which represent around 20%; notes that most errors found in this area concern expenditure not incurred, ineligible costs and non-compliance with public procurement rules; ***stress how it is essential to identify and rectify these errors in order to ensure the most effective use of the Union's resources; welcomes the reports from news sources of a reduction and reorganisation of the staff working in the EU delegations outside the Union and calls for this opportunity for efficiency to be thoroughly evaluated as a potential cost-cutting measure;***

Or. en

Amendment 11
Alexander Sell

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Underlines that expenditures in heading 4 ‘Global Europe’ are considered high-risk except for budget support payments and administrative expenditure which represent around 20%; notes that most errors found in this area concern expenditure not incurred, ineligible costs and non-compliance with public procurement rules;

Amendment

2. Underlines that expenditures in heading 4 ‘Global Europe’ are considered high-risk except for budget support payments and administrative expenditure which represent around 20%; notes that most errors found in this area concern expenditure not incurred, ineligible costs and non-compliance with public procurement rules; ***calls for the immediate implementation of a comprehensive review of procurement processes and the adoption of stricter cost-control measures to prevent further financial mismanagement, ensuring that taxpayers' money is not jeopardized by procedural weaknesses or inefficiencies;***

Or. en

Amendment 12
Cristian Terheş

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 a. Encourages further mobilisation of the European Peace Facility to address the pressing security challenges arising from Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine and the ongoing hybrid threats faced by Moldova; emphasizes the need to provide comprehensive support to bolster resilience, enhance defense capabilities, and counteract destabilizing actions in both contexts;

Amendment 13
Cristian Terheş

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 b. Urges the Commission that, while addressing concerns related to the rule of law standards in candidate countries, the citizens of those countries are not penalized for the failures of their political leaders; stresses that the European path must remain open to the people, reflecting their aspirations and commitment to our shared values like freedom, prosperity, rule of law and respect for fundamental rights;

Or. en

Amendment 14
Cristian Terheş

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary; ***Denounces the presence of hateful material in Palestinian school***

textbooks and study cards that incite violence against Jewish people, which has yet to be removed; emphasizes that education and access to peaceful, unbiased textbooks are essential, especially in light of the growing involvement of teenagers in violent and terrorist activities; underscores that financial support from the Union to the Palestinian Authority for education must be conditional on ensuring that textbook content aligns with UNESCO standards, as established by Union education ministers in Paris on 17 March 2015.

Or. en

Amendment 15
Sebastian Tynkkynen

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; ***emphasises that, accordingly, EU budgets must under no circumstances support activities that work against those objectives; stresses, therefore, the need to freeze support for the Palestinian Authority until educational materials that are anti-Semitic and incite violence are brought into line with UNESCO standards; finds it unacceptable that EU funds have been used to finance organisations with direct links to terrorism, such as UNRWA;*** notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed

necessary;

Or. fi

Amendment 16

Özlem Demirel

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; *notes that* following the *heinous* terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas *and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary*;

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; *condemns the indiscriminate bombing by Israel of Gaza and deliberate targeting of UN - workers, journalists, doctors and all civilians as an act of collective punishment* following the terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas; *reaffirms its unwavering support for UNRWA and its mandate, and strongly condemns the campaign against the Agency and the legislation passed by the Knesset that prevents UNRWA's crucial work in the region; urges continued and enhanced political backing and financial support for the Agency, recognizing its indispensable and critical role in the delivery of lifesaving assistance, in advancing the human development and safeguarding the rights of millions of Palestinian refugees*;

Or. en

Amendment 17

Hilde Vautmans, Marjan Šarec, Ilhan Kyuchyuk, Malik Azmani

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism *and* to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism, to promote human rights, *and to fight impunity and strengthen adherence to the rule of law, including the rulings of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the Advisory Opinions of the International Court of Justice (ICJ); recalls the ongoing issue of the destruction of EU-funded projects in Gaza and the West Bank and calls for greater accountability and safeguards in this context*; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

Or. en

Amendment 18 **Alexander Sell**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 3**

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary; *stresses that combatting hate and fundamentalism in the Middle East is not within the primary mandate of the*

European Union; emphasizes that diplomatic efforts should take precedence over financial commitments, and EU funding must be limited to areas where it directly serves the interests of Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 19
Roberto Vannacci

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary; ***condemns that UNRWA staff have been involved in the barbaric 7th October 2023 attack against Israel as well as the promotion of antisemitism and terrorism in schoolbooks used in UNRWA educational facilities leading to the decisions by several states to freeze their funds to the organization;***

