

# 2018 EU budget: jobs, investments, migration challenge and security

The EU budget helps turn political priorities into a reality. The adopted 2018 EU budget confirms that the EU is directing money to where the needs are. In 2018, and in line with the European Commission [proposal from May this year](#) the biggest part of the EU budget will go to stimulate the creation of jobs, especially for young people, and to boost growth, strategic investments and convergence. The EU will also continue supporting the efforts to effectively deal with the migration challenge, both inside and outside of the EU.

Commissioner Günther H. **Oettinger**, in charge of budget and human resources, said: *“This is a budget for all. It will go to create more jobs, more growth, more investments. It will help young people find jobs and internships. It will help making Europe more secure. Every euro must be spent efficiently and create added value for Europe.”*

The 2018 EU budget is set at €160.1 billion in commitments (money that can be agreed in contracts in a given year) and €144.7 billion in payment credits (money that will be paid out). Some key features include:

- Nearly half of the funds – €77.5 billion in commitments – will go to making our economy stronger, our universities more competitive, our companies better equipped to compete on the global market place. For instance, €2 billion will go to the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), the core of the Juncker Plan, €354 million will support small and medium-sized companies (Competitiveness of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, COSME programme) and €11.2 billion will go to [Horizon 2020](#), the EU research and innovation funding programme. A total of €55.5 billion will go to boosting growth, job creation and fostering convergence in all Member States and regions via the [European Structural and Investment Funds](#) (ESI Funds).
- Young people will get more support and better opportunities to find jobs thanks to €350 million for the Youth Employment Initiative, a key action which seeks to address the challenge of youth unemployment in our Member States.
- Support to European farmers amounts to €59 billion.
- Further to the [launch of the European Defence Fund](#), € 40 million are budgeted to fund collaborative research in innovative defence technologies and products. With €25 million already allocated in 2017, the total EU budget devoted to defence research until 2019 amount to €90 million.
- Nearly €4.1 billion will be dedicated to managing migration and tackling security challenges. With the bulk of funding already frontloaded, the total for these policy areas will amount to €22 billion in the 2015-2018 period.

## EU budget 2018 (in million €):

APPROPRIATIONS BY HEADING	Budget 2018 (nominal change in % compared to 2017)	
	Commitments	Payments
1. Smart and inclusive growth:	77,534 (+2,8%)	66,624 (+34,9%)
<i>Competitiveness for growth and jobs</i>	22,001 (+3,2%)	20,097 (+4%)
<i>Economic, social and territorial cohesion</i>	55,532 (+2,7%)	46,527 (+54,7%)
2. Sustainable Growth: natural resources	59,285 (+1,2%)	56,084 (+3,6%)
<i>Market related expenditure and direct aids</i>	43,235 (+1,5%)	43,189 (+1,5%)
3. Security and Citizenship	3,493 (-18,5%)	2,981 (-7,6%)
4. Global Europe	9,569 (-8,3%)	8,906 (-1,7%)
5. Administration	9,666 (+2,9%)	9,666 (+2,9%)
Other special Instruments	0,567 (-67,6%)	0,42 (-73,5%)
<b>Total appropriations</b>	<b>160,114 (+0,2%)</b>	<b>144,681 (+14,1%)</b>

## Background

Every year the European Commission tables a draft EU budget. This year, the Commission tabled its [initial proposal](#) on 30 May 2017.

On that basis, the European Parliament and the Council each take a position. This year, the Council formally adopted its position on 4 September 2017, while the European Parliament adopted its position in plenary on 25 October 2017.

Differences between the positions of the European Parliament and the Council are addressed in a negotiation process known as the 'conciliation procedure'. This year, the 21-day conciliation procedure is running from 31 October until 20 November.

The negotiations are conducted by a specially convened Conciliation Committee, to which the European Parliament and the Council each send 28 representatives. The European Commission – the Commissioner in charge of the budget as well as experts from the Directorate-General for Budget – play the important role of an honest broker.

## Next steps

To seal the compromise reached today, the European Parliament and the Council both have to formally approve the text within 14-days.

