



2023/0397(COD)

19.2.2024

OPINION

of the Committee on International Trade

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Budgets

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council
Establishing the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans
(COM(2023)0692 – C9-0408/2023 – 2023/0397(COD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Helmut Scholz

PA_Legam

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The European Union has developed a comprehensive policy to support the gradual accession of the countries of the Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia. The aim of this process is to encourage democratic, economic and social progress in the countries wishing to join the EU, thereby promoting greater cooperation and stability in Europe.

The European Union, like the countries concerned, is fully convinced of the European perspective of the countries of the Western Balkans, of our close cultural, historical and geographical ties, and of our cooperation in a number of important areas.

The Western Balkans have been particularly exposed to recent crises such as Covid-19, the migration of significant numbers of its young population, and the economic difficulties exacerbated by Russian aggression in Ukraine. The people of the Western Balkans have a purchasing power of between one-third and one-half of the average purchasing power in the European Union.

The rapporteur supports the conclusions of the EU-Western Balkans summit held on 13 December 2023. The European Union once again confirmed unequivocal commitment to the future accession of the Western Balkans to the European Union and called for an acceleration of the process, based on the common values of democracy and the rule of law, on credible reforms carried out by the partners and on fair conditionality.

To reinforce this commitment, the EU provides substantial aid and financial support to the region. In this way, gradual integration into the single market can take place, preceded by strong cooperation, European support and regional integration (as preparatory measures). Improving our trade and commercial relations will also be a key factor in the future success of this joint effort.

The Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans will considerably increase financial assistance. Financing from the Facility will support reform programmes in the Western Balkans, focusing on socio-economic and fundamental reforms, including the rule of law and targeted investments.

The Facility's resources will amount to €6 billion for 2024-2027 for two types of support: €2 billion in the form of non-repayable support and €4 billion in the form of concessional loans granted by the European Union. The rapporteur welcomes this financial commitment, but would have been in favour of an increase in non-repayable support and flexibility with regard to the conditionality of loans.

The Commission's proposal includes strong conditionality by making the release of funds dependent on the attainment of goals outlined in pre-approved Reform Agendas. In the Rapporteur's view, such an approach requires a great degree of flexibility and consideration of the recent crises that continue to affect the countries of the Western Balkans. The rapporteur also insists on the need to make this ambition conditional on an improvement in social and working conditions, sustainable development and the fight against inequalities, particularly between men and women.

All investments must contribute to the broader objective of helping the region move to a green, climate-neutral, resilient, digital and inclusive economy. The rapporteur insists on the prioritisation of objectives, in particular those linked to the values we share and which will further strengthen the foundations of the enlargement process. These include the rule of law, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, by promoting an independent judicial system, the fight against fraud, corruption, organised crime, money laundering, tax evasion and fraud, respect for international law, freedom of the media and academic freedom, as well as an environment favourable to civil society, fostering social dialogue, promoting equality between men and women, non-discrimination and tolerance, in order to guarantee and strengthen respect for the rights of persons belonging to minorities.

While this programme should enable the economies of the Western Balkans to converge, bringing their standards in line with those of the European Union, we must not only bring our economies closer together, but also strengthen our cultural, educational, academic, research and creative partnerships. The rapporteur is convinced that, in addition to strengthening our economies, there is considerable potential for closer relations and greater mutual understanding.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on International Trade calls on the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Budgets, as the committees responsible, to take the following into account:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) The Facility should ensure consistency with, and support to the general objectives of Union external action as laid down in Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union, including the respect for fundamental rights as enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. It will notably ensure the protection and promotion of human rights, **and** the rule of law.

Amendment

(11) The Facility should ensure consistency with, and support to the general objectives of Union external action as laid down in Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union, including the respect for fundamental rights as enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. It will notably ensure the protection and promotion of human rights, **labour rights, in line with the ILO Conventions, as well as** the rule of law.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation Recital 12

Text proposed by the Commission

(12) Activities under the Facility should support progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and should not contribute to environmental degradation or cause harm to the environment or climate. Measures funded under the Facility should be in line with the Beneficiaries' National Energy and Climate Plans, their Nationally Determined Contribution and ambition to reach climate neutrality by 2050. The Facility should contribute to the mitigation action and to the ability to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change, and foster climate resilience.