Or. en

Amendment 20
Alice Teodorescu Măwe

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary; ***emphasises how important it is for the EU to ensure that EU funds are not used to finance educational materials that include the romanticisation of martyrdom, violence or terrorism;***

Or. sv

Amendment 21
Ioan-Rareş Bogdan

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary; ***Emphasizes the importance of ensuring that the EU funds are effectively allocated and managed in order to achieve their intended goals.***

Or. en

Amendment 22
Željana Zovko

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate **and** fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate, fundamentalism and **disinformation as well as** to promote human rights **and religious minorities**; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

Or. en

Amendment 23
Tineke Strik
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and **serious** allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that **generally** EU funds are being well implemented, **but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary**;

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate and fundamentalism and to promote human rights; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that EU funds are being well implemented;^{1a}

^{1a} These allegations cannot be deemed as "serious" in line with the findings of the review that the Commission carried out in November 2023. https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/communication-commission-review-ongoing-financial-assistance-palestine_en Besides, the President of the Commission Ursula von der Leyen stated that "this review has confirmed that the safeguards in place are effective". https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_5941 Therefore, the reference that "certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary" is factually not true.

Or. en

Amendment 24
Tomasz Froelich

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat hate ***and fundamentalism and to promote human rights***; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

Amendment

3. Stresses that the Union budget must continue to provide support to build peace and stability in the Middle East region, to combat ***religiously motivated*** hate; notes that following the heinous terror attacks of 7 October 2023 by Hamas and serious allegations of misuse of EU funds for terrorism, a funding review was conducted which found that generally EU funds are being well implemented, but certain additional safeguards were deemed necessary;

Or. en

Amendment 25

Hana Jalloul Muro

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 – point 1 (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

(1) *Emphasize the need for the EU to increase financial and political support to strengthen the operational capacity and ensure the independence of the International Criminal Court within the framework of the "Agreement between the International Criminal Court and the European Union on cooperation and assistance," which establishes the commitment to international justice and the fight against impunity.*

Or. en

Amendment 26
Tineke Strik
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 a. *Underlines that the EU's budget should be managed in compliance with the Treaties and the EU acquis, including provisions related to fundamental rights compliance, transparency and accountability towards the European Parliament and EU citizens; regrets, against that backdrop, the modus operandi of the Commission in its management of external migration budget lines, notably the absence of fundamental rights impact assessments prior to migration projects in third countries, the absence of publicly available overviews of budgets and projects and the Commission's systematic refusal to provide budgetary migration-related spending overviews to the European*

Parliament, despite several formal requests and commitments under the Framework Agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the Commission: in this context, urges the Commission to significantly improve these practices with immediate effect, notably by performing ex ante human rights impact assessments before projects, creating a public overview of all migration-related projects in third countries and systematically improving the level of information-sharing to the European Parliament, on equal footing with the Council;

Or. en

Amendment 27
Marta Temido

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 a. Urges to disburse in its entirety all financial commitments towards UNRWA; reminds that UNRWA is the principal humanitarian assistance structure in Gaza and the West Bank, as well as an essential service provider in the region; stresses that the UN-commissioned "Colonna Report" highlights that UNRWA has established numerous mechanisms and procedures to ensure neutrality, which has in some cases a more developed than other similar UN or NGO entities; warns of the disastrous consequences on the entire region of the laws adopted by Israel's Parliament banning UNRWA; Highlights the need to swiftly disburse the EU funds to the Palestinian Authority without unjustified conditionality and to the Palestinian civil society, which plays a pivotal role in promoting human rights and secular values and in fighting against

radicalisation; Stresses the importance of the Southern Neighbourhood line in supporting political, economic and social reforms in the region taking into consideration the increasing humanitarian needs in the region, as well as other purposes of regional cooperation in providing assistance to refugees, in particular Syrian and Palestinian refugees;

Or. en

Amendment 28
Marion Maréchal

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Denounces the payment of European subsidies under the Erasmus+ programme to organisations close to the Government of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, such as the Gaziantep Islamic University of Science and Technology (GIBTU), whose professors and staff regularly celebrate the actions of Hamas and other Islamist organisations, or the Al Sharq Forum, an organisation set up by Wadah Khanfar, former Director General of the Al Jazeera network, known for his links to the Muslim Brotherhood and radical Islam.

