

Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	2015/0263(COD) Procedure completed
Structural reform support programme 2017-2020 Amending Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 Amending Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 Amended by	2011/0276(COD) 2011/0282(COD) 2017/0334(COD)
Subject 4.70.01 Structural funds, investment funds in general, programmes 4.70.02 Cohesion policy, Cohesion Fund (CF)	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	REGI Regional Development	 VAN NISTELROOIJ Lambert	14/01/2016 14/01/2016
		 KREHL Constanze	
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 TOMAŠIĆ Ruža	
		 JAKOVČIĆ Ivan	
		 REINTKE Terry	
		 D'AMATO Rosa	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets	 OLBRYCHT Jan	18/01/2016
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs (Associated committee)	 MAVRIDES Costas	12/05/2016
	EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	 SÓGOR Csaba	12/04/2016
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

	ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	PECH Fisheries	10/12/2015
		 CADEC Alain
	CULT Culture and Education	
	LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting
	Agriculture and Fisheries	3533
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner
	Regional and Urban Policy	CREU Corina
European Economic and Social Committee		
European Committee of the Regions		

Key events			
26/11/2015	Legislative proposal published	COM(2015)0701	Summary
02/12/2015	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
12/05/2016	Referral to associated committees announced in Parliament		
29/11/2016	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
29/11/2016	Committee decision to open interinstitutional negotiations with report adopted in committee		
07/12/2016	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A8-0374/2016	Summary
28/02/2017	Approval in committee of the text agreed at 1st reading interinstitutional negotiations	PE599.810 GEDA/A/(2017)002437	
26/04/2017	Debate in Parliament		
27/04/2017	Results of vote in Parliament		
27/04/2017	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T8-0139/2017	Summary
11/05/2017	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
17/05/2017	Final act signed		
17/05/2017	End of procedure in Parliament		
19/05/2017	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2015/0263(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Amending Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 2011/0276(COD) Amending Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 2011/0282(COD) Amended by 2017/0334(COD)
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 175-p3; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 197-p2
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee European Committee of the Regions
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	REGI/8/05171

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(2015)0701	26/11/2015	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		SWD(2015)0750	26/11/2015	EC	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES0122/2016	16/03/2016	ESC	
Committee of the Regions: opinion		CDR1214/2016	07/04/2016	CofR	
Committee opinion	PECH	PE577.033	16/06/2016	EP	
Committee draft report		PE585.523	14/07/2016	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE589.217	20/09/2016	EP	
Committee opinion	EMPL	PE587.440	10/11/2016	EP	
Committee opinion	BUDG	PE589.167	10/11/2016	EP	
Committee opinion	CULT	PE582.075	11/11/2016	EP	
Committee opinion	ECON	PE585.572	23/11/2016	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A8-0374/2016	07/12/2016	EP	Summary
Coreper letter confirming interinstitutional agreement		GEDA/A/(2017)002437	15/02/2017	CSL	
Text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations		PE599.810	15/02/2017	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T8-0139/2017	27/04/2017	EP	Summary
Draft final act		00008/2017/LEX	17/05/2017	CSL	
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2017)363	07/06/2017	EC	
Follow-up document		COM(2020)0603	30/09/2020	EC	
Follow-up document		SWD(2020)0219	01/10/2020	EC	

Follow-up document		SWD(2020)0220	01/10/2020	EC	
Follow-up document		COM(2023)0352	29/06/2023	EC	
Follow-up document		SWD(2023)0222	29/06/2023	EC	
Follow-up document		COM(2023)0571	05/10/2023	EC	
Follow-up document		SWD(2023)0322	05/10/2023	EC	

Final act

[Regulation 2017/825](#)

[OJ L 129 19.05.2017, p. 0001](#) Summary

Final legislative act with provisions for delegated acts

Structural reform support programme 2017-2020

PURPOSE: to establish the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2020 with the objective of strengthening the overall capacity of Member States to prepare and implement growth-enhancing institutional, structural and administrative reforms.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: several Member States have been undergoing and continue to undergo adjustment processes to correct macroeconomic imbalances accumulated in the past and many are facing the challenge of low potential growth. The Union has identified the implementation of structural reforms among its policy priorities to set the recovery on a sustainable path, unlock the growth potential to strengthen the adjustment capacity, and support the process of convergence.

