

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2017/2071(INI)	Procedure completed
Financial activities of the European Investment Bank. Annual report		
Subject 8.40.07 European Investment Bank (EIB)		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets	 GARDIAZABAL RUBIAL Eider	31/05/2017
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 MUREŞAN Siegfried	
		 KÖLMEL Bernd	
		 ALI Nedzmi	
		 HAUTALA Heidi	
		 ZANNI Marco	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	INTA International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs (Associated committee)		29/05/2017
		 NIEDERMAYER Luděk	
	REGI Regional Development		25/04/2017
		 MALETIĆ Ivana	
European Commission	Commission DG Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union	Commissioner MOSCOVICI Pierre	

Key events			
	Committee referral announced in		

18/05/2017	Parliament		
18/05/2017	Referral to associated committees announced in Parliament		
24/01/2018	Vote in committee		
30/01/2018	Committee report tabled for plenary	A8-0013/2018	Summary
07/02/2018	Debate in Parliament		
08/02/2018	Results of vote in Parliament		
08/02/2018	Decision by Parliament	T8-0039/2018	Summary
08/02/2018	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2017/2071(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Annual report
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	BUDG/8/09945

Documentation gateway

Committee draft report		PE612.063	09/10/2017	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE613.292	06/11/2017	EP	
Committee opinion	ECON	PE609.635	23/11/2017	EP	
Committee opinion	REGI	PE610.735	24/11/2017	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A8-0013/2018	30/01/2018	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0039/2018	08/02/2018	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2018)210	03/05/2018	EC	

Financial activities of the European Investment Bank. Annual report

The Committee on Budgets adopted the own-initiative report by Eider GARDIAZABAL RUBIAL (S&D, ES) on the annual report on the financial activities of the European Investment Bank (EIB).

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, exercising its prerogatives as an associated committee under [Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament](#), also expressed its opinion on this report.

Members recalled that one of the main fallouts from the economic crisis has been the decline in investment in the EU and called on the EIB to further support the EU countries in order to contribute to economic recovery.

The report welcomed the EIB Groups willingness to enhance EU competitiveness, provide real support for growth and job creation, and contribute to solving socio-economic challenges within and outside the EU, by pursuing its overarching public policy goals relating to innovation, SMEs and midcap finance, infrastructure, the environment, economic and social cohesion, and the climate.

Members said that in order to achieve the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy, the EIB Group's activities should not only be economically sustainable, but also contribute to a smarter, greener and more inclusive EU.

Climate change: Members called on the EIB to align its activities with the objectives of the Paris Agreement by phasing out all fossil fuel projects and giving priority to energy efficiency projects and projects involving renewable energy sources. The EIB should also extend its financial support to local sustainable energy sources in order to put an end to Europe's high level of external energy dependence and ensure security of supply.

Brexit: the United Kingdom provided 16.11 % of the EIBs capital, accounting for EUR 3.5 billion of the paid-in capital and EUR 35.7 billion of the banks callable capital. The report stressed the importance of clarifying the amount of the UK contribution to the EIB budget as well as the UKs future economic participation. It called for Member States to make sure that the departure of the UK does not result in a loss of the EIBs ability to support the EU economy.

Eastern and Southern neighbourhood: the report underlined the importance of EIB financing activities in the eastern and southern neighbourhood in supporting those countries which are implementing difficult economic and democratic reforms on their path towards the EU. It recalled that the main financing activities should also aim to address both urgent needs and longer-term challenges, such as rebuilding infrastructure, ensuring adequate housing and emergency response infrastructure and combating youth unemployment.

Migration: the report welcomed the EIB's commitment to tackle the root causes of migration and to taking action in countries particularly affected by the migration crisis. It called for an increase in financial assistance for projects that would help mitigate the economic costs associated with the migration crisis while having a positive impact on citizens, refugees and other migrants in Member States that receive the largest inflows of refugees and migrants.

European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI): welcoming the agreement reached on the prolongation and adjustment of the EFSI, Members expect that the revised fund and the enhanced European Investment Advisory Hub will enable the problems identified in the current scheme, namely in relation to additionality, sustainability, climate action, geographic balance and advisory hub activities, to be overcome.

Cohesion policy: the report emphasised that the EIB, as a public financial institution which finances projects aimed at fulfilling EU policies and priorities, should contribute to economic, social and territorial cohesion, including in less developed regions. It stressed the need for broader territorial distribution of funds, including as regards the European Fund for Strategic Investment, which should always be complementary to the ESI funds, in order to achieve the objective of reducing regional disparities.

Compliance: Members called for country-by-country reporting without exemptions to be made a key part of the EIBs corporate social responsibility strategy. They called on the EIB to comply with the relevant standards and applicable legislation on the prevention of money laundering and on the fight against terrorism, tax fraud and tax evasion.

Members reiterated their call to strengthen the EIB groups overall corporate accountability and credibility. They also called for the signing of an interinstitutional agreement between the EIB and Parliament on the exchange of information, including the possibility for Members to address written questions to the President of the EIB.