Or. fr

Amendment 29
Cristian Terheş

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 a. Calls on the Commission to thoroughly address the recommendations outlined in the European Court of Auditors (ECA) Special Report on the programming of the Neighbourhood, Development, and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe; Emphasizes the need to improve the methodology for allocating funding to Neighbourhood countries, ensure timely access to essential documents required for audits, simplify procedural frameworks, and clarify the methodology for assessing the impact of EU support^{1a};

1a

https://www.eca.europa.eu/ECAPublications/SR-2023-14/SR-2023-14_EN.pdf

Or. en

Amendment 30
Alice Teodorescu Măwe

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Urges the Commission to prohibit the allocation of EU funding to individuals or organisations with links to terrorist, Islamist or other extremist movements that are contrary to the European Union's fundamental values, and points out that monitoring and control mechanisms should be strengthened to ensure that no EU funding, under any circumstances, goes to activities, projects or literature that incite violence and/or hatred, such as anti-Semitism;

Or. sv

Amendment 31

Hilde Vautmans, Dan Barna, Marjan Šarec, Lucia Yar, Ilhan Kyuchyuk, Malik Azmani

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 a. 4. Underlines the extremely vulnerable situation of children in the world, specifically in armed conflict; expresses serious concern about the tens of thousands of children that were affected by armed conflict across the globe and suffered abhorrent abuses and violations of their most basic rights in 2023; urges the Commission to put children's rights at the top of the foreign affairs agenda;

Or. en

Amendment 32

Nacho Sánchez Amor

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 a. Is deeply concerned by the proposal for a radical restructuring of the EU's presence abroad through a drastic reduction in staff numbers of EU Delegations, within the context of the abovementioned budgetary constraints; notes that, if approved, the plan will negatively impact the effectiveness of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) - Global Europe;

Or. en

Amendment 33

Marta Temido

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 b. *Contests the use by the European Commission of an urgent written procedure for the adoption of the Special Measure in favour of Tunisia for 2023, as part of the implementation of the contested Memorandum of Understanding signed with Tunisia in 2023, overlooking the EP's role and infringing thereof the NDICI-Global Europe Regulation (EU) 2021/947, the financial regulation and the Agreement between the European Parliament and the Commission of 10 June 2008 on procedures for implementing Council Decision 1999/468/EC laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission, as amended by Decision 2006/512/EC; Recalls that a delegation from the Committee on Foreign Affairs was denied entry to Tunisia on 13 September 2023, impeding the Parliament's ability to exercise its powers of scrutiny; urges the European Commission and the EEAS to undertake all necessary initiatives towards the Tunisian authorities to allow the European Parliament exercising its legal duties;*

Or. en

Amendment 34
Tineke Strik
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 b. *Urges the Commission to enhance the rule of law conditionality-based*

approach of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) III funding in order for the instrument to serve its purpose of effectively preparing accession countries to fulfill the conditions of becoming EU Member States; reiterates its calls on the Commission to implement the recommendations of the European Court of Auditors Special Report 01/2022 in order to ensure an effective impact of EU financial assistance in support for the rule of law in the Western Balkans, in particular by developing guidelines on the application of the provisions on modulation and conditionality under IPA III;

Or. en

Amendment 35
Alice Teodorescu Măwe

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3b. Calls for aid to be made more conditional, and to be based on the CFSP and the Union's fundamental values; considers that, in cases where it has emerged that EU funds have been misused or used for purposes which are contrary to the EU's fundamental values, aid must always be stopped, reduced or at least made conditional and monitored more strictly;

Or. sv

Amendment 36
Hilde Vautmans, Marjan Šarec, Lucia Yar, Ilhan Kyuchyuk, Malik Azmani

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 b. 5. Recalls the dire situation of women's rights and LGBTQI+ rights in many parts of the world; stresses the urgent need to better protect these rights and to ensure that EU funds and policies actively promote, gender equality, combat discrimination, and uphold the rights of LGBTQI+ individuals;

Or. en

Amendment 37
Cristian Terheş

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 b. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the Palestinian Authority immediately removes all educational materials and content that fail to comply with UNESCO standards, particularly those promoting anti-Semitism, incitement to violence, hate speech, and the glorification of terrorism.

Or. en

Amendment 38
Marta Temido

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 c. Expresses its concerns about the conclusions of the special report "The EU trust fund for Africa: despite new approaches, support remained unfocused", highlighting that the European Union Emergency Trust Fund

for Africa does not enough focus on the key priorities to address the deep causes of instability, displacement and irregular migration and most importantly notes with grave concerns that human rights risks were not comprehensively addressed. Recalls to the European Commission the EP concerns on the alleged violations of Human Rights in the framework of the migration management and on the European Commission's willingness to outsource the management of its external borders to neighbouring countries, such as Tunisia or Lybia.