Amendment

(12) Activities under the Facility should support progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, ***reducing inequalities, foster sustainable long-term growth, the European Green Deal***, the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and should not contribute to environmental degradation or cause harm to the environment or climate. Measures funded under the Facility should be in line with the Beneficiaries' National Energy and Climate Plans, their Nationally Determined Contribution and ambition to reach climate neutrality by 2050. The Facility should contribute to the mitigation action and to the ability to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change, and foster climate resilience. ***The Facility should support boosting innovation for SMEs and social economy actors, as well as technology transfer in support of green and digital transitions; Activities under the Facility should include policies to reduce youth unemployment and brain drain away from the countries in the Western Balkans; Activities under the Facility should foresee environmental impact assessments and public consultations on projects affecting protected areas, biodiversity and environmental protection, taking into account local community views.***

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation Recital 13

Text proposed by the Commission

(13) The implementation of this Regulation should be guided by the principles of equality and non-discrimination, as elaborated in the Union of Equality strategies. It should promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and seek to protect and promote women's and girls' rights in line with the EU Gender Action Plans and relevant Council conclusions and international conventions. The implementation of the Facility should be in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and ensure accessibility in its investments and technical assistance.

Amendment

(13) The implementation of this Regulation should be guided by the principles of equality and non-discrimination, as elaborated in the Union of Equality strategies, ***the respect for labour rights, health and safety at work***. It should promote gender equality, ***including tackling gender pay gaps*** and the empowerment of women and girls, and seek to protect and promote women's and girls' rights in line with the EU Gender Action Plans and relevant Council conclusions and international conventions. The implementation of the Facility should be in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and ensure accessibility in its investments and technical assistance.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

(15) Reflecting the European Green Deal as Europe's sustainable growth strategy and the importance of tackling climate and biodiversity objectives in line with the commitments of the Interinstitutional Agreement, the Facility should contribute to the achievement of the overall target of 30% of Union budget expenditure supporting climate objectives and 7.5% in 2024 and 10% in 2026 and 2027 to biodiversity objectives. At least 37% of the non-repayable financial support channelled through the WBIF should account to climate objectives. The Facility should support activities that fully respect the climate and environmental standards and priorities of the Union and the principle of 'do no significant harm' within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation

Amendment

(15) Reflecting the European Green Deal as Europe's sustainable growth strategy and the importance of tackling climate and biodiversity objectives in line with the commitments of the Interinstitutional Agreement, the Facility should contribute to the achievement of the overall target of 30% of Union budget expenditure supporting climate objectives and 7.5% in 2024 and 10% in 2026 and 2027 to biodiversity objectives. At least 37% of the non-repayable financial support channelled through the WBIF should account to climate objectives, ***with a view to achieving climate-neutrality***. The Facility should support activities that fully respect the climate and environmental standards and priorities of the Union and the principle of 'do no significant harm'

(EU) 2020/852⁸ .

within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852⁸ .

⁸ Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088, OJ L 198, 22.6.2020, p. 13.

⁸ Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088, OJ L 198, 22.6.2020, p. 13.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission

(22) In order to ensure an efficient implementation of the Facility, including the facilitation of the Western Balkans Beneficiaries' integration in European value chains, all supplies and materials financed and procured under this Facility should originate from Member States, Beneficiaries, contracting parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area and countries covered by Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁰ and Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2021/1529 and countries for which reciprocal access to external assistance in Beneficiaries is established by the Commission, unless the supplies and materials cannot be sourced at reasonable conditions in any of those countries.

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and

Amendment

(22) In order to ensure an efficient implementation of the Facility, including the facilitation of the Western Balkans Beneficiaries' integration in European value chains, all supplies and materials financed and procured under this Facility should originate from Member States, Beneficiaries, contracting parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area and countries covered by Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁰ and Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2021/1529 and countries for which reciprocal access to external assistance in Beneficiaries is established by the Commission, ***and shall meet, whenever possible, high social and environmental criteria***, unless the supplies and materials cannot be sourced at reasonable conditions in any of those countries, ***in which case the procurement should be in line with current and future EU regulations on due diligence in supply chains***.

