OPINION

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on Regional Development

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Just Transition Fund
(COM(2020)0022 – C9-0007/2020 – 2020/0006(COD))

Rapporteur for opinion (*): Mounir Satouri

(*) Associated committee – Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure
SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The environmental crisis facing the world is becoming inexorably more serious. By establishing the Just Transition Fund (JTF), and by making a commitment to achieve a climate-neutral Europe in 2050, the European Union is demonstrating its determination to provide financial backing from its budget for the much-needed green transition of its economy. It has undertaken to help its people cope with the changes involved, and help its territories seize the shared opportunity to build a sustainable and just future.

As the COVID-19 pandemic highlights the fragility of our development models, the need for European safeguards is emerging ever more clearly. The crises posing a threat to our societies in no way cancel one another out; rather they are mutually reinforcing, because they are widening inequalities and encouraging states to turn inward. The onus is therefore on us to use Europe’s legislative arsenal to enhance the Union’s ability to respond.

Our fellow citizens have grasped the imperative need for a collective, collaborative response to the challenges of our time: as many as 82% of EU citizens are in favour of financial support for the energy transition\(^1\). The consequences of climate change and the fact that our survival depends on our collective ability to change the way we live are now beyond dispute.

Our energy, economic, social and environmental policies must go with the flow of history. By adopting the European Green Deal\(^2\), the EU is signalling its refusal to simply accept the changes taking place in the world and its resolve to help regions become agents of transformation. The Sustainable Europe Investment Plan\(^3\) builds on the Just Transition Mechanism (JTM) which will help mobilise at least EUR 100 billion over the period 2021-2027 for the regions most affected by the transition to a green economy.

The proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Just Transition Fund\(^4\) is the first of the three pillars of the JTM. This increased EU support cannot simply take the form of unconditional handouts to the Member States. The latter meeting their climate commitments is the prerequisite for a coherent, credible and effective European policy.

At a time of economic and social crisis, the territories which most need to make a transition must not become Europe’s poor relations in the 21st century. They are vital to the European project, which must now mobilise their traditions and strengths in support of approaches designed to bring about inclusive system change. The JTF reflects that ambition, complementing the two other pillars of the JTM, which must also address these territories’ concerns. Its aim is to support local communities on the ground, so that they can build resilience, and ensure that no territory is left behind.

If territories and their populations are to use the transition as an opportunity to create a better future, your rapporteur takes the view that there must be three key aspects to JTF support.

Firstly, if it is to be genuinely just, the JTF must focus on the needs of individuals and social

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1 Second EIB climate survey carried out in partnership with the BVA Group and published on 13 March 2020.
2 European Green Deal of 11 December 2019.
well-being. The impact of the fund must be tangible for local people and visible on the ground. That could be achieved by means of measures to revitalise the labour market (education, training, support for start-ups and mobility, etc.) and passive support measures (pension gap funding).

Secondly, the fund must create conditions conducive to the emergence of a sustainable economy in these territories. All fund investments must be consistent with the need for social and environmental protection.

Lastly, the fund must support ‘social infrastructure’ measures which help territories in transition to remain dynamic and retain a focus on community and solidarity (healthcare, housing, etc.). In addition to physical infrastructure, enhancing the ability of local stakeholders to contribute to the transition is essential if the fund is to be accessible.

Your rapporteur sees the JTF as a *European transition factory*\(^5\). The success of processes of change and of the transformation of territories hinges on involving their inhabitants in the definition of strategies and mobilising associations and groups to support local projects. Seeing through the green transition of a territory above all means implementing public policies which foster a change in perceptions and the emergence of local solutions.

The Just Transition Fund will give regions, local communities and firms the chance to make the transition a success.

**AMENDMENTS**

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on Regional Development, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

Amendment 1
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) The regulatory framework governing the Union’s cohesion policy for the period from 2021 to 2027, in the context of the next multi-annual financial framework, contributes to the fulfilment of the Union’s commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by concentrating Union funding on green objectives. This Regulation implements one of the priorities set out in the Communication on the European Green Deal (‘the European Green Deal’)¹¹ and is part of the Sustainable Europe Investment Plan¹² providing dedicated financing under the Just Transition Mechanism in the context of cohesion policy to address the economic and social costs of the transition to a climate-neutral and circular economy, where any remaining greenhouse gas emissions are compensated by equivalent absorptions.

Amendment

(1) The regulatory framework governing the Union’s cohesion policy for the period from 2021 to 2027, in the context of the next multi-annual financial framework, contributes to the fulfilment of the Union’s commitments to implement the Paris Agreement to limit global temperature increase to below 1,5°C and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by concentrating Union funding on green objectives as well as the European Pillar of Social Rights. This Regulation implements one of the priorities set out in the Communication on the European Green Deal (‘the European Green Deal’)¹¹ and is part of the Sustainable Europe Investment Plan¹² providing dedicated financing under the Just Transition Mechanism in the context of cohesion policy to address the economic and social challenges of the transition to a climate-neutral renewables-based, highly resource- and energy-efficient and circular economy as early as possible and by 2050 at the very latest, and to support and accompany European regions and people with social, labour market and economic support so as not to leave anyone behind.


Amendment 2
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) The transition to a climate-neutral

Amendment

(2) The transition to a climate-neutral,
renewables-based, highly resource- and energy-efficient and circular economy constitutes one of the most important policy objectives for the Union and 82 % of Europeans call for specific financial support. On 12 December 2019, the European Council endorsed the objective of achieving a climate-neutral Union by 2050 the very latest, in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. Fighting climate change and environmental degradation are challenges that could be turned into opportunities for all in the medium and long term, if we shape them in a socially just manner and if no one is left behind. Not all regions and Member States start their necessary and utmost urgent transition from the same point or have the same capacity to respond considering their historical, economic and cultural specificities. Some are more advanced than others, whereas the transition entails a wider social and economic impact for those regions that rely heavily on fossil fuels - especially coal, lignite, peat and oil shale - or greenhouse gas intensive industries. Such a situation not only creates the risk of a variable speed transition in the Union as regards climate action, but also of growing disparities between regions, detrimental to the objectives of social, economic and territorial cohesion.

and circular economy constitutes one of the most important policy objectives for the Union. On 12 December 2019, the European Council endorsed the objective of achieving a climate-neutral Union by 2050, in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. While fighting climate change and environmental degradation will benefit all in the long term and provides opportunities and challenges for all in the medium term, not all regions and Member States start their transition from the same point or have the same capacity to respond. Some are more advanced than others, whereas the transition entails a wider social and economic impact for those regions that rely heavily on fossil fuels - especially coal, lignite, peat and oil shale - or greenhouse gas intensive industries. Such a situation not only creates the risk of a variable speed transition in the Union as regards climate action, but also of growing disparities between regions, detrimental to the objectives of social, economic and territorial cohesion.

Amendment 3
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3

_text proposed by the Commission_

(3) In order to be successful, the transition has to be _fair and socially acceptable_ for all. Therefore, both the Union and the Member States _must_ take into account its economic and social implications from the outset, and deploy all possible instruments to mitigate adverse consequences. The Union budget _has an important role in that regard._

_Amendment_

(3) In order to be successful, the transition has to be _inclusive, socially sustainable and socially acceptable_ for all, _paying special attention to the respect of principles set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights_. Therefore, both the Union and the Member States _as well as the different regional and local actors should_ take into account its _social, labour market and economic_ implications from the outset, _as well as the impact of coronavirus crisis_, and deploy all possible instruments to mitigate adverse consequences and _enhance the positive ones, such as the creation of new, decent and sustainable jobs or the improvement of air quality_. The Union budget _should be commensurate with this transition and the next MFF should make it possible to realise the ambitions of the Union and allow an allocation of the Just Transition Fund (JTF) without revising downward the allocations for existing Union policies._

Amendment 4
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4

_text proposed by the Commission_

(4) As set out in the European Green Deal and the Sustainable Europe Investment Plan, a Just Transition Mechanism should complement the other actions under the next multi-annual financial framework for the period from

_Amendment_

(4) As set out in the European Green Deal and the Sustainable Europe Investment Plan, a Just Transition Mechanism should complement the other actions under the next multi-annual financial framework for the period from
2021 to 2027. It should contribute to addressing the social and economic consequences of transitioning towards Union climate neutrality by bringing together the Union budget’s spending on climate and social objectives at regional level.