Or. en

Amendment 39
Alice Teodorescu Măwe

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3c. Notes that the EU and its Member States are the largest donor to UNRWA; calls for EU funds allocated to UNRWA to be reallocated, in the long term, to other humanitarian organisations, because UNRWA no longer enjoys the level of trust needed in the region; takes the view that a diversification of EU funds in the region can reduce the risk of EU aid indirectly financing activities or literature that incite violence and/or hatred;

Or. sv

Amendment 40
Tineke Strik
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 c. *Calls on the Commission to set a clear and transparent accountability mechanism of implementation of the Global Gateway strategy and to demonstrate a clear rationale for the use of development finance for the projects branded under the Global Gateway strategy and its equal benefits to recipient countries' public and private sector;*

Or. en

Amendment 41

Tineke Strik

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 d. *Recognises the multiple roles that civil society organisations play; recalls the EU's commitment to support civil society organisations in all external instruments and programmes and in all areas of cooperation, including through a flexible and tailor-made approach to funding in order to reach all types of civil society organisations; calls on the Commission to involve civil society organisations more systematically in Global Gateway and Team Europe Initiatives;*

Or. en

Amendment 42

Marta Temido

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 d (new)

3 d. Sees electoral observation mission as a practical and effective foreign policy instrument that remains central to the EU's democracy support policies and strategies; calls on the EU to ensure adequate resources to the EU electoral observation missions, in view also of extending them to elections in candidate and neighbouring countries.

Or. en

Amendment 43

Tineke Strik

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 e (new)

3 e. Regrets the fact that the CFSP budget for civilian CSDP missions has only marginally increased from the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2014-2020 to the MFF 2021-2027 (from a starting point of approximately EUR 350 million per year), while at the same time the number and tasks of missions has increased, the security environment has become more challenging, the cost of operations has increased, inflation has grown and the number of contracted personnel has increased, therefore limiting the potential for expanding the current missions' mandates or possibly establishing new missions in response to urgent security needs; calls for a substantive increase of funding for the CFSP budget, while at the same time ensuring the efficient use of the funds allocated to the CSDP civilian missions, in order to make sure that they effectively respond to crisis situations and unforeseen events, and to actively identify where complementary projects and

programmes could be funded from other relevant EU budgets, ensuring sound financial management and the careful prioritisation of existing resources; calls also for the structure of the CFSP budget to be changed and for the generation of one budget line per civilian CSDP mission, in order to allow for better scrutiny and increased transparency;

Or. en

Amendment 44
Marta Temido

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 e (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 e. Stresses that, ahead of increasing geopolitical challenges and crisis worldwide, the EU needs to be able to rely on necessary first-hand information on global issues occurring outside its borders; calls, in this regard, for strengthening the EU INTCEN, the EEAS Crisis Response Center and the SatCen by enhancing its staff and financial resources, as well as its capabilities Considers it essential for the EU to increase its investment in public and cultural diplomacy and communication efforts, particularly ahead of the active engagement of authoritarian and illiberal regimes; stresses, therefore, the need to allocate the necessary resources to the Strategic Communication and Foresight division of the EEAS; Highlights the EEAS and Commission's efforts to fight disinformation and foreign interference, and welcomes the announcement of the creation of the Task Force for Strategic Communication and Countering Information Manipulation in DG COMM; stresses the need to ensure adequate resources for the EEAS and the

Commission in this regard;

Or. en

Amendment 45
Tineke Strik
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 f (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3 f. Recalls that in line with Article 11.2 TEU, EU institutions should maintain an open, transparent and structured dialogue with civil society organisations and representative associations; in this regard, stresses that success to structural funding is a prerequisite to ensure public participation; highlights that without structural funding, it would not be possible for citizens to have their voice channelled at the EU level through their representative associations, as well as to sustain a regular dialogue with EU institutions contributing to democratic participation in policy making and to an open and wide-ranging dialogue, ensuring that the diversity of views and concerns are taken into account with equal access for public interest as compared to commercial interest; stresses that civil society organisations exercise a monitoring role on the implementation of EU policies and legislation, including the use of EU funds, and act as checks and balances in areas such as democracy, human rights and the rule of law; recalls the commitment of the Commission in its political guidelines to step up its engagement with civil society organisations that have expertise and play an important in upholding human rights, including in third countries; in this context, highlights that while the Commission should not mandate NGOs to

pursue certain activities or support specific positions or policies, it remains fundamental that civil society organisations, through EU funding can engage in an “open, transparent and structured dialogue with EU institutions” as enshrined in Article 11 TEU through activities such as advocacy activities, demonstrations or judicial actions and these should remain eligible in the relevant funding programs and have sufficient dedicated funding available;

Or. en