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and

International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009 (OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/947/oj>).

International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009 (OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/947/oj>).

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation Recital 27

Text proposed by the Commission

(27) The Reform Agendas should include an explanation of the Beneficiary's system to effectively prevent, detect and correct irregularities, corruption, fraud and conflicts of interests, when using the funds provided under the Facility, and the arrangements that aim to avoid double funding from the Facility and other Union programmes as well as other donors.

Amendment

(27) The Reform Agendas should include an explanation of the Beneficiary's system to effectively prevent, detect and correct irregularities, corruption, fraud and conflicts of interests, when using the funds provided under the Facility, and the arrangements that aim to avoid double funding from the Facility and other Union programmes as well as other donors. ***The Reform Agendas should be designed and implemented with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in each country.***

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation Recital 29

Text proposed by the Commission

(29) The Commission should assess each Reform Agenda based on the list of criteria set out in this Regulation. In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission to approve those Reform Agendas. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation

Amendment

(29) The Commission should assess each Reform Agenda based on the list of criteria set out in this Regulation. In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission to approve those Reform Agendas. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation

(EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹¹. The Commission will duly take into account Council decision 2010/427/EU and the role of the EEAS where appropriate, and in particular when monitoring the fulfilment of the precondition for Union support.

(EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹¹. The Commission will duly take into account Council decision 2010/427/EU and the role of the EEAS where appropriate, and in particular when monitoring the fulfilment of the precondition for Union support. ***The assessment of the Reform Agendas should be carried out by the Commission, assisted by independent experts, including from civil society.***

¹¹ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2011/182/oj>).

¹¹ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2011/182/oj>).

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) accelerate the transition of the Beneficiaries to sustainable, and inclusive economies, capable of withstanding competitive market pressures of the Union single market, and to a stable investment environment;

Amendment

(a) accelerate the transition of the Beneficiaries to sustainable, ***climate-neutral*** and inclusive economies, ***with low inequality levels***, capable of withstanding competitive market pressures of the Union single market, and to a stable investment environment;

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c a) Make sure that investments

covered by the Facility allow the Beneficiaries to play an increased role in resilient value chains of the EU, promote increased value creation and development of local industries and their advancement along the value chain;

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

(e) accelerate green transition in line with the 2020 Green Agenda for the Western Balkans and covering all economic sectors, particularly energy, including the transition towards de-carbonised climate-neutral, climate-resilient and circular economy;

Amendment

(e) accelerate green transition in line with the 2020 Green Agenda for the Western Balkans and covering all economic sectors, particularly energy, including ***energy efficiency and*** the transition towards de-carbonised climate-neutral, climate-resilient and circular economy ***and the protection of biodiversity and the environment;***

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point g

Text proposed by the Commission

(g) boost innovation, particularly for SMEs and in support of the green and digital transitions;

Amendment

(g) boost innovation, particularly for SMEs, and in support of the green and digital transitions ***by providing technical assistance and technology transfer;***

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point h

Text proposed by the Commission

(h) boost quality education, training, reskilling and upskilling, and employment

Amendment

(h) boost quality education, training, reskilling and upskilling, and employment

policies;

policies **and the uptake of ILO Conventions, with a focus on tackling gender pay gaps and youth unemployment;**

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

(i) further strengthen the fundamentals of the enlargement process, including the rule of law, democracy, the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, through promoting an independent judiciary, reinforced security, the fight against fraud, corruption, organised crime and money laundering and terrorism financing, tax evasion and tax fraud; compliance with international law; strengthen freedom of media and academic freedom and an enabling environment for civil society; foster social dialogue; promote gender equality, non-discrimination and tolerance, to ensure and strengthen respect for the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

