




Procedure file

Basic information		
BUD - Budgetary procedure	1996/2181(BUD)	Procedure completed
Budget 1997: other sections		
Subject 8.70.60 Previous annual budgets		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		15/01/1996
		PPE FABRA VALLÉS Juan Manuel	
	Former committee responsible		
	BUDG Budgets		13/12/1995
		ELDR BRINKHORST Laurens Jan	
	BUDG Budgets		15/01/1996
		PPE FABRA VALLÉS Juan Manuel	
	Former committee for opinion		
	ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy		26/02/1996
	PSE MCNALLY Eryl Margaret		
JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights		24/01/1996	
	PSE ROTHLEY Willi		
REGI Regional Policy		01/01/1996	
	PSE MCCARTHY Arlene		
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Budget	1964	19/11/1996

Key events			
18/03/1996	Vote in committee		
18/03/1996	Preparatory budgetary report tabled for plenary	A4-0076/1996	
27/03/1996	Debate in Parliament		
28/03/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0161/1996	

10/06/1996	Commission preliminary draft budget published	COM(1996)0300	Summary
25/07/1996	Council draft budget published	N4-0350/1996	
11/10/1996	Vote in committee		
11/10/1996	Budgetary report tabled for plenary	A4-0311/1996	
22/10/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
24/10/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0530/1996	Summary
19/11/1996	Amended budget adopted by Council		
19/11/1996	Council amended draft budget published	11689/1996	
03/12/1996	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		
03/12/1996	Budgetary report tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0403/1996	
09/12/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
10/12/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
12/12/1996	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T4-0671/1996	Summary
18/12/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
14/02/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1996/2181(BUD)
Procedure type	BUD - Budgetary procedure
Procedure subtype	Budget
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 203; ECSC Treaty C 078; Euratom Treaty A 177
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	BUDG/4/08258; BUDG/4/07452

Documentation gateway

Preparatory budgetary report tabled for plenary	A4-0076/1996 OJ C 117 22.04.1996, p. 0003	18/03/1996	EP	
Parliament's opinion on budgetary estimates/guidelines	T4-0161/1996 OJ C 117 22.04.1996, p. 0033-0064	28/03/1996	EP	
Commission preliminary draft budget	COM(1996)0300	10/06/1996	EC	Summary
Council draft budget	N4-0350/1996	25/07/1996	CSL	
Budgetary report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0311/1996 OJ C 347 18.11.1996, p. 0005	11/10/1996	EP	
Budgetary text adopted by Parliament	T4-0530/1996 OJ C 347 18.11.1996, p. 0111-0135	24/10/1996	EP	Summary
Council amended draft budget	11689/1996	19/11/1996	CSL	

Budgetary report tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0403/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0004	03/12/1996	EP	
Final budget adopted by Parliament	T4-0671/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0083-0110	12/12/1996	EP	Summary

Final act

[Budget 1997/105](#)
[OJ L 044 14.02.1997, p. 0001](#)

Budget 1997: other sections

OBJECTIVE: presentation of the broad lines of the 1997 preliminary draft budget (other sections). SUBSTANCE: since the estimates of revenue and expenditure of the other institutions are not yet available, it is proposed to use an overall figure of ECU 1 448 m so that the total figure for operating appropriations in the preliminary draft budget for 1997, at ECU 4 292.7 m, leaves a margin of ECU 59.3 m below the ceiling for heading 5 (administrative expenditure) of the financial perspective. This overall figure was arrived at by applying a uniform increase of around 4.2% to the appropriations, other than those intended to cover expenditure on property rentals or acquisitions, entered in the 1996 budget; that increase is equivalent to the Commission's rate of increase for the same type of appropriations. According to this hypothesis, appropriations for the rental and acquisition of buildings thus amount to ECU 145 m for the other institutions. Given that, for all the other institutions combined, expected property expenditure for 1996 was particularly high, amounting to ECU 180 599 110, the basis for comparison is at a level which produces a rate of increase of only 1.2%. If the provisional figures entered in the European Parliament section (ECU 37.5 m) and the Court of Justice section (ECU 60 m) are excluded from the 1996 appropriations, the rate of increase for the overall appropriations for the other institutions comes to 8.5%. ?

Budget 1997: other sections

The rapporteur, Mr FABRA VALLES (EPP, E), said that the climate of budgetary austerity should not be allowed to impede the proper functioning of the institutions. Noting that the institutions' draft administrative budget, as drawn up by the Council, provided for ECU 4 244.65 million (with an increase of 1.28%, which was less than the average rate of inflation in the EU), the rapporteur estimated that the margin of increase was ECU 107.35 million below the ceiling. As far as personnel levels were concerned, he pointed to an increase in the appropriations earmarked for Court of Auditors auxiliary staff, the allocation now being 36.5% higher than the appropriations adopted in the 1996 budget. Moreover, as at 30 September the appropriations against the item 'auxiliary staff' for the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions showed an increase of 78.94% over those adopted in the 1996 budget. He therefore called on the two institutions concerned to submit a report detailing the rate of occupancy of permanent posts on that date and providing information on the duration of contracts and the duties allocated to the auxiliary staff recruited.

Budget 1997: other sections

In adopting the report by Mr Juan FABRA VALLES (PPE, E) Parliament took the view that the climate of budgetary austerity and rigour should not pose an obstacle to the proper functioning of the institutions. It noted that, in establishing the institutions' draft administrative-spending budget at ECU 4224.65 m, the Council had granted an increase of 1.28%, which is less than the average rate of inflation in the Union, and that this increase nonetheless leaves a margin of ECU 107.35 m below the ceiling. With regard to staff, the EP pointed to an increase in appropriations earmarked for Court of Auditors auxiliary staff (+36.5%) compared with the appropriations adopted in the 1996 budget. Moreover, as at 30 September 1996, the appropriations against the item 'Auxiliary staff' of the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions had increased by 78.94% over those adopted in the 1996 budget. It therefore invited these two institutions to submit a report illustrating the rate of occupancy of permanent posts as at 30 September 1996 and detailing the duration of contracts and the duties allocated to the auxiliary staff recruited.?

Budget 1997: other sections

The rapporteur, Mr Fabra Valles (EPP, E), welcomed the agreement on transparency and on zero growth in the establishment plan. However, he particularly regretted that the Council had rejected those amendments that sought to introduce greater transparency and those that had no financial implications whatsoever. This could only be explained by a lack of consistency and it was for this reason that Parliament had tabled the amendments for a second time.

Budget 1997: other sections

In adopting the report by Mr Juan FABRA VALLES (PPE, E), Parliament stressed that, to a large extent, the Council has endorsed Parliament's first reading of the draft budget (other institutions). It welcomed the agreement on transparency as well as zero growth in the

establishment plan. However, it regretted that the Council had not provided sufficient justifications for rejecting amendments aimed at greater transparency and that it had rejected a series of amendments having no financial implications (Court of Justice, joint organizational structure, etc.). ?