The Union should accompany and support regions, sub-regional levels local actors and inhabitants in transitioning towards Union climate neutrality and sustainable jobs by bringing together the Union budget’s spending on climate, on cohesion, economic and social objectives at all relevant levels, considering social impact investment and targeting the territories and the group of people who are the most in need of support to achieve the transition.

Amendment 5
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) This Regulation establishes the Just Transition Fund (‘JTF’) which is one of the pillars of the Just Transition Mechanism implemented under cohesion policy. The aim of the JTF is to mitigate the adverse effects of the climate transition by supporting the most affected territories and workers concerned. In line with the JTF specific objective, actions supported by the JTF should directly contribute to alleviating the impact of the transition by financing the diversification and modernisation of the local economy and by mitigating the negative repercussions on employment. This is reflected in the JTF specific objective, which is established at the same level and listed together with the policy objectives set out in Article [4] of Regulation EU [new CPR].

Amendment

(5) This Regulation establishes the JTF, which is one of the pillars of the Just Transition Mechanism implemented under cohesion policy. The aim of the JTF is not only to mitigate the adverse effects of the climate transition and to support the actions targeted at a fair and efficient energy transition towards a climate-neutral economy but also to create and enhance the future, positive effects by supporting the most affected territories, which includes Overseas Countries and Territories, as well as the population and in particular the workers concerned for ensuring social, territorial and economic cohesion. In line with the JTF specific objective, actions supported by the JTF should directly contribute to facilitating and catalysing the transition by creating new sustainable employment opportunities, mitigating adverse social consequences and financing the diversification, sustainability, reconversion and modernisation of the local economy, preventing social precariousness and fostering unstable business environments. This is reflected in
the JTF specific objective, which is established at the same level and listed together with the policy objectives set out in Article [4] of Regulation EU [new CPR].

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) In view of the importance of tackling climate change in line with the Union’s commitments to implement the Paris Agreement, the commitment regarding the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the increased ambition of the Union as proposed in the European Green Deal, the JTF should provide a key contribution to mainstream climate actions. Resources from the JTF own envelope are additional and come on top of the investments needed to achieve the overall target of 25% of the Union budget expenditure contributing to climate objectives. Resources transferred from the ERDF and ESF+ will contribute fully to the achievement of this target.

Amendment

(6) In view of the importance of tackling climate change in line with the Union’s commitments to implement the Paris Agreement, the commitment regarding the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the increased ambition of the European Green Deal to create opportunities for a more prosperous and inclusive as well as a healthier and greener continent, the JTF should provide a key contribution to mainstream climate actions and accelerate the transition to a climate-neutral, renewables-based, highly resource- and energy-efficient and circular economy as early as possible and by 2050 at the very latest. JTF funding should be conditional on the acceptance of the Union objective of climate neutrality by 2050 at the very latest as well as the intermediate targets. Resources from the JTF own envelope are additional and come on top of the investments needed to achieve the overall target of 25 % of the Union budget expenditure contributing to climate objectives. Resources transferred on a voluntary basis from the ERDF and ESF+ will contribute fully to the achievement of this target in line with the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Amendment 7
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

(7) The resources from the JTF should complement the resources available under cohesion policy.

Amendment

(7) The resources from the JTF should complement the resources available under cohesion policy as well as national and regional investments and private capital and should by no means replace such investments. As such, the next MFF should be ambitious and enable reaching the objectives set. Funding by the JTF must in no case be at the expense of other existing funds. The JTF should support the transitioning to a green economy especially in the regions most heavily dependent on coal or other such unsustainable fuels, and contribute to a new sustainable cohesion policy aimed at future-oriented and green employment models.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) Transitioning to a climate-neutral economy is a challenge for all Member States. It will be particularly demanding for those Member States that rely heavily on fossil fuels or greenhouse gas intensive industrial activities which need to be phased out or which need to adapt due to the transition towards climate neutrality and that lack the financial means to do so. The JTF should therefore cover all Member States, but the distribution of its financial means should reflect the capacity of Member States to finance the necessary investments to cope with the transition towards climate neutrality.

Amendment

(8) Transitioning to a climate-neutral economy is not only a challenge but also a huge opportunity for all Member States, regional and local public and private actors. Additional support will be needed for the regions, including in remote areas, that still rely heavily on fossil fuels or greenhouse gas intensive industrial activities which need to be phased out and/or modernised in order to transition towards climate neutrality, together with a workforce that needs upskilling and assistance to reach employment in green sectors, and that lack the financial means to do so. The JTF should therefore cover all of the Union, but the distribution of its financial means should reflect the initial reliance on unsustainable activities of
regions and their capacity to finance the necessary investments to make the transition towards climate neutrality as soon as possible and by 2050 at the very latest, including their promotion of alternatives to the fossil-fuel based economy through a circular economy, which offers opportunities for new jobs, regional economic development, improved territorial cohesion and boosting local rural economies.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

(10) This Regulation identifies types of investments for which expenditure may be supported by the JTF. All supported activities should be pursued in full respect of the climate and environmental priorities of the Union. The list of investments should include those that support local economies and are sustainable in the long-term, taking into account all the objectives of the Green Deal. The projects financed should contribute to a transition to a climate-neutral and circular economy. For declining sectors, such as energy production based on coal, lignite, peat and oil shale or extraction activities for these solid fossil fuels, support should be linked to the phasing out of the activity and the corresponding reduction in the employment level. As regards transforming sectors with high greenhouse gas emission levels, support should promote new activities through the deployment of new technologies, new processes or products, leading to significant emission reduction, in line with the EU 2030 climate objectives and EU climate neutrality by 2050 while maintaining and enhancing employment and avoiding environmental degradation. Particular attention should also be given to

Amendment

(10) This Regulation identifies types of investments for which expenditure may be supported by the JTF. All supported activities should be pursued in full respect of the climate, social and environmental priorities of the Union including the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The list of investments should prioritise those that support people, social innovation, local economies and labour market with decent job creation, and are sustainable in the medium and long-term, taking into account all the objectives of the European Green Deal, while protecting, preserving and enhancing the Union’s natural capital, and improving health and well-being with regard to environment-related risks and impacts. The projects financed should contribute to a transition to a climate-neutral, renewables-based, highly resource- and energy-efficient and circular economy as early as possible and by 2050 at the very latest. For declining sectors, such as energy production based on coal, lignite, peat, gas, oil and oil shale or extraction activities for these fossil fuels, as well as indirect industries such as
activities enhancing innovation and research \textit{in advanced} and sustainable technologies, as well as in the fields of digitalisation and connectivity, provided that such measures help mitigate the negative \textit{side effects} of a transition towards, and contribute to, a climate-neutral and circular economy.

suppliers and service providers who might also be affected by those declining productions, support should be linked with \textit{strong conditionality} to the \textit{gradual strategy of the phasing out of the activity}. Such support should be clearly outlined in the territorial just transition plan and should be conditional on the creation of quality jobs and social progress and on safeguarding the resilience of the local economy to overcome potential job losses. As regards transforming sectors with high greenhouse gas emission levels, support should promote new activities through the deployment of new technologies, new processes or products, leading to significant emission reduction, in line with the EU 2030 climate objectives and EU climate neutrality by 2050 \textit{at the very latest} while maintaining and enhancing the \textit{skills and rights of employees} and avoiding environmental degradation. \textit{Those investments should also enable financing expertise and analysis in support for fully transformed SMEs to retain the up-skilled and re-skilled employees}. Particular attention should be given to the implementation of the energy-efficiency first principle in investment decisions, as well as to green sectors such as those involving renewable energy sources, smart mobility, fight against energy poverty, social impact investment or other sectors which support, promote and drive forward resource-efficiency and the circular economy. \textit{Those investments should also support the creation of knowledge innovation communities with emphasis in digitalisation and research and European Institute of Innovation and technology, bringing together research centres, entrepreneurship, universities and local and regional governments, to contribute to the objective of a smart and sustainable transition}. Such measures should enhance the creation of green sustainable and decent jobs, mitigate negative social consequences and fasten the transition towards a climate-neutral and
circular economy by 2050 at the very latest.

