

# Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	2020/0103(COD) Awaiting Parliament's position in 1st reading
Technical Support Instrument	
Subject 4.70.01 Structural funds, investment funds in general, programmes 4.70.02 Cohesion policy, Cohesion Fund (CF) 4.70.07 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)	
Legislative priorities <a href="#">Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027</a>	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>EMPL</b> <a href="#">Employment and Social Affairs</a>		25/06/2020
		 <a href="#">PÎSLARU Drago</a>	
	<b>ENVI</b> <a href="#">Environment, Public Health and Food Safety</a>	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	<b>ITRE</b> <a href="#">Industry, Research and Energy</a>	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	<b>REGI</b> <a href="#">Regional Development</a>	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	<b>AGRI</b> <a href="#">Agriculture and Rural Development</a>	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	<b>PECH</b> <a href="#">Fisheries</a>	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	<b>CULT</b> <a href="#">Culture and Education</a>	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	<b>JURI</b> <a href="#">Legal Affairs</a>	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	<b>LIBE</b> <a href="#">Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs</a>	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	<b>FEMM</b> <a href="#">Women's Rights and Gender Equality</a>	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union			
European Commission	Commission DG <a href="#">Secretariat-General</a>	Commissioner	
European Economic and Social Committee			
European Committee of the Regions			

Key events			
28/05/2020	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">COM(2020)0409</a>	Summary
17/06/2020	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		

23/07/2020	Referral to joint committee announced in Parliament		
01/10/2020	Vote in committee, 1st reading/single reading		
01/10/2020	Committee decision to open interinstitutional negotiations with report adopted in committee		
02/10/2020	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A9-0173/2020</a>	Summary
05/10/2020	Committee decision to enter into interinstitutional negotiations announced in plenary (Rule 71)		
07/10/2020	Committee decision to enter into interinstitutional negotiations confirmed by plenary (Rule 71)		

### Forecasts

18/01/2021	Indicative plenary sitting date, 1st reading/single reading
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### Technical information

Procedure reference	2020/0103(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 175-p3; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 197-p2; Rules of Procedure EP 58
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	<a href="#">European Economic and Social Committee</a> <a href="#">European Committee of the Regions</a>
Stage reached in procedure	Awaiting Parliament's position in 1st reading
Committee dossier	CJ16/9/03559

### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		<a href="#">COM(2020)0409</a>	28/05/2020	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		<a href="#">CES2808/2020</a>	15/07/2020	ESC	
Committee draft report		<a href="#">PE655.852</a>	29/07/2020	EP	
Committee opinion	<b>EMPL</b>	<a href="#">PE655.645</a>	30/09/2020	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A9-0173/2020</a>	02/10/2020	EP	Summary
Coreper letter confirming interinstitutional agreement		GEDA/A/(2020)007617	16/12/2020	CSL	

### Additional information

**PURPOSE:** to establish a technical support instrument for the period 2021-2027 to support Member States' efforts to implement the reforms necessary for economic and social recovery, resilience and convergence.

**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 on an equal footing with the Council.

**BACKGROUND:** the COVID-19 outbreak has changed the economic outlook for the coming years in the Union and the world. As lockdown measures are gradually being lifted, a strategic plan is needed for recovery, economic revitalisation and a return to sustainable growth.

In this respect, it is essential to set up a stand-alone instrument to accompany Member States in their reform efforts by providing substantial technical support to strengthen their administrative capacity to design and implement reforms that shall foster resilience and support recovery.

The Technical Support Instrument builds on the success of the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP), which has constantly experienced positive feedback from beneficiary Member States and excess demand in respect of the budgets available in the past selection rounds (e.g. for the 2020 round, of the 609 requests submitted, equating to a value of EUR 250 million, 228 amounting to EUR 84.7 million could be selected). The Instrument is also part of the Commission's initiatives in response to the COVID-19 outbreak to help Member States mitigate the massive economic and social consequences.

**CONTENT:** the proposed Regulation aims to establish a stand-alone Technical Support Instrument available to all Member States, as a successor to the Structural Reform Support Programme ([SRSP](#)) 2017-2020.

#### Objectives

The technical support instrument shall encourage Member States, together with technical measures, to carry out institutional, administrative and growth sustaining and resilience-enhancing structural reforms.

Its specific objectives shall be to assist national authorities in improving their capacity to design, develop and implement reforms, including through the exchange of good practices, appropriate processes and methods and more effective and efficient human resource management. These objectives shall be pursued in close cooperation with the Member States concerned.

The instrument shall complement and add value to existing assistance provided by the different EU sectoral programmes and actions under EU funds. It should also provide technical support for the design and implementation of reforms to be carried out under the new [Recovery and Resilience Facility](#).