## For More Information

[Draft EU budget 2018: Commission proposes budget with focus on jobs, investments, migration and security](#)

\* Updated at 05:02 on 18 November 2017 to reflect actual date of agreement

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## **Joint EU-U.S. statement following the EU-U.S. Justice and Home Affairs Ministerial Meeting**

On 17 November 2017, the EU-U.S. Ministerial Meeting on Justice and Home Affairs took place in Washington, D.C. The meeting reaffirmed the importance of the long standing partnership between the United States of America and the European Union in addressing common threats to security, and of practical outcomes of this cooperation.

The European Union was represented by the Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship Dimitris Avramopoulos, the Commissioner for the Security Union Julian King, Estonia's Minister of Justice, Mr. Urmas Reinsalu, and the Minister of Interior, Mr. Andres Anvelt on behalf of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The United States of America, hosting the meeting, was represented by U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions and by Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Elaine C. Duke.

The European Union and the United States of America discussed their shared efforts to combat terrorism. The discussion focused specifically on the importance of operational cooperation and effective information sharing. The two sides noted the importance of collecting, using, and sharing airline passenger information, including Passenger Name Record (PNR) data, to detect and disrupt threats, and discussed the state of play of the implementation of the EU PNR framework, which will be in place by May 2018. Further, the two sides discussed progress in the implementation of joint measures to address threats from terrorism to aviation security and to raise the baseline for global aviation security. The issue of U.S.-EU cooperation in combating terrorism financing and money laundering, including within the Financial Action Task Force, was also emphasised. The EU side gave an update on its rules on beneficial ownership transparency, in line with G20 conclusions.

The two sides exchanged views on action to jointly counter the misuse of the internet for terrorist purposes, in cooperation with multiple stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society. The European Union provided updates regarding increased efforts to counter the use of the internet for terrorist purposes under the umbrella of the EU Internet Forum. The European Union and the United States of America agreed on the need to jointly address cybersecurity and counter cybercrime and in this context took note of the conclusions of the 14 November EU-US Cyber Dialogue.

The two sides discussed the importance of ensuring swift cross-border access by law enforcement authorities to electronic evidence, in line with their respective legal provisions. In that respect, the two sides agreed to continue their regular dialogue, in order to update each other on legislative and judicial developments.

The European Union and the United States of America reaffirmed the need to counter the production and trafficking of cocaine and illicit opioids, including fentanyl and its analogues. Both sides noted good examples of joint EU-U.S. operations in this area, and welcomed their practical results.

The European Union and the United States of America noted the progress in cooperative discussions towards reciprocal and secure visa-free travel under their respective legal frameworks.

Underlining the progress made and the continued need to face terrorism and crime together, the European Union and the United States of America remain committed to continue common work and meet again in the first half of 2018 in Sofia, Bulgaria.

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## **Opening remarks by Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, at the press conference following the Social Summit for Fair Jobs and Growth**

As you know, this was the first Social Summit since 1997. In 1997 we had the first and last Employment Summit. I am the only one to remember that because I was chairing the meeting in 1997. In our then adopted conclusions we were saying, as members of the European Council, that we should have an employment and social summit once per year. It took 20 years to have the second summit.

And it is thanks to the determination and the ambition of Stefan Löfven with whom I agreed to have this summit taking place in Sweden. Why in Sweden? The initial idea of the Commission was to restrict this social pillar to the Member States of the euro area. And I thought it would be good to broaden it and my first idea was to invite the Swedish Prime Minister to chair this meeting in order to show and to prove to the non-euro members that this is a matter to be dealt with by the non-euro members too. And thankfully Stefan was taking over. I am very grateful to him for having organised together with the Commission this meeting.

Les résultats sont là. Nous nous sommes mis d'accord sur une liste de 20

principes généraux qui dorénavant constituent une espèce de cadre pour l'évolution des politiques sociales et en Europe et dans nos Etats membres. J'étais agréablement surpris de voir que tous les Etats membres, les 28, ont répondu présent lorsqu'il s'agit de meubler et d'ameubler la dimension sociale de l'Europe. La Commission avait proposé la mise en place du socle lors de mon discours sur l'état de l'Union de septembre 2015, nous avons présenté nos propositions en 2017 et nous avons organisé une large consultation avec les partenaires sociaux, les Etats membres, enfin avec à peu près tout le monde.