13 As set out in “A Clean Planet for all European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy”, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the European Investment Bank - COM(2018) 773 final.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 10 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(10a) The JTF should also be used to support investment in social, education, health and cultural projects, with the particular attention to regions depending on a carbon intensive economy and affected by the structural transition to a resource efficient and low-carbon circular economy. Inequality of opportunities present in the eligible regions affects in particular access to education, culture, community, health and social services. Development of a strong local community bringing together different generations, as well as in the integration of vulnerable populations without any discrimination in the society can enhance economic opportunities and ensure just transitions for all. To that end, social innovation must be supported in particular in the areas of early childhood education and care, educational facilities, student housing and digital equipment but also of health services and new care model including clinics, hospitals or community based care. This would help to ensure that those living in transition regions have
access to high-quality public services and services of general interest, including those active in the social economy which are so crucial to local economic development and the social market economy to underpin a socially just transition that leaves no-one behind.

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) To protect citizens who are most vulnerable to the climate transition, the JTF should also cover the up-skilling and reskilling of the affected workers, with the aim of helping them to adapt to new employment opportunities, as well as providing job-search assistance to jobseekers and their active inclusion into the labour market.

Amendment

(11) To protect people who are the most likely to require support to achieve the climate transition, the JTF should cover the up-skilling and reskilling of the affected workers, with a particular attention to the most vulnerable people as defined under the [ESF+ regulation] and of the persons furthest from the labour market (such as long term unemployed, in work poverty or young people who are NEETs), with the aim of helping them to adapt to new employment opportunities and achieving a gender balance across sectors, as well as providing active labour market and skills policies targeted towards future-oriented sectors and employment ensuring lifelong learning opportunities and respecting the principle of equal pay for equal work, assistance to those concerned by the transition, counselling, training, support services and personalised job-search assistance to all categories of jobseekers ensuring equal access to all groups of people without any discrimination paying a specific attention to young people and their active inclusion into the labour market. In this regard, upskilling and reskilling opportunities for workers should be provided within an appropriate timeframe before they reach unemployment. Efforts must be concentrated on economic revitalisation of affected regions, in particular through
retraining formulae and through strong cooperation between national, regional and local authorities of neighbouring Member States in order to reach the full potential of the cross-border labour market in full coherence with the Globalisation Adjustment Fund.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 11 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(11a) The Member States and the Commission should ensure that the implementation of the priorities financed by the JTF contributes to the respect and the promotion of equality between women and men in accordance with Article 8 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU). Evaluations have shown the importance of taking the gender equality objectives aspect into account in all dimensions and in all stages of the preparation, monitoring, implementation and evaluation of operational programmes, in a timely and consistent manner while ensuring that specific actions are taken to promote gender equality and the principle of equal pay for equal work of equal value, the economic independence of women, education and skills upgrading and the reintegration of female victims of violence into the labour market and into society.

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 11 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(11b) The JTF has an important role to
play in mitigating social consequences beyond the economy and should not be a mere business investment instrument. The transition demands a lot of the affected regions and its inhabitants. Risks include not only loss of jobs, but also loss of local tax income, as well as migration of the workforce, leaving the young and the elderly and potentially the halting of some services (in particular for coal miners), and therefore investment in social infrastructure to ensure high level of services for the inhabitants and to counterbalance loss of services is a key component to ensure a socially just transition that leaves no-one behind. The JTF should in particular take preventive measures against a recession to ensure that the local population endorses change and that local community actors, health and social as well as and democratic infrastructure is improved.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 12

Text proposed by the Commission

(12) In order to enhance the economic diversification of territories impacted by the transition, the JTF should provide support to productive investment in SMEs. Productive investment should be understood as investment in fixed capital or immaterial assets of enterprises in view of producing goods and services thereby contributing to gross-capital formation and employment. For enterprises other than SMEs, productive investments should only be supported if they are necessary for mitigating job losses resulting from the transition, by creating or protecting a significant number of jobs and they do not lead to or result from relocation. Investments in existing industrial facilities, including those covered by the Union

Amendment

(12) In order to enhance the diversification and reconversion of territories which require additional support to achieve the transition, the JTF should provide support to productive investment with job creation potential in green and sustainable SMEs, and in particular young enterprises and those active in the sector of social innovation. Productive investment should be understood as investment in fixed capital or immaterial assets of enterprises in view of producing goods and services thereby contributing to gross-capital formation and green, decent and sustainable employment. The aim must be to create decent sustainable jobs in future-oriented sectors and to enable social inclusion
Emissions Trading System, should be allowed if they contribute to the transition to a climate-neutral economy by 2050 and go substantially below the relevant benchmarks established for free allocation under Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council\(^{14}\) and if they result in the protection of a significant number of jobs. Any such investment should be justified accordingly in the relevant territorial just transition plan. In order to protect the integrity of the internal market and cohesion policy, support to undertakings should comply with Union State aid rules as set out in Articles 107 and 108 TFEU and, in particular, support to productive investments by enterprises other than SMEs should be limited to enterprises located in areas designated as assisted areas for the purposes of points (a) and (c) of Article 107(3) TFEU.

while recognising, valuing and upgrading the skills and education of local human resources. For enterprises other than SMEs, productive investments should only be supported if they are necessary for mitigating job losses resulting from the transition and if they support the overarching goal of the fund which is to fasten the transition to a climate-neutral, renewables-based, highly resource- and energy-efficient and circular economy, by creating or supporting the adaptation of a significant number of jobs and they do not lead to or result from relocation, in full coherence with the Globalisation Adjustment Fund. Investments in existing industrial facilities, including those covered by the Union Emissions Trading System, should be allowed under condition that they contribute to the transition to a climate-neutral economy by 2050 at the very latest and go substantially below the relevant benchmarks established for free allocation under Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council\(^{14}\) on condition that they result in the protection of a significant number of decent and sustainable jobs. Any such investment should be justified accordingly in the relevant territorial just transition plan, should be sustainable and should be consistent with the energy efficiency first principle. In order to protect the integrity of the internal market and cohesion policy, support to undertakings should comply with Union State aid rules as set out in Articles 107 and 108 TFEU and, in particular, support to productive investments by enterprises other than SMEs should be limited to enterprises located in areas designated as assisted areas for the purposes of points (a) and (c) of Article 107(3) TFEU. The transition initiated by the European Green Deal must benefit everyone and not widen inequalities, having a specific attention to rural areas and their significant economic difficulties,
especially for young people.

Amendment 15
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 13

Text proposed by the Commission

(13) In order to provide flexibility for the programming of the JTF resources under the Investment for jobs and growth goal, it should be possible to prepare a self-standing JTF programme or to programme JTF resources in one or more dedicated priorities within a programme supported by the European Regional Development Fund (‘ERDF’), the European Social Fund Plus (‘ESF+) or the Cohesion Fund. In accordance with Article 21a of Regulation (EU) [new CPR], JTF resources should be reinforced with complementary funding from the ERDF and the ESF+. The respective amounts transferred from the ERDF and the ESF+ should be consistent with the type of operations set out in the territorial just transition plans.