Reforms are by their very nature complex processes that require a complete chain of highly-specialised knowledge and skills. In this context, the provision of support by the Union in the form of technical assistance has been crucial in supporting the economic adjustment of Greece and Cyprus in the last years.

Member States may benefit from support in addressing challenges as regards the design and implementation of structural reforms. The Commission proposed to use the experience gained by the Union in assisting national authorities carrying out reforms in order to enhance the capacity of the Union to provide support to Member States.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: the Commission has examined two policy options in the ex-ante evaluation which is accompanying this proposal: a baseline option that foresees no change in the status quo, and a second option where a dedicated funding Programme is introduced and technical support is provided, on request from Member States, to assist potentially all Member States in order to support the implementation of growth-enhancing reforms in the context of economic governance processes.

Based on the ex-ante evaluation, the second scenario is the preferred policy choice since it allows providing support in an organised and systematic manner to all Member States.

CONTENT: this Regulation seeks to establish the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2020.

General objective: the general objective of the Programme is to contribute to reforms in the Member States by providing support to national authorities for measures aimed at reforming institutions, governance, administration, economic and societal sectors in response to economic and social challenges with a view to enhancing competitiveness, growth, jobs, and investment, in particular in the context of economic governance processes, including through assistance for the efficient and effective use of the Union funds ([European Structural and Investment funds](#), the [Fund for the European Aid to the Most Deprived](#), the Asylum, Migration and Integration [Fund](#) as well as the instrument for financial support for external borders and visa).

Specific objectives: the specific objectives of the Programme will be to support the initiatives of national authorities to:

- design their reforms according to priorities,
- enhance their capacity to formulate, develop and implement reform policies and strategies and pursue an integrated approach ensuring consistency between goals and means across sectors,
- support their efforts to define and implement appropriate processes and methodologies, and to assist them to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of human resources management.

Support for the reforms: the support will relate to specific policy areas, such as:

- public financial management, budget process, debt management and revenue administration,
- institutional reform and efficient and service-oriented functioning of public administration, effective rule of law, reform of the justice system and reinforcement of anti-fraud, anticorruption and anti-money laundering,
- business environment, private sector development, access to finance, investment, financial sector policies, privatisation processes,

- trade and foreign direct investment, competition, public procurement, sustainable sectoral development and support for innovation,
- education and training, labour market policies, social inclusion, social security and social welfare systems, public health and healthcare systems, asylum, migration and borders policies,
- policies for the agricultural sector and the sustainable development of rural areas.

Introduction of a request for support: a request for support under this Programme shall be made by a Member State wishing to receive such support. The request may be made within the dialogue of the European Semester, in any case by 31 October of the calendar year. The request for support may relate to three circumstances:

1. the implementation of reforms in the context of economic governance processes, in particular of relevant Country Specific Recommendations issued in the context of the European Semester or implementation of other actions related to the Union law;
2. the implementation of reforms associated with economic adjustment programmes for Member States receiving Union financial assistance under the existing instruments;
3. the implementation of reforms undertaken by Member States at their initiative, notably to achieve sustainable investment, growth and job creation.

Additional financial resources: the Programme may receive additional financial resources also through voluntary allocations from the technical assistance financial resources at the initiative of the Member States. To that end, it is proposed to allow all Member States (and not only Member States under temporary financial difficulties, as currently is the case) to contribute to the financial envelope of the Programme.

Monitoring and evaluation: the achievement of the specific objectives of the Programme will be monitored and evaluated according to a number of indicators linked to the activities of technical support. This will include: (i) number and type of national authorities which received support, (ii) the number and type of support providers, (iii) the number and type of eligible actions performed (such as the provision of experts, training actions, seminars, etc.), (iv) the number of policy initiatives (such as action plans, road maps, guidelines, recommendations, legislation recommended/or adopted).

BUDGETARY IMPLICATION: the dedicated financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme shall be up to EUR 142 800 000 (current prices) for a period of 4 years. This will be deduced from the technical assistance resources at the initiative of the Commission under [Regulation \(EU\) No 1303/2013](#) and [Regulation \(EU\) 1305/2013](#) and appropriately allocated for use within the scope and purpose of the Programme.