Lastly, Members called on the EIB Group to further develop its risk culture in order to improve its effectiveness and the complementarity and synergies between its interventions and various EU policies, in particular by supporting innovative companies, infrastructure projects and SMEs that are taking risks or evolving in economically disadvantaged regions or regions that lack stability.

Financial activities of the European Investment Bank. Annual report

The European Parliament adopted by 493 votes to 89, with 44 abstentions, a resolution on the annual report on the financial activities of the European Investment Bank (EIB).

Stressing that the EIB maintained a solid financial standing in 2016 in accordance with the forecast for that year, with a net annual surplus of EUR 2.8 billion, Members called on the EIB to continue to strengthen its efforts to expand its loan activities effectively by providing technical assistance and advisory support, especially in regions with low levels of investment, in order to address regional discrepancies, while reducing administrative burdens for applicants.

The economic crisis has significantly weakened economic growth in the EU. In this regard, Members expect the EIB to continue to work with the Commission and the Member States to address systemic shortcomings that prevent certain regions or countries from taking full advantage of the EIBs financial activities.

Parliament welcomed the EIB Groups willingness to enhance EU competitiveness, provide real support for growth and job creation, and contribute to solving socio-economic challenges within and outside the EU. It said that in order to achieve the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy, the EIB Group's activities should not only be economically sustainable, but also contribute to a smarter, greener and more inclusive EU.

Climate change: Parliament pointed out that the EIB has had very mixed results on climate action, despite meeting its 25 % target by a slender margin overall.

Members called on the EIB to align its activities with the objectives of the Paris Agreement by phasing out all fossil fuel projects and giving priority to energy efficiency projects and projects involving renewable energy sources. The EIB should also extend its financial support to local sustainable energy sources in order to put an end to Europe's high level of external energy dependence and ensure security of supply.

Brexit: the United Kingdom provided 16.11 % of the EIBs capital, accounting for EUR 3.5 billion of the paid-in capital and EUR 35.7 billion of the banks callable capital. The resolution stressed the importance of clarifying the amount of the UK contribution to the EIB budget as well as the UKs future economic participation. It called for Member States to make sure that the departure of the UK does not result in a loss of the EIBs ability to support the EU economy.

Eastern and Southern neighbourhood: the resolution underlined the importance of EIB financing activities in the eastern and southern neighbourhood in supporting those countries which are implementing difficult economic and democratic reforms on their path towards the EU. It recalled that the main financing activities should also aim to address both urgent needs and longer-term challenges, such as rebuilding infrastructure, ensuring adequate housing and emergency response infrastructure and combating youth unemployment.

Migration: Parliament welcomed the EIB's commitment to tackle the root causes of migration and to taking action in countries particularly affected by the migration crisis. It called for an increase in financial assistance for projects that would help mitigate the economic costs

associated with the migration crisis while having a positive impact on citizens, refugees and other migrants in Member States that receive the largest inflows of refugees and migrants.

European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI): welcoming the agreement reached on the prolongation and adjustment of the EFSI, Members expect that the revised fund and the enhanced European Investment Advisory Hub will enable the problems identified in the current scheme, namely in relation to additionality, sustainability, climate action, geographic balance and advisory hub activities, to be overcome.

Cohesion policy: Parliament emphasised that the EIB, as a public financial institution which finances projects aimed at fulfilling EU policies and priorities, should contribute to economic, social and territorial cohesion, including in less developed regions. It stressed the need for broader territorial distribution of funds, including as regards the European Fund for Strategic Investment, which should always be complementary to the ESI funds, in order to achieve the objective of reducing regional disparities.

The EIB should play an enhanced role for the EIB in financing social entrepreneurship and start-ups, social infrastructure growth acceleration, renewable energy, energy efficiency and circular economy projects.

Compliance: Members called for country-by-country reporting without exemptions to be made a key part of the EIBs corporate social responsibility strategy. They called on the EIB to comply with the relevant standards and applicable legislation on the prevention of money laundering and on the fight against terrorism, tax fraud and tax evasion.

Transparency: Members reiterated their call to strengthen the EIB groups overall corporate accountability and credibility. They called for the signing of an interinstitutional agreement between the EIB and Parliament on the exchange of information, including the possibility for Members to address written questions to the President of the EIB.

The EIB is called on to publish all relevant documents regarding loans to the automotive industry for the development of diesel technology and explain the extent to which loans were made to car companies found to have manipulated emissions.

Financial activities: the resolution stressed that the EIB Groups financial instruments should serve projects chosen on the basis of their own merits, their potential to generate added value for the EU as a whole, and effective additionality. It insisted on the need to maintain its high credit standing.

Lastly, Members called on the EIB Group to further develop its risk culture in order to improve its effectiveness and the complementarity and synergies between its interventions and various EU policies, in particular by supporting innovative companies, infrastructure projects and SMEs that are taking risks or evolving in economically disadvantaged regions or regions that lack stability.