

Greens/EFA Amendments to the Multiannual Financial Framework post 2028 Own Initiative Report ahead of the publication of the initial EU Commission proposal

The Greens/EFA want ensure that the multiannual financial framework (MFF) from 2028 underpins and strengthens European values and long term political priorities as well as adequate replies for political challenges and is therefore fit for purpose. This requires a forward-looking and constructive approach to resource allocation while addressing key political and economic challenges.

Balancing Scarce Resources with EU Priorities

The MFF operates within a constrained financial environment and should therefore prioritize necessitating a true EU-added value for reaching our shared policy goals, which clearly requires a larger budget on top of the debt-service that we need to honour as well as joint borrowing.

We need to ensure that we have the resources available through Own Resources (OR) including new genuine ORs, member state GNI contributions that are limited Stability and Growth Pact (SGP) and new debt financing.

It needs to be highlighted that while the EU budget is crucial, it is only part of the solution. National budgets and private investments must also contribute to financing. Maximizing the impact of EU budget remains a top priority.

Social and environmental conditionality

To ensure an effective budget framework, a crosscutting approach is essential. The MFF must mainstream and strengthen commitments across climate, nature, gender, and social policies and fully respect all applicable relevant legislation. A truly integrated budget must play a pivotal role in addressing the climate and biodiversity crises while leaving none behind and contribute to achieving climate neutrality by 2050.

Key elements of the Greens/EFA horizontal call:

1. **Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) principle** a phasing out of direct and indirect Fossil Fuel subsidies and other environmentally harmful subsidies
2. Ensuring 50% of the budget aligns with green priorities, significantly contributing to one of the six areas of the EU Taxonomy (climate change adaptation, climate change mitigation, the sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, the transition to a circular economy, pollution prevention and control and protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems)
3. Establishing a comprehensive and unified Rule of Law (ROL) toolbox as well as compliance with EU values applicable across all EU funds and through the entire cycle

Flexibility and simplification with strong democratic oversight

While flexibility and simplification are necessary for efficiency, they must not come at the cost of democratic accountability, nor democratic ownership at EU, national, regional and local levels, nor at the involvement of social partners and CSOs, neither policy coherence nor policy goals, neither transparency.

Spending Priorities for Greens/EFA

1. **Competitiveness through the just and digital transition**, including via adequate funding for the **Clean Industrial Deal**, sustainable infrastructure and clean energy investments.
2. **Biodiversity and environmental protection**, with increased funding for LIFE+ and a specific fund for nature to bridge the investment gap and address the imminent biodiversity crisis.
3. **Affordable and sustainable housing** as a clear contribution to a more social Europe that can be financed from the EU budget
4. **Support for civic space, democratic participation also through NGOs** within the EU budget.
5. **Global responsibility**, reinforcing the EU's role in the world and strengthening multilateralism and democracy across the world and living up to commitments for international development and climate biodiversity financing as well as humanitarian aid.

Written input from and or meeting by Rasmus and or Zita:

WWF,
Climate Strategies,
Bankwatch,
CAN Europe,
Civil Society Europe,
ETUC,
UNICEF,
UNIFE,
Local Alliance,
Transport and Energy,
EuropeanPeacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO),
Eurnatur,
European Nurses
Federation,
Health and Environment
Alliance aisbl (HEAL) ,
Solidar,
CONCORD Europe
Task Force on the MFF,
VOICE task forces on the MFF, social platform,
REScoop.EU,
one.org