Amendment

(13) In order to provide flexibility for the programming of the JTF resources under the Investment for jobs and growth goal, it should be required to prepare a self-standing JTF programme. In accordance with Article 21a of Regulation (EU) [new CPR], JTF resources could be voluntarily reinforced with complementary funding from the ERDF and the ESF+, which should be given additional resources for that purpose. The respective amounts transferred from the ERDF and the ESF+ should be consistent with the type of operations set out in the territorial just transition plans and the objective of those funds. In accordance with the objective of simplification, the application of the JTF must not generate excessive administrative burdens.

Amendment 16
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

(14) The JTF support should be

Amendment

(14) The JTF support should be
conditional on the effective implementation of a transition process in a specific territory in order to achieve a climate-neutral economy. In that regard, Member States should prepare, in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders and supported by the Commission, territorial just transition plans, detailing the transition process, consistently with their National Energy and Climate Plans. To this end, the Commission should set up a Just Transition Platform, which would build on the existing platform for coal regions in transition to enable bilateral and multilateral exchanges of experience on lessons learnt and best practices across all affected sectors.

conditional on the effective and measurable launching and implementation of a transition process in a specific territory that needs to be supported in order to phase out its dependence to unsustainable activities in order to achieve a climate-neutral economy by 2050 at the very latest. In that regard, recipient regions in Member States should prepare, supported by the Commission, territorial just transition plans. In preparing the just transition plans, the recipient regions should consult the relevant stakeholders, including local and regional authorities in accordance with partnership principles, local and regional actors such as existing local business and especially SMEs and subcontractors of large energy facilities, civil society, the social partners and the local communities concerned. The just transition plans must detail the transition process, including socio-economic impact job creation measures, upskilling and reskilling and investments in local social infrastructure, in line with at least the ambition of their National Energy and Climate Plans, the European Pillar of Social Rights and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. To this end, the Commission should set up a Just Transition Platform, which would build on the existing platform for coal regions in transition to enable bilateral and multilateral exchanges of experience on lessons learnt and best practices across all actors and sectors concerned. The existing platform should be fully used for the planning phase to disseminate best practices. In developing fair territorial transition plans, a comprehensive approach that takes into account the impacts on neighbouring living areas, including across borders must be required.

Amendment 17
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(14a) *In order to ensure the long-term effectiveness and positive impacts of the transition and the JTF, data gathering will be required to better forecast skills needed across sectors and industry to adapt to the change required by a new green economy and in particular modelling of the employment effects of decarbonising scenarios, as well as monitoring through adequate social sustainability indicators.*

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 15

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(15) *The territorial just transition plans should identify the territories most negatively affected, where JTF support should be concentrated and describe specific actions to be undertaken to reach a climate-neutral economy, notably as regards the conversion or closure of facilities involving fossil fuel production or other greenhouse gas intensive activities. Those territories should be precisely defined and correspond to NUTS level 3 regions or should be parts thereof. The plans should detail the challenges and needs of those territories and identify the type of operations needed in a manner that ensures the coherent development of climate-resilient economic activities that are also consistent with the transition to climate-neutrality and the objectives of the Green Deal. Only investments in accordance with the transition plans should receive financial support from the JTF. The territorial just transition plans should be part of the programmes (supported by the*
ERDF, the ESF+, the Cohesion Fund or the JTF, as the case may be) which are approved by the Commission. The plans should detail the challenges (economic, social, territorial and environmental), the needs, the opportunities and the resources of those territories to achieve the transition including in terms of social infrastructure, job creation potential and existing education and engineering potential. The plans should identify the type of operations needed in a manner that ensures the coherent development of climate-resilient economic activities that create sustainable and decent jobs, that prioritise the alleviation of any socio-economic shocks from the transition, and that are also consistent with the transition to climate-neutrality by 2050 at the very latest and the objectives of the European Green Deal, the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals while ensuring that no-one is left behind. Only investments in accordance with the transition plans should receive financial support from the JTF. The territorial just transition plans should be part of the national JTF programme which is to be approved by the Commission.

Amendment 19
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

(16) In order to enhance the result orientation of the use of JTF resources, the Commission, in line with the principle of proportionality, should be able to apply financial corrections in case of serious underachievement of targets established for the JTF specific objective.

Amendment

(16) In order to optimise the result orientation of the use of JTF resources, the Commission, in line with the principle of proportionality should be able to apply financial corrections in case of serious underachievement of targets established for the JTF specific objective. The Commission should monitor the regions in which the use of JTF resources yield lower results and ensure that those regions are further supported in order to
leave no region behind.

Amendment 20
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 19

Text proposed by the Commission

(19) The objectives of this Regulation, namely to support territories facing economic and social transformation in their transition to a climate-neutral economy, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States alone. The main reasons in this regard are, on the one hand, the disparities between the levels of development of the various territories and the backwardness of the least favoured territories, as well as the limit on the financial resources of the Member States and territories and, on the other hand, the need for a coherent implementation framework covering several Union funds under shared management. Since those objectives can better be achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 TEU. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives,

Amendment

(19) The objectives of this Regulation, namely to support territories in their economic, labour market and social transformation in their transition to a climate-neutral economy, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States alone. The main reasons in this regard are, on the one hand, the disparities between the levels of development of the various territories and the specific challenges of the least favoured territories, as well as the limit on the financial resources of the Member States and territories and, on the other hand, the need for a coherent implementation framework covering several Union funds under shared management. Since those objectives can better be achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 TEU. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives,

Amendment 21
Proposal for a regulation
Article 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. This Regulation establishes the Just Transition Fund ('JTF') to provide support to territories facing serious socio-economic challenges deriving from the

Amendment

1. This Regulation establishes the Just Transition Fund ('JTF') to provide support to the groups of people and the territories which require additional support for
transition process towards a climate-neutral economy of the Union by 2050.

Amendment 22
Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

In accordance with the second subparagraph of Article [4(1)] of Regulation (EU) [new CPR], the JTF shall contribute to the single specific objective ‘enabling regions and people to address the social, economic and environmental impacts of the transition towards a climate-neutral economy’.

Amendment

In accordance with the second subparagraph of Article [4(1)] of Regulation (EU) [new CPR], the JTF shall contribute to the following specific objective:

- enabling regions, local levels and people to address the social, labour market, economic and environmental challenges and opportunities of the transition towards a climate-neutral economy and society consistent with the goal of limiting a global temperature increase to well below 2°C, while pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C, while ensuring the territorial just transition plans increase transparency and security for communities, workers, industries and investors.

Amendment 23
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1
1. The JTF shall support the Investment for jobs and growth goal in all Member States, with the particular attention to the Member States relying on fossil fuels, respecting and supporting the overarching objectives of the European Green Deal and the European Pillar of Social Rights in order to tackle climate and environmental challenges while ensuring a just transition that leaves no one behind. The JTF shall support the activities set out in Article 4(2) to (2c) and access shall be conditional on the Member State having a commitment to a target of climate neutrality by 2050.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The resources for the JTF under the Investment for jobs and growth goal available for budgetary commitment for the period 2021-2027 shall be EUR 7.5 billion in 2018 prices, which may be increased, as the case may be, by additional resources allocated in the Union budget, and by other resources in accordance with the applicable basic act.

Amendment

The resources for the JTF under the Investment for jobs and growth goal available for budgetary commitment for the period 2021-2027 shall be EUR 10 billion in 2018 prices, which may be increased, as the case may be, by additional resources allocated in the Union budget, and by other resources in accordance with the applicable basic act. The funding of the JTF shall not be to the detriment of resources allocated to the other MFF funds.

Amendment 25

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

Text proposed by the Commission

0.35% of the amount referred to in the first subparagraph shall be allocated to technical

Amendment

A minimum share of 0.35% of the amount referred to in the first subparagraph shall
assistance at the initiative of the Commission.

be allocated to technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission.

Amendment 26

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The Commission shall adopt a decision by means of an implementing act setting out the annual breakdown of resources, including any additional resources referred to in paragraph 2, by Member State in accordance with the methodology set out in Annex I.