Donc je suis content de constater que nous avons maintenant un catalogue de principes dont nous voudrions qu'ils ne restent pas lettre morte. Le socle des droits sociaux n'est pas une collection de poèmes mais un programme de principe d'abord et d'action ensuite.

La Commission n'a pas attendu la conclusion de ce Sommet pour lancer les premières initiatives qui sont reflétées dans le socle des droits sociaux. Nous avons revigoré, après l'avoir revue, la directive détachement, qui est une pièce essentielle dans la lutte contre le dumping social qui nous guette et nous frappe partout. Nous avons proposé aux colégislateurs une directive sur le congé parental, sur le congé soins, ainsi que d'autres initiatives dont nous voudrions que le Parlement et que le Conseil se saisissent le plus rapidement possible.

Tout le monde me dit: voilà, il faut maintenant appliquer les principes que nous avons présentés sous forme de pilier social. Or, sur les 19 propositions que la Commission a faites depuis son entrée en fonction seulement 7 jusqu'à ce jour ont abouti; 12 restent sur la table du Conseil et du Parlement européen. Donc j'invite et le Parlement et le Conseil à faire de leur côté leur travail. Il reste beaucoup de choses à faire parce que certaines de ces initiatives jusqu'à ce jour n'ont pas été adressées par le Parlement et le Conseil. Mais je crois que suite à l'impulsion qui est celle d'aujourd'hui tout le monde va se ressaisir et faire en sorte que nous aurons des résultats concrets au cours de l'année à venir. Année à venir dont je voudrais qu'elle soit aussi celle qui adoptera une nouvelle directive sur le contrat de travail par écrit. La dernière directive remonte à '91; il est temps, vu l'évolution des marchés de travail et vu l'évolution des modes de pensée en matière sociale, il est évident que nous devons revenir à cette affaire.

Dann haben wir heute über Kultur geredet. Die Kommission hat letzten Dienstag in Straßburg einige Maßnahmen – sechs, im Groben an der Zahl – vorgeschlagen. Mir kommt es im Wesentlichen darauf an, dass wir Ernst machen mit diesem Schlachtruf der allenthalben ertönt, dass wir das Erasmus-Programm wesentlich verstärken sollen. Bislang haben 9 Millionen junge Menschen am Erasmus-Programm teilgenommen. Von nun bis Ende 2019 werden noch drei weitere Millionen hinzukommen. Es gibt viele, die sagen, das Programm ist ja doppelt wert. Deshalb habe ich mir erlaubt, vorzutragen, was das in Zahlen heißt, wenn wir das Programm verdoppeln. Statt 3,7% europäische Studenten im Erasmus-Programm einzuweisen, 7,5% einzuweisen, dann wird dies für die Finanzierungsperiode 2011-2018 einen Kostenpunkt von insgesamt EUR 30 Milliarden zur Folge haben. Ich bin sehr dafür. Aber ich habe gemerkt, als ich diese Zahlen nannte da war die Begeisterung anderer schon ein bisschen

gedämpft. Deshalb müssen wir – das haben auch Stefan und Donald so zusammengefasst – bei der Festlegung der mehrjährigen Finanzperspektive auf dieses Thema zurückkommen. Wie ich auch gerne hätte, dass wir Ernst machen mit der Forderung, dass alle Europäer neben ihrer Landessprache noch zwei weitere Sprachen sprechen. Und das soll bis 2025 in die Wege geleitet werden. Das wird für Luxemburg kein großes Problem darstellen. Weil die Belgier, die Franzosen und die Deutschen sich ja seit Jahrhunderten weigern, die Luxemburgische Sprache zu erlernen, blieb den Luxemburgern nichts anderes übrig als Deutsch und Französisch zu lernen – das macht schon mal drei Sprachen – dann kommt noch Englisch hinzu. Viele Luxemburger sprechen auch Portugiesisch und Spanisch, also wir sind da Europa um eine Nasenlänge voran. Aber ich rede ja hier nicht für Luxemburg, aber weil niemand so gut über Luxemburg reden kann als ich selbst, mache ich das lieber selbst.

Also wir machen uns jetzt an die Arbeit.

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## **Summary of Conclusions MSG meeting 21 September 2017**

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