DELEGATED ACTS: the proposal contains provisions empowering the Commission to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Structural reform support programme 2017-2020

The Committee on Regional Development adopted the report by Lambert van NISTELROOIJ (EPP, NL) and Constanze KREHL (S&D, DE) on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020 and amending Regulations (EU) No 1303/2013 and (EU) No 1305/2013.

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, exercising its prerogative as an associated committee in accordance with [Rule 54 of Parliaments Rules of Procedure](#), also gave an opinion on the report.

The committee recommended that Parliaments position adopted in first reading following the ordinary legislative procedure should amend the Commission proposal as follows:

Objectives and activities: the Programme will:

- strengthen the capacity of Member States to design and implement growth-enhancing administrative and structural reforms and establish coherence with national and regional development strategies including through assistance for the efficient and effective use of the Union funds in particular the European Structural and Investment Funds ('ESI Funds') and programmes;
- contribute to the achievement of common goals towards: (i) obtaining economic recovery, economic, social and territorial cohesion, job creation; (ii) guaranteeing a high level of social welfare and high-quality health and education services; (iii) combating poverty and social exclusion.

Added value: actions and activities of the Programme shall ensure European added value in particular through:

- the development and implementation of solutions that address local, regional and national challenges which have impact on cross-border or Union-wide challenges, and that contribute to social, economic and territorial cohesion;
- their complementarity and synergy with other Union programmes and policies at regional, national and Union level;
- their contribution to the consistent and coherent implementation of Union law and policies, as well as the promotion of European values, in particular solidarity and respect for fundamental rights;
- their contribution to the sharing of good practices with a view to increasing the visibility of the Unions reform programmes.

Specific objectives: these shall be pursued in close cooperation with beneficiary Member States and shall refer to policy areas related to economic, social and territorial cohesion, competitiveness, innovation, smart, sustainable, and inclusive growth, jobs and investment, including the following:

- re-industrialisation, financial and administrative assistance to SMEs, increasing public participation in enterprises and privatization processes, and digitalisation;
- policies for implementing climate action and promoting energy efficiency, achieving energy diversification;
- financial sector policies, including the promotion of financial literacy, financial stability, access to finance and lending to the real economy, and combating tax evasion.

Eligible actions: the Programme may finance expertise related to policy advice, policy change, formulation of strategies and reform roadmaps, as well as to legislative, institutional, structural and administrative reforms at national, regional and local level where appropriate.

The Commission shall: (i) inform the European Parliament as soon as a request for support under the Programme has been received and give

details of the analysis undertaken; (ii) provide the cooperation and support plan to the European Parliament as soon as possible; (iii) inform the European Parliament about the participation of a Reform Partner and the latter's role in the cooperation and support plan.

The request for support may be submitted regarding the following: (i) the implementation of reforms by Member States, undertaken at their own initiative, in particular to achieve sustainable economic growth and job creation; (ii) the implementation of sustainable reforms in the context of economic governance processes, in particular of the relevant Country Specific Recommendations issued in the context of the European semester.

Financial envelope: this amounts to EUR 142 800 000 in current prices. The annual appropriations shall be authorised by the European Parliament and the Council within the limits of the multiannual financial framework.

Structural reform support programme 2017-2020

The European Parliament adopted by 470 votes to 166, with 14 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020 and amending Regulations (EU) No 1303/2013 and (EU) No 1305/2013.

The European Parliament's position, adopted in first reading following the ordinary legislative procedure, amended the Commission proposal as follows:

General objective: the Programme shall contribute to institutional, administrative and growth-sustaining structural reforms in the Member States by providing support to national authorities for measures aimed at reforming and strengthening institutions, governance, public administration, and economic and social sectors in response to economic and social challenges, through assistance for the efficient, effective and transparent use of the Union funds.

In accordance with the principle of subsidiarity, the actions and activities selected for funding should ensure European added value through their contribution to the consistent and coherent implementation of Union law and policies, as well as the promotion of European values, including solidarity.

Specific objectives: programme support shall be provided by the Commission at the request of a Member State in areas related to cohesion, competitiveness, productivity, innovation, smart, sustainable, and inclusive growth, jobs and investment.