Amendment

3. The Commission shall adopt a decision by means of a delegated act in accordance with Article 10 setting out the annual breakdown of resources, including any additional resources referred to in paragraph 2, by Member State in accordance with the methodology set out in Annex I.

Amendment 27

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 a

Text proposed by the Commission

Article 3a

Resources from the European Union Recovery Instrument

1. Measures referred to in Article 2 of [Regulation ERI] shall be implemented under the JTF with an amount of EUR 30 billion in current prices of the amount referred to in [point (vi) of Article 3(2)(a)] of that Regulation, subject to [Article 4(3), (4) and (8)] thereof.

That amount shall be considered to comprise other resources as referred to in Article 3(2) of this Regulation and shall constitute external assigned revenues in accordance with Article 21(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

They shall be made available for budgetary commitment under the Investment for jobs and growth goal for 2021 to 2024 in addition to the global...
resources set out in Article 3 as follows:

- 2021: EUR 7 954 600 000;
- 2022: EUR 8 114 600 000;
- 2023: EUR 8 276 600 000;
- 2024: EUR 8 441 600 000.

In addition, EUR 15 600 000 in current prices shall be made available for administrative expenditure from the resources referred to in the first subparagraph of this paragraph.

2. 0,35% of the amount referred to in the first subparagraph of paragraph 1 shall be allocated to technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission.

3. The annual breakdown of the amount referred to in paragraph 1 by Member States shall be included in the Commission decision referred to in Article 3(3) in accordance with the methodology set out in Annex I.

4. By way of derogation from Article 14(3) of the Financial Regulation, the decommitment rules set out in Chapter IV of Title VII of ...[Regulation (EU) new CPR] shall apply to the budgetary commitments based on resources referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article. By derogation from point (c) of Article 12(4) of the Financial Regulation, those resources shall not be used for a succeeding programme or action.

Amendment 28

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

2. In accordance with paragraph 1, the JTF shall exclusively support the following activities:

Amendment

2. In accordance with paragraph 1, the JTF shall support the following activities for the transition provided that they are eligible under Regulation ... [sustainable taxonomy Regulation]:

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Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) productive investments in SMEs, including start-ups, leading to economic diversification and reconversion;

Amendment

(a) sustainable investments in SMEs, including start-ups, energy communities and cooperatives, and those active in social innovation leading to the creation of decent and sustainable job creation, economic diversification and reconversion;

Amendment 30

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) investments in the creation of new firms, including through business incubators and consulting services;

Amendment

(b) investments in the creation of new firms in social enterprises and future-oriented sustainable sectors, renewable energy, greening and green infrastructure construction, including through business incubators and consulting services;

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(ba) social impact investments, namely investments which foster the development of businesses generating positive, local and measurable social and environmental impact;

Amendment

Amendment 32

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point c
(c) investments in research and innovation activities and fostering the transfer of advanced technologies;

Amendment 33

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point d

(d) investments in the deployment of technology and infrastructures for affordable clean energy, in greenhouse gas emission reduction, energy efficiency and renewable energy;

Amendment 34

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point e

(e) investments in digitalisation and digital connectivity;

Amendment 35

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point f

(e) investments in digitalisation and digital connectivity, in particular those targeting microenterprises and small enterprises;
(f) investments in regeneration and decontamination of sites, land restoration and repurposing projects; **(f) investments in regeneration and decontamination of sites, land restoration and repurposing projects, while ensuring appropriate respect for the polluter pays principle;**

**Amendment 36**

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point g

Text proposed by the Commission

(g) investments in **enhancing the** circular economy, including through waste prevention, reduction, resource efficiency, reuse, repair and recycling;

**Amendment**

(g) investments in **fostering a non-toxic** circular economy, including in bio-economy, including through waste prevention, reduction, resource efficiency, reuse, repair and recycling.

**Amendment 37**

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point h

Text proposed by the Commission

(h) upskilling and reskilling of **deleted** workers;

**Amendment**

(h) job-search assistance to **deleted** jobseekers;

**Amendment 38**

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

(i) **deleted**

**Amendment**

(i) **deleted**
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point j

Text proposed by the Commission

(j) _active inclusion of jobseekers_; deleted

Amendment 40

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point k

Text proposed by the Commission

(k) _technical assistance._ deleted

Amendment 41

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

2a. _In accordance with paragraph 1, the JTF shall support social investments, including those supporting the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, ensuring the participation and accessibility of persons with disabilities and the most deprived persons, in particular through:_

(a) _microfinance, social enterprise finance and the social economy;_

(b) _social innovation, social infrastructure as well as infrastructure for local communities such as community and volunteer centres;_

(c) _facilities for education and training;_

(d) _energy-efficient social housing contributing to tackling energy poverty and housing first solutions for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness;_

(e) _quality, sustainable and affordable social and health care infrastructures and_
health care services and innovative health solutions;
(f) cultural and heritage activities with a social goal.

Amendment 42
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

2b. In accordance with paragraph 1, the JTF shall support investments in the following, geared towards workers and job seekers:

(a) upskilling and reskilling not only of current or former workers who are working in the fossil fuel industries but of all persons outside the labour market, including long-term unemployed, persons seeking their first job, and the young people who are neither in employment nor in education or training (NEETs);
(b) active labour market and skills policies targeted towards future-oriented sectors and employment as well as personalised and people-centred job-search assistance and counselling and support services to jobseekers;
(c) temporary income support measures and social protection measures for workers most directly affected by the transition, when appropriate, with a particular focus on in-work poverty. These measures would only be a complement to national safety nets where necessary;
(d) active inclusion of jobseekers and socioeconomic integration of people and communities.

(Points (a) to (d) of Article 2b correspond to points (h) to (j) in the COM proposal, with the following changes, shown in bold underlining:}
(h) upskilling and reskilling not only of current or former workers who are working in the fossil fuel industries but of all persons outside the labour market, including long-term unemployed, persons seeking their first job, and the young people who are neither in employment nor in education or training (NEETs);

(i) active labour market and skills policies targeted towards future-oriented sectors and employment as well as job-search assistance to job-seekers;

(ia) temporary income support measures and social protection measures for workers most directly affected by the transition, when appropriate, with a particular focus on in-work poverty. These measures would only be a complement to national safety nets where necessary;

(j) active inclusion of jobseekers and socioeconomic integration of people and communities.)

Amendment 43

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 c (new)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text proposed by the Commission</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2c. In accordance with paragraph 1, the JTF shall support technical assistance with regard to the investment strands referred to in paragraphs 2, 2a and 2b.</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Amendment 44

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Text proposed by the Commission</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2d. Additionally, the JTF may support, in areas designated as assisted areas in accordance with points (a) and (c) of Article 107(3) of the TFEU and in compliance with Union State aid rules as set out in Articles 107 and 108 TFEU, productive investments in enterprises other than SMEs, provided that such investments have been approved as part of the territorial just transition plan based on the information required under point (h) of Article 7(2). Such investments shall only be eligible where they are necessary for the implementation of the</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Article 7(2) and have undergone an additional check for compliance with the European Social Pillar of Rights, and that they lead to the creation of sustainable quality employment and better social inclusion. Such investments shall only be eligible where they are necessary for the implementation of the territorial just transition plan, and do not perpetuate dependence on fossil fuels.

Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

The JTF may also support investments to achieve the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from activities listed in Annex I to Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council provided that such investments have been approved as part of the territorial just transition plan based on the information required under point (i) of Article 7(2). Such investments shall only be eligible where they are necessary for the implementation of the territorial just transition plan.

Amendment

2e. The JTF may also support investments to achieve the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from activities listed in Annex I to Directive 2003/87/EC provided that such investments have been approved as part of the territorial just transition plan based on the information required under point (i) of Article 7(2). Such investments shall only be eligible where they are necessary for the implementation of the territorial just transition plan, do not perpetuate dependence on fossil fuels, and should be socially and environmentally sustainable.