#### Scope of application

This shall cover a broad range of policy domains that include areas related to public financial and asset management, institutional and administrative reform, business environment, product, service and labour markets, education and training, sustainable development, public health, education and the financial sector. Specific emphasis is given to actions that foster the green and digital transitions.

#### Implementation

The Commission shall analyse the requests for support on the basis of urgency, breadth and depth of the problems identified, support needs in respect of the policy area concerned, analysis of socioeconomic indicators and general administrative capacity of the Member State.

Based on that analysis and taking into account the existing measures and actions financed by other Union funds or Union programmes, the Commission shall come to an agreement with the Member State 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, to be set out in a cooperation and support plan.

Provisions are made on communication activities vis-à-vis the European Parliament and the Council and vis-à-vis the general public, as well as provisions on complementarity, monitoring, annual reports and evaluation.

#### Budgetary implications

The financial envelope for the implementation of the Technical Support Instrument for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2027 shall be EUR 864 406 000 (in current prices).

In addition to that financial envelope, Member States may transfer on voluntary basis, technical assistance resources under shared management programmes to the Technical Support Instrument.

## 2020/0103(COD) - 02/10/2020 Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

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The Committee on Budgets and the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs adopted the report by Othmar KARAS (EPP, AT), Drago PÎSLARU (Renew, RO) and Alexandra GEESE (Greens/EFA, DE) on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a technical support instrument.

The proposed Regulation aims to establish a technical support instrument for the period 2021-2027 to support Member States' efforts to implement the reforms necessary for recovery, resilience and economic and social convergence.

The committee recommended that the European Parliaments position adopted at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure should amend the Commission proposal as follows.

#### Technical support

Members clarified the definition of technical support to mean measures that help Member States, including their national authorities, to carry out and implement institutional, administrative, structural and growth-sustaining, sustainable, socially-inclusive, fair and resilience-enhancing reforms, and investments that strengthen the economic, social and territorial cohesion and social dialogue, including those in the context of the Union recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.

#### General objectives

The technical support instrument shall promote the EU's green and digital transformation and encourage investments that support an economic, social, gender-equal, sustainable and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 outbreak order to:

- increase competitiveness, and effectively address the country-specific recommendations adopted in the context of the European semester;
- achieve resilience and upward economic and social convergence;
- reduce poverty and inequality;
- increase competitiveness and respond effectively to the country-specific recommendations adopted during the European semester;
- support Member States' efforts to strengthen their institutional and administrative capacity and their judicial framework to implement Union law, including at regional and local level;
- implement the strategic objectives in accordance with the commitments made by the Union and the Member States under the Paris Agreement, in particular the Union's climate and energy objectives for 2030, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and the European Pillar of Social Rights.

In order to achieve these general objectives, the instrument shall assist national authorities in improving their capacity to design, develop and implement reforms and investments, such as the preparation, implementation, revision and improvement of national recovery and resilience plans.

#### Scope of action

This shall cover, inter alia, reforms and investments in the following areas:

- modern and efficient administrative structures and information management systems for public financial and asset management, the budget process, including gender budgeting;
- digitisation of public administration;
- capacity building of competition and anti-trust authorities;
- business environment, in particular for independent small and medium-sized enterprises;
- vocational education and training, youth policies, participation of under-represented groups in the labour market, housing, civil protection, asylum, migration and integration and border policies;
- more equitable access to health care;
- access to finance and lending to the real economy, in particular for SMEs and the self-employed.

#### Budget

Members proposed that the overall financial envelope for the implementation of the instrument for the period 2021-2027 shall be EUR 1 450 000 000 in current prices. For the period 2021-2024, the financial envelope shall be EUR 1 000 000 000 and for the period 2025-2027, EUR 450 000 000 in current prices.

In addition to this budget, Member States may, at their request, transfer additional resources to the budget of the instrument. The additional resources shall be used to finance actions eligible for technical support and shall be used exclusively for the benefit of the Member State concerned.

#### Rule of law

The Commission shall implement the instrument in accordance with the Financial Regulation, including full compliance with the rules for the protection of the Unions budget in the case of generalised deficiencies as regards the rule of law in the Member States in accordance with Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council [Rule of Law Mechanism in the MFF].

#### Dialogue between the institutions

In order to enhance the dialogue between the Union institutions, in particular the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission, and to ensure greater transparency and accountability, the competent committee of the European Parliament may invite representatives of the Council and of the Commission to discuss the implementation of the instrument.

#### Transparency

Beneficiaries shall ensure, for the benefit of the general public, maximum transparency concerning the actions and financial flows under this instrument. Such transparency may only be limited by legal acts related to commercial confidentiality, applicable data protection rules or undergoing administrative or criminal investigations by the Union bodies. All public procurements shall be published on the EU Open Data Portal.