Included in these areas are: (i) the business environment (including SMEs), re-industrialisation and digitalisation; (ii) labour market policies, including social dialogue, for the creation of jobs; (iii) policies for implementing climate action, promoting energy efficiency and achieving energy diversification; (iv) promotion of financial literacy, access to finance and lending to the real economy and policies aimed at combating tax evasion.

Request for support: a Member State wishing to receive support under the Programme shall submit a request for support to the Commission. The Commission may provide guidance on the main elements to be included in the request for support.

Based on the analysis for support, the Commission shall come to an agreement with the Member State concerned on the priority areas for support, the objectives, an indicative timeline, the scope of the support measures to be provided and the estimated global financial contribution for such support, to be set out in a cooperation and support plan.

The Commission shall forward the cooperation and support plan to the European Parliament and the Council without undue delay. The beneficiary Member State may refuse to give such consent in the case of sensitive or confidential information, the disclosure of which would jeopardise public interests of the beneficiary Member State.

Organisation of support and reform partners: the Commission may, with the consent of the beneficiary Member State, organise the support under the Programme in cooperation with other Member States or European and international organisations or other Member States which have agreed to act as reform partners.

Implementation and follow-up: the Commission should adopt annual work programmes and inform the European Parliament and the Council thereof. The Commission shall provide the European Parliament and the Council with an annual monitoring report on the implementation of the Programme including requests for support submitted by Member States.

Financial envelope: this shall be set at EUR 142 800 000 in current prices. The annual appropriations shall be authorised by the European Parliament and the Council within the limits of the multiannual financial framework.

Structural reform support programme 2017-2020

PURPOSE: to establish the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period from 2017-2020 with the objective of enhancing institutional, structural and administrative reforms.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Regulation (EU) 2017/825 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020 and amending Regulations (EU) No 1303/2013 and (EU) No 1305/2013.

CONTENT: the Regulation establishes a programme with a budget of EUR 142.8 million to assist Member States in implementing structural reforms.

The Programme shall finance actions and activities with European added value.

It shall be to contribute to institutional, administrative and growth-sustaining structural reforms with a view to enhancing cohesion, competitiveness, productivity, sustainable growth, job creation, and investment, in particular in the context of economic governance processes, including through assistance for the efficient, effective and transparent use of the Union funds.

Scope: support under the programme shall be provided by the Commission at the request of a Member State in the following areas:

- public financial and asset management, budget process, debt management and revenue administration;
- institutional reform and efficient and service-oriented functioning of public administration, reform of the justice systems and reinforcement of the fight against fraud, corruption and money laundering;
- business environment (including for SMEs), re-industrialisation, private sector development, investment, public participation in enterprises, privatisation processes, trade and foreign direct investment, competition and public procurement, sustainable sectoral development and support for innovation and digitalisation;
- education and training, labour market policies, the fight against poverty, social security and social welfare systems, cohesion, asylum, migration and border policies;
- policies for implementing climate action, promoting energy efficiency;
- financial sector policies, including the promotion of financial literacy, financial stability, access to finance and lending to the real economy.

Request for support: Member States will have to submit a request to the Commission specifying the priority policy areas for support within the scope of this Programme by 31 October of a calendar year.

Based on that analysis and taking into account the existing actions and measures financed by Union funds or other Union programmes, the Commission shall come to an agreement with the Member State concerned on the priority areas for support, the objectives, an indicative timeline, the scope of the support measures to be provided and the estimated global financial contribution for such support, to be set out in a cooperation and support plan.

The Commission shall forward the cooperation and support plan to the European Parliament and to the Council as soon as the beneficiary Member State has cleared all sensitive or confidential information, the disclosure of which would jeopardise public interests of the beneficiary Member State.

The Commission may, with the consent of the beneficiary Member State, organise the support under the Programme in cooperation with other Member States or European and international organisations.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 20.5.2017.

DELEGATED ACTS: the Commission may adopt delegated acts in order to adapt the list of indicators measuring the achievement of the objectives of the Programme in the light of experience during the implementation of the Programme. The power to adopt such acts shall be conferred on the Commission for a period from 20 May 2017 to 31 December 2020. The European Parliament or the Council shall have the right to object to a delegated act within a period of two months (extendable for two months) from the date of notification of the act.