Amendment 46

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 f (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

2f. In budgeting and programming for actions, the JTF aims to ensure support in equal shares for each of the three investment strands referred to in paragraphs 2, 2a and 2b. The equal share principle can be adjusted at regions
discretion with the obligation to respect a balanced approach between the different investment strands.

Amendment 47

Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission
(d) investment related to the production, processing, distribution, storage or combustion of fossil fuels;

Amendment
(d) investment related to the production, processing, distribution, storage or combustion of fossil fuels, with the exception of natural gas as a transitional, intermediate fuel between coal and green energies;

Amendment 48

Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission
For the activities set out in Article 4(2a) and (2b), the specific exclusions of the [ESF+] shall also apply.

Amendment

Amendment 49

Proposal for a regulation
Article 6 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission
The Commission shall only approve a programme where the identification of the territories most negatively affected by the transition process, contained within the relevant territorial just transition plan, is duly justified and the relevant territorial just transition plan is consistent with the National Energy and Climate Plan of the Member State concerned.

Amendment
The Commission shall only approve a programme where the identification of the territories most negatively affected by the transition process, contained within the relevant territorial just transition plan, is duly justified and the relevant territorial just transition plan is consistent with the National Energy and Climate Plan of the Member State concerned and where the
planned activities comply with the planning requirement laid down in Article 4(2f) and the objectives of the European Green Deal.

Amendment 50
Proposal for a regulation
Article 6 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The JTF priority or priorities shall comprise the JTF resources consisting of all or part of the JTF allocation for the Member States and the resources transferred in accordance with Article [21a] of Regulation (EU) [new CPR]. The total of the ERDF and ESF+ resources transferred to the JTF priority shall be at least equal to one and a half times the amount of support from the JTF to that priority but shall not exceed three times that amount.

Amendment

2. The JTF priority or priorities shall comprise the JTF resources consisting of all or part of the JTF allocation for the Member States and, if appropriate, the resources transferred in accordance with Article [21a] of Regulation (EU) [new CPR]. The share of ESF+ within the total resources transferred shall not exceed 20%.

Amendment 51
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Member States shall prepare, together with the relevant authorities of the territories concerned, one or more territorial just transition plans covering one or more affected territories corresponding to level 3 of the common classification of territorial units for statistics (‘NUTS level 3 regions’) as established by Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 868/2014 or parts thereof, in accordance with the template set out in Annex II. Those territories shall be those most

Amendment

1. Member States shall prepare, in full compliance with the partnership principle and together with the relevant local and regional authorities of the territories concerned as well as the social partners, civil society organisations and local actors, one or more territorial just transition plans covering one or more affected territories corresponding to level 3 of the common classification of territorial units for statistics (‘NUTS level 3 regions’) as established by Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as amended by Commission
negatively affected based on the economic and social impacts resulting from the transition, in particular with regard to expected job losses in fossil fuel production and use and the transformation needs of the production processes of industrial facilities with the highest greenhouse gas intensity.

Regulation (EC) No 868/2014 or parts thereof, in accordance with the template set out in Annex II. Those territories shall be those most negatively affected based on the economic, labour market and social impacts resulting from the transition as well as indirect industries affected such as suppliers and service providers, in particular with regard to the adaptation of workers, the requalification needs of the employment profiles expected with the change of the job market in those territories or the expected job losses in fossil fuel production and use and the transformation needs of the production processes of industrial facilities with the highest greenhouse gas intensity, and those territories with sectors whose final industrial products are directly impacted by the transition to carbon neutrality.


Amendment 52
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) a description of the transition process at national level towards a climate-neutral economy, including a timeline for key transition steps which are consistent with the latest version of the National Energy and Climate Plan (‘NECP’);

Amendment

(a) a description of the transition process at national level towards a climate-neutral economy by 2050 at the latest, including legally binding dates for key transition steps which are consistent with the latest version of the National Energy and Climate Plan (‘NECP’), aiming to phase out coal, other fossil fuels, and fossil fuel subsidies, within the concerned territory in a timeframe consistent with the objective of limiting the temperature increase to 1,5°C above pre-industrial
Amendment 53

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) a justification for identifying the territories as most negatively affected by the transition process referred to in point (a) and to be supported by the JTF, in accordance with paragraph 1;

Amendment

(b) a justification for identifying the territories or the sectors as most negatively affected by the transition process referred to in point (a) in accordance with paragraph 1;

Amendment 54

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) an assessment of the transition challenges faced by the most negatively affected territories, including the social, economic, and environmental impact of the transition to a climate-neutral economy, identifying the potential number of affected jobs and job losses, the development needs and objectives, to be reached by 2030 linked to the transformation or closure of greenhouse gas-intensive activities in those territories;

Amendment

(c) an assessment of the transition challenges faced by the most negatively affected territories, including the social, labour market, economic, and environmental impact and the co-benefits, in particular in terms of health and well-being, of the transition to a renewables-based, highly resource and energy-efficient, circular and climate-neutral economy, identifying the potential number of affected jobs and job losses as well as potential job creation, needs of new skills and other social consequences resulting from the green economy, the development needs and objectives, to be reached by 2030 linked to the transition to net zero emissions, the transition from fossil fuel use or to the closure of greenhouse gas-intensive activities in those territories and challenges in terms of energy poverty;

Amendment 55
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point d

**Text proposed by the Commission**

(d) a description of the expected contribution of the JTF support to addressing the social, economic and environmental **impacts** of the transition to a climate-neutral economy;

**Amendment**

(d) a description of the expected contribution of the JTF support to addressing the social, **labour market**, economic and environmental **challenges and opportunities** of the transition to a **renewables-based, highly resource- and energy-efficient, circular and climate-neutral** economy **with a detailed list of actions planned respecting the balanced shared principle between the three investment strands referred to in Article 4(2), (2a) and (2b)**;

Amendment 56

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point e

**Text proposed by the Commission**

(e) an assessment of its consistency with other national, regional or territorial strategies and plans;

**Amendment**

(e) an assessment of its consistency with other national, regional, territorial, interregional or cross-border strategies and plans, the other Union funds such as the [ESF+], the ERDF and the EGF, the NECPs, the related Union strategies (the European Green Deal and the European Pillar of Social Rights) as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals;

Amendment 57

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point e a (new)

**Text proposed by the Commission**

(ea) a detailed list of the different partners and stakeholders consulted representing people living in the territory
Amendment 58

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) a description of the governance mechanisms consisting of the partnership arrangements, the monitoring and evaluation measures planned and the responsible bodies;

Amendment

(f) a description of the governance tools and mechanisms, consisting of the partnership agreement and how the local and regional authorities concerned and local stakeholders were involved in the organisation and implementation of the partnership, the monitoring and evaluation measures planned and the responsible bodies, in conformity with the European code of conduct on partnership in the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds (CDR 240/2014);

Amendment 59

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point f a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(fa) a description of how the public consultation preceding the preparation of the territorial just transition plans was carried out and how the outcome of that consultation was taken into account;

Amendment

Amendment 60

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point g

Text proposed by the Commission

(g) a description of the type of operations envisaged and their expected contribution to alleviate the impact of the

Amendment

(g) an assessment of the transition opportunities for the territories concerned and the people living there, with a
transition;
description of the type of operations envisaged, including the labour market and skills policies required to play an active role in fostering and supporting employment and job creation, and their expected contribution to alleviating the social, economic, energy security and environmental impacts of the transition and turn the challenges of the transition into opportunities for the region and the people living there;

Amendment 61
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point h

Text proposed by the Commission

(h) where support is provided to productive investments to enterprises other than SMEs, an exhaustive list of such operations and enterprises and a justification of the necessity of such support through a gap analysis demonstrating that the expected job losses would exceed the expected number of jobs created in the absence of the investment;