Amendment

(i) further strengthen the fundamentals of the enlargement process, including the rule of law, democracy, the respect of human **and labour** rights and fundamental freedoms, through promoting an independent judiciary, reinforced security, the fight against fraud, corruption, organised crime and money laundering and terrorism financing, tax evasion and tax fraud; compliance with international law; strengthen freedom of media and academic freedom and an enabling environment for civil society; foster social dialogue; promote gender equality **and the reduction of gender pay gaps**, non-discrimination and tolerance, to ensure and strengthen respect for the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Cooperation under the Facility shall be based on and shall promote the development effectiveness principles, across all modalities, namely ownership of development priorities by the Beneficiaries, a focus on results, inclusive partnerships, transparency and mutual accountability. The cooperation shall be

Amendment

1. Cooperation under the Facility shall be based on and shall promote the development effectiveness principles, across all modalities, namely ownership of development priorities by the Beneficiaries, a focus on results, inclusive partnerships **and participatory policy-making that includes civil society and**

based on effective and efficient resources allocation and use.

local authorities, transparency and mutual accountability. The cooperation shall be based on effective and efficient resources allocation and use.

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. Activities under the Facility shall mainstream climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and environmental protection, human rights, democracy, gender equality and, where relevant, disaster risk reduction, and shall support progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, promoting integrated actions that can create co-benefits and meet multiple objectives in a coherent way. They shall avoid stranded assets, and shall be guided by the principles of ‘do no harm’ and of ‘leaving no one behind’, as well as by the sustainability mainstreaming approach underpinning the European Green Deal.

Amendment

4. Activities under the Facility shall mainstream climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and environmental protection, human **and labour** rights, democracy, gender equality and, where relevant, disaster risk reduction, and shall support progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, promoting integrated actions that can create co-benefits and meet multiple objectives in a coherent way, ***ensuring environmental impact assessments and public consultations on projects affecting protected areas, biodiversity and environmental protection, taking into account local community views***. They shall avoid stranded assets, and shall be guided by the principles of ‘do no harm’ and of ‘leaving no one behind’, as well as by the sustainability mainstreaming approach underpinning the European Green Deal.

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4 a. EU shall ensure and enhance the coherence of its external policies and the Beneficiaries shall strive to align their policies to the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy;

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Preconditions for the support under the Facility shall be that the Beneficiaries **continue to** uphold and respect effective democratic mechanisms, including a multi-party parliamentary system, and the rule of law, and guarantee respect for all human rights obligations, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. Another pre-condition shall be that Serbia and Kosovo engage constructively in the normalisation of their relations with a view to fully implementing all their respective obligations stemming from the Agreement on the Path to Normalisation and its Implementation Annex as well as all past Dialogue Agreements and engage in negotiations on the Comprehensive Agreement on normalisation of relations.

Amendment

1. Preconditions for the support under the Facility shall be that the Beneficiaries uphold and respect effective democratic mechanisms, including a multi-party parliamentary system, and the rule of law, and guarantee respect for all human rights obligations, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities **with respect to the objectives outlined in Article 3**. Another pre-condition shall be that Serbia and Kosovo engage constructively in the normalisation of their relations with a view to fully implementing all their respective obligations stemming from the Agreement on the Path to Normalisation and its Implementation Annex as well as all past Dialogue Agreements and engage in negotiations on the Comprehensive Agreement on normalisation of relations.

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The Commission shall monitor the fulfilment of the preconditions set out in paragraph 1 before funds are released to Beneficiaries under the Facility and throughout the period of the support provided under the Facility taking duly into account the latest Enlargement Package. The Commission may adopt a decision concluding that some of these preconditions are not met, and in particular, withhold the release of funds referred to in Article 21, irrespective of the

Amendment

2. The Commission shall monitor the fulfilment of the preconditions set out in paragraph 1 before funds are released to Beneficiaries under the Facility and throughout the period of the support provided under the Facility taking duly into account the latest Enlargement Package. The Commission may adopt a decision concluding that some of these preconditions are not met, and in particular, withhold the release of funds referred to in Article 21, irrespective of the

fulfilment of payment conditions referred to in Article 16(3).

fulfilment of payment conditions referred to in Article 16(3). ***Beneficiaries shall have the opportunity to remedy shortcomings in order to meet the preconditions, allowing them, after a positive Commission decision, to access the funds.***

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. All supplies and materials financed and procured under this Facility shall originate from any country referred to paragraph 1 point (a) and point (b), unless if the supplies and materials cannot be sourced at reasonable conditions in any of those countries. In addition, the rules on restrictions in paragraph 6 apply.