Amendment

(h) where support is provided to investments to enterprises other than SMEs, an exhaustive list of such operations and enterprises and a justification of the necessity of such support through a gap analysis demonstrating that the expected job losses would exceed the expected number of jobs created in the absence of the investment; or where there is a compelling need to retrain the workers and jobseekers and other funding is not available;

Amendment 62
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

(i) where support is provided to investments to achieve the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from activities listed in Annex I to Directive 2003/87/EC, an exhaustive list of operations to be supported and a justification that they contribute to a transition to a climate

Amendment

(i) where support is provided to investments to achieve the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from activities listed in Annex I to Directive 2003/87/EC, an exhaustive list of operations to be supported and a justification that they contribute to a transition to a renewables-
neutral economy and lead to a substantial reduction in greenhouse-gas emissions going substantially below the relevant benchmarks established for free allocation under Directive 2003/87/EC and provided that they are necessary for the protection of a significant number of jobs; based, highly resource- and energy-efficient, circular and climate neutral economy and lead to a substantial reduction in greenhouse-gas emissions going substantially below the relevant benchmarks established for free allocation under Directive 2003/87/EC and provided that they are necessary for the protection of a significant number of jobs and are committed to social sustainability;

Amendment 63
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point j

Text proposed by the Commission

(j) synergies and complementarities with other Union programmes and pillars of the Just Transition Mechanism to address identified development needs.

Amendment

(j) synergies and complementarities with other Union programmes and pillars of the Just Transition Mechanism to address identified development needs in the territory of the plan;

Amendment 64
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point j a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(ja) a clear description of the role expected from public administrations and public agencies to support the implementation of the plans.

Amendment

(ja) a clear description of the role expected from public administrations and public agencies to support the implementation of the plans.

Amendment 65
Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Territorial just transition plans shall be consistent with the territorial strategies

Amendment

Territorial just transition plans shall be consistent with the territorial strategies
referred to in Article [23] of Regulation (EU) [new CPR], with relevant smart specialisation strategies, the NECPs and the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Amendment 66

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Where the revision of a National Energy and Climate Plan pursuant to Article 14 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 necessitates a revision of a territorial just transition plan, this revision shall be carried out as part of the mid-term review exercise in accordance with Article 14 of Regulation (EU) [new CPR].

Amendment 67

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 – paragraph 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

4a. Territorial just transition plans shall exclude any public investment in fossil fuel infrastructure and shall offer an opportunity to further strengthen local economies and short economic routes.

Amendment 68

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

4a. This Article shall be applied in full
3. The delegation of power referred to in Article 8(4) may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of the power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.

Amendment 70
Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 4

4. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making.

Amendment 71
Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 6

4. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State and conduct stakeholder’s consultation in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making.
Text proposed by the Commission

6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 8(4) shall enter into force only if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or by the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.

Amendment

6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 3(3) and Article 8(4) shall enter into force only if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or by the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.

Amendment 72

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – paragraph 1 – point a – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

(ii) employment in mining of coal and lignite (weighting 25%),

Amendment

(ii) employment in mining and energy use of coal and lignite, oil shale and peat (weighting 25%),

Amendment 73

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) the allocations resulting from the application of point (a) are adjusted to ensure that no Member State receives an amount exceeding EUR 2 billion. The amounts exceeding EUR 2 billion per Member State are redistributed proportionally to the allocations of all other Member States. The Member States shares are recalculated accordingly;

Amendment

(b) the allocations resulting from the application of point (a) are adjusted to ensure that no Member State receives an amount exceeding EUR 8 billion. The amounts exceeding EUR 2 billion per Member State are redistributed proportionally to the allocations of all other Member States. The Member States shares are recalculated accordingly;
**Amendment 74**

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 1 – title

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. Outline of the transition process and identification of the most negatively affected territories within the Member State

*Amendment*

1. Outline of the transition process and identification of the territories within the Member State *that need support to reach the transition to net zero*

**Amendment 75**

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 1 – Reference: Article 7(2)(a) – point 1.1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1.1. Outline of the expected transition process towards a climate-neutral economy, in line with the objectives of the National Energy and Climate Plans and other existing transition plans with a timeline for ceasing or scaling down activities *such as coal and lignite mining or coal fired electricity production*

*Amendment*

1.1. Outline of the expected transition process towards a *renewables-based, highly resource- and energy-efficient, circular and* climate-neutral economy, in line with the objectives of the National Energy and Climate Plans and other existing transition plans with a timeline for ceasing or scaling down *fossil fuels* activities *by 2050, and in a timeframe that is consistent with the objective of limiting the temperature increase to 1,5°C above pre-industrial levels*

**Amendment 76**

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 1 – Reference: Article 7(2)(b) – point 1.2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1.2. Identifying the territories *expected to be* the most *negatively affected* and justifying this choice with the corresponding estimation of the economic and employment impacts based the outline of Section 1.1

*Amendment*

1.2. Identifying the territories, *sectors, communities and the groups of people living there that are* the most *in need of appropriate support to turn the challenge into opportunities for those people* and justifying this choice with the corresponding estimation of the economic and employment impacts based the outline
of Section 1.1

Amendment 77
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – title

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Assessment of transition challenges, for each of the identified territory

Amendment

2. Assessment of transition challenges and opportunities, for each of the identified territory

Amendment 78
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.1 – title

Text proposed by the Commission

2.1. Assessment of the economic, social and territorial impact of the transition to a climate-neutral economy

Amendment

2.1. Assessment of the economic, social, sectoral and territorial challenges and opportunities of the transition to a renewables-based, highly resource- and energy-efficient, circular and climate-neutral economy

Amendment 79
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.1 – Reference: Article 7(2)(c) – table – paragraph 1 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

– declining sectors, expected to cease or significantly scale down their activities related to the transition, including a corresponding timeline;

Amendment

– declining sectors, and sectors expected to decline in line with the overarching objectives of the European Green Deal, expected to cease or significantly scale down their activities related to the transition, including a corresponding timeline;
Amendment 80
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.1 – Reference: Article 7(2)(c) – table – paragraph 2 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

– expected job losses and requalification needs, taking into account skills forecasts;

Amendment

– expected job losses and requalification, skills and training needs and types of supports and policies planned, taking into account skills forecasted as needed across sectors and industries to adapt to the change required;

Amendment 81
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.1 – Reference: Article 7(2)(c) – table – paragraph 2 – indent 2

Text proposed by the Commission

– economic diversification potential and development opportunities.

Amendment

– economic diversification potential and development opportunities for the territories and the people living there in other possible existing or new sustainable sectors and enterprises;

Amendment 82
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.1 – Reference: Article 7(2)(c) – table – paragraph 2 – indent 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

– expected effects on different categories of local population regarding age, sex and residence.

Amendment

Amendment 83
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.2 – title
2.2. Development needs and objectives by 2030 in view of reaching climate neutrality

Amendment

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.2 – Reference: Article 7(2)(d) – table – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission
– Development needs to address the transition challenges;

Amendment
– Development needs to address the transition challenges and opportunities;

Amendment 85

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.2 – Reference: Article 7(2)(d) – table – indent 2

Text proposed by the Commission
– Objectives and results expected through implementing the JTF priority.

Amendment
– Objectives and results expected through implementing the JTF priority, including for all the people living in the regions concerned;

Amendment 86

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.2 – Reference: Article 7(2)(d) – table – indent 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission
– Objectives and results expected for the local economy.

Amendment

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.3 – Reference: Article 7(2)(e) – table – indent 3

Amendment 87
Text proposed by the Commission

– Other regional or national development plans.

Amendment

– Other regional, national, territorial, interregional or cross border strategies and plans, other Union funds such as the ESF+, the ERDF and the EGF, the NECPs and related Union strategies (the European Green Deal and the European Pillar of Social Rights) as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals;

Amendment 88

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.3 – Reference: Article 7(2)(e) – table – indent 3a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

– Detailed list of the different partners and stakeholders consulted representing people living in the territory concerned.

Amendment

– types of operations envisaged and their expected contribution to accompany and actively support the just transition to net zero emissions.

Amendment 89

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.4 – Reference: Article 7(2)(g) – table – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

– an exhaustive list of such

Amendment

– an exhaustive list of such

Amendment 90

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.4 – Reference: Article 7(2)(h) – table – paragraph 1 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

– an exhaustive list of such
operations and enterprises and for each of them a justification of the necessity of such support through a gap analysis demonstrating that the expected job losses would exceed the expected number of jobs created in the absence of this investment or where there is a compelling need to retrain workers including jobseekers and other funding is not available.

Amendment 91

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.4 – Reference: Article 7(2)(i) – table – paragraph 1 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

— an exhaustive list of operations to be supported and a justification that they contribute to the transition to a climate-neutral economy and lead to substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions going below the relevant benchmarks used for free allocation under Directive 2003/87/EC and provided that they are necessary for the protection of a significant number of jobs

Amendment

— an exhaustive list of operations to be supported and a justification that they contribute to the transition to a renewables-based, highly resource- and energy-efficient, circular and climate-neutral economy and lead to substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions going below the relevant benchmarks used for free allocation under Directive 2003/87/EC and provided that they are necessary for the adaptation, transformation or loss of the jobs concerned and that they are committed to social sustainability.

Amendment 92

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.4 – Reference: Article 7(2)(j) – table – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

— synergies and complementarities of the envisaged operations with other programmes under the Invesments for jobs and growth goal (supporting the transition process), other financing instruments (the Union Emissions Trading Modernisation

Amendment

— synergies and complementarities of the envisaged operations with other programmes under the Invesments for jobs and growth goal (supporting the transition process), other financing instruments (the Union Emissions Trading Modernisation
Fund) and the other pillars of the Just Transition Mechanism (dedicated scheme under InvestEU and public sector loan facility with the European Investment Bank) to address identified investment needs

and support needed for the people living in the regions concerned, in particular workers including jobseekers;

Amendment 93

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 2 – point 2.4 – Reference: Article 7(2)(j) – table – indent 1a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

– description of the role expected from public administrations and public agencies to support the implementation of the plans.

Amendment 94

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 3 – point 3.1 – table – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

– Arrangements for involvement of partners in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the territorial just transition plan;

– Agreements for the active participation of partners, in accordance with the European code of conduct on partnership in the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds (CDR 240/2014), including NGOs, trade unions and other key representatives and stakeholders representing the people living in the regions concerned, in particular the workers and jobseekers, in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the territorial just transition plan, including which civil society organisations are to be involved and how community representatives are to be consulted and engaged with proactively in the programming process. Consultation and engagement should take place before, during and after the development of
programming documents;

Amendment 95
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 3 – point 3.1 – table – indent 2

Text proposed by the Commission

– Outcome of public consultation.

Amendment

– Outcome of public consultation, in accordance with the European code of conduct on partnership in the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds (CDR 240/2014), and a description of how that consultation was carried out and how the outcome of such consultation has been taken into account in the plan.

Amendment 96
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 3 – point 3.2 – table – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

– Monitoring and evaluation measures planned, including indicators to measure the ability of the plan to achieve its objectives

Amendment

– Monitoring and evaluation measures planned, including indicators to measure the ability of the plan to achieve its objectives, the phasing out of fossil fuels related activities in the regions concerned, the number of new sustainable and decent jobs and employment opportunities that can be created, the social attended results such as reduction of extreme poverty

Amendment 97
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – point 3 – point 3.3 – table

Text proposed by the Commission

Body or bodies responsible for coordinating and monitoring the

Amendment

Body or bodies responsible for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the plan and their role,
implementation of the plan and their role in accordance with the European code of conduct on partnership in the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds (CDR 240/2014)

Amendment 98

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – table – column 1 – after “RCO 209” (new)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text proposed by the Commission</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For the NUTS 3 region implementing the just transition plans, the regional social development;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCO 301 - investment in microfinance, social enterprise finance and social economy;</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCO 302 - facilities for education and training;</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCO 303 - investment in energy efficient social housing contributing to tackling energy poverty and housing first solutions for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness;</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCO 304 - quality, sustainable and affordable social and health care infrastructures and health care services and innovative health solutions, including health services and new care models;</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCO 305 - social innovation, including innovative social solutions and schemes aiming to promote social impacts and outcomes in the areas;</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCO 306 - cultural and heritage activities with a social goal;</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCO 307 - infrastructure for local communities such as community and volunteer centres;</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCO 308 - inclusion of and accessibility for persons with disabilities</td>
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</table>
## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Establishing the Just Transition Fund</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Committee responsible</td>
<td>REGI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date announced in plenary</td>
<td>29.1.2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opinion by</td>
<td>EMPL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date announced in plenary</td>
<td>29.1.2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associated committees - date announced in plenary</td>
<td>27.5.2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rapporteur</td>
<td>Mounir Satouri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date appointed</td>
<td>30.1.2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date adopted</td>
<td>23.6.2020</td>
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<td>Result of final vote</td>
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<td>–: 3</td>
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<td>0: 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members present for the final vote</td>
<td>Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Marc Angel, Dominique Bilde, Gabriele Bischoff, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Andrea Bocskor, Milan Brglez, Sylvie Brunet, David Casa, Leila Chaibi, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión, Klára Dobeť, Anna Júlia Donáth, Jaroslav Duda, Lucia Řůriš Nicholsonová, Rosa Estrarás Ferragut, Nicolaus Fest, Loucas Fourlas, Cindy Franssen, Heléne Fritzson, Helmut Geuking, José Gusmão, Alicia Homs Ginel, France Jamet, Agnes Jongerius, Radan Kanev, Ádám Kósa, Stelios Kympouropoulos, Katrin Langensiepen, Miriam Lexmann, Elena Lizzi, Radka Maxová, Sandra Pereira, Dragoslav Pislaru, Manuel Pizarro, Dennis Radtke, Elżbieta Rafalska, Guido Reil, Daniela Rondinelli, Mounir Satouri, Monica Semedo, Beata Szydło, Eugen Tomac, Romana Tomč, Yana Toom, Kim Van Sparrentak, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, Nikolaj Villumsen, Marianne Vind, Maria Walsh, Stefania Zambelli, Tatjana Ždanoka, Tomáš Zdechovský</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote</td>
<td>Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Pierfrancesco Majorino</td>
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### FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

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<td>Andrea Boeskor, David Casa, Jarosław Duda, Rosa Estarás Ferragut, Loucas Fourlas, Cindy Fransen, Radan Kanev, Stelios Kyprouopoulos, Ádám Kósa, Miriam Lexmann, Dennis Radtke, Eugen Tomac, Romana Tomc, Maria Walsh, Tomáš Zdechovský</td>
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<td><strong>Reform</strong></td>
<td>Atidzhe Alieva-Veli, Sylvie Brunet, Anna Júlia Donath, Dragoș Pîslaru, Monica Semedo, Yana Toom, Marie-Pierre Vedrenne</td>
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<td><strong>S&amp;D</strong></td>
<td>Marc Angel, Gabriele Bischoff, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Milan Brglez, Klára Dobrev, Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Heléne Fritzon, Alicia Homs Ginel, Agnes Jöngerius, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Manuel Pizarro, Marianne Vind</td>
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<td><strong>Verts/ALE</strong></td>
<td>Katrin Langensiepen, Mounir Satouri, Kim Van Sparrentak, Tatjana Ždanoka</td>
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<td>France Jamet, Elena Lizzi, Stefania Zambelli</td>
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<td><strong>ECR</strong></td>
<td>Lucia Řuriš Nicholsonová Helmut Geuking, Elżbieta Rafalska, Beata Szydło, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NI</strong></td>
<td>Daniela Rondinelli</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Key to symbols:**

+ : in favour
- : against
0 : abstention