Amendment

3. All supplies and materials financed and procured under this Facility shall originate from any country referred to paragraph 1 point (a) and point (b), ***and shall meet, whenever possible, high social and environmental criteria,*** unless if the supplies and materials cannot be sourced at reasonable conditions in any of those countries. ***In that case, the procurement should be in line with current and future EU regulations on due diligence in supply chains.*** In addition, the rules on restrictions in paragraph 6 apply.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 6 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) where the action or specific award procedures affect security or public order, in particular concerning strategic assets and interests of the Union, its Member States, or any of the Beneficiaries, including the security, resilience and protection of integrity of digital infrastructure (including 5G network infrastructure), communication and information systems, and related supply chains.

Amendment

(b) where the action or specific award procedures affect security or public order, in particular concerning strategic assets and interests of the Union, its Member States, or any of the Beneficiaries, including the security, resilience and protection of integrity of digital infrastructure (including 5G network infrastructure), communication and information systems, and related supply chains ***and the action or award***

*procedure is not in line with the
Economic Security Strategy.*

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

5. The Reform Agendas shall respect the general principles set out in Article 4.

Amendment

5. The Reform Agendas shall respect the general principles set out in Article 4 ***and shall be drafted in an open and transparent manner, in consultation with all stakeholders.***

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation Article 14 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. For the purpose of the assessment of the Reform Agendas submitted by the Beneficiaries, the Commission may be assisted by experts.

Amendment

4. For the purpose of the assessment of the Reform Agendas submitted by the Beneficiaries, the Commission may be assisted by ***independent*** experts, ***including from civil society.***

**ANNEX: ENTITIES OR PERSONS
FROM WHOM THE RAPPORTEUR HAS RECEIVED INPUT**

The rapporteur declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not receive input from any entity or person to be mentioned in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Title	Establishing the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans
References	COM(2023)0692 – C9-0408/2023 – 2023/0397(COD)
Committees responsible Date announced in plenary	AFET BUDG 18.1.2024 18.1.2024
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	INTA 18.1.2024
Rapporteur for the opinion Date appointed	Helmut Scholz 28.11.2023
Rule 58 – Joint committee procedure Date announced in plenary	18.1.2024
Date adopted	19.2.2024
Result of final vote	+: 28 –: 3 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Anna-Michelle Asimakopoulou, Geert Bourgeois, Jordi Cañas, Paolo De Castro, Heidi Hautala, Danuta Maria Hübner, Martine Kemp, Bernd Lange, Margarida Marques, Gabriel Mato, Sara Matthieu, Carles Puigdemont i Casamajó, Samira Rafaela, Catharina Rinzema, Inma Rodríguez-Piñero, Helmut Scholz, Joachim Schuster, Dominik Tarczyński, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Iuliu Winkler, Jan Zahradil
Substitutes present for the final vote	Marek Belka, Udo Bullmann, Enikő Györi, Svenja Hahn, Sandra Kalniete, Lydie Massard, Manuela Ripa
Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote	Pascal Arimont, Lukas Mandl, Tomas Tobé

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

28	+
NI	Enikő Győri, Carles Puigdemont i Casamajó
PPE	Pascal Arimont, Anna-Michelle Asimakopoulou, Danuta Maria Hübner, Sandra Kalniete, Martine Kemp, Lukas Mandl, Gabriel Mato, Tomas Tobé, Iuliu Winkler
Renew	Jordi Cañas, Svenja Hahn, Samira Rafaela, Catharina Rinzema, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne
S&D	Marek Belka, Udo Bullmann, Paolo De Castro, Bernd Lange, Margarida Marques, Inma Rodríguez-Piñero, Joachim Schuster
The Left	Helmut Scholz
Verts/ALE	Heidi Hautala, Lydie Massard, Sara Matthieu, Manuela Ripa
3	-
ECR	Geert Bourgeois, Dominik Tarczyński, Jan Zahradil
0	0

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention