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INFORMATION NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) - Outcome of the European Parliament's first reading, (Brussels, 3 to 4 April 2019)

I. INTRODUCTION

The rapporteur, Verónika LOPE FONTAGNÉ (EPP, ES), presented a report on the proposal for a Regulation on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs. The report contained 160 amendments (amendments 1-160) to the proposal.

In addition, the EFDD group tabled two amendments (amendments number 161-162), the ENF Group tabled eight amendments (amendment number 163-168), the GUE/NGL Group tabled eleven amendments (amendment number 169-179).

II. VOTE

When it voted on 4 April 2019, the plenary adopted amendments 1-160 to the proposal for a Regulation.

The Commission's proposal as thus amended constitutes the Parliament's first-reading position which is contained in its legislative resolution as set out in the Annex hereto[1].

[1] The version of the Parliament's position in the legislative resolution has been marked up to indicate the changes made by the amendments to the Commission's proposal. Additions to the Commission's text are highlighted in ***bold and italics.*** The symbol "▌" indicates deleted text.

European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) ***I

European Parliament legislative resolution of 4 April 2019 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) (COM(2018)0382 – C8-0232/2018 – 2018/0206(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

– having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2018)0382),

– having regard to Article 294(2), and Article 46(d), Article 149, point (a) of Article 153(2), Article 164, Article 168(5), Article 175(3) and Article 349 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C8-0232/2018),

– having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

– having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 17 October 2018[2],

– having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions of 5 December 2018[3],

– having regard to Rule 59 of its Rules of Procedure,

– having regard to the report of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and the opinions of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Budgetary Control, the Committee on Regional Development, the Committee on Culture and Education, the Committee on Legal Affairs, the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (A8-0461/2018),

1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out[4];

2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it replaces, substantially amends or intends to substantially amend its proposal;

3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

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[2] OJ C 62, 15.2.2019, p.165.
[3] OJ C 86, 7.3.2019, p. 84.
[4] This position corresponds to the amendments adopted on 16 January 2019 (Texts adopted, P8_TA(2019)0020).

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation
Recital -1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(-1) Pursuant to Article 3 TEU, in establishing an internal market the Union is working for a highly competitive social market economy, aiming at full employment and social progress; promoting equality between women and men, solidarity between generations and protection of the rights of the child; as well as combating social exclusion and discrimination. In accordance with Article 9 TFEU, in defining and implementing its policies and activities, the Union is to take into account requirements linked to, inter alia, the promotion of a high level of employment, the guarantee of adequate social protection, the fight against social exclusion, and a high level of education, training and protection of human health.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(1) On 17 November 2017, the European Pillar of Social Rights was jointly proclaimed by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission as a response to social challenges in Europe. The twenty key principles of the pillar are structured around three categories: equal opportunities and access to the labour market; fair working conditions; social protection and inclusion. The twenty principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights should guide the actions under the	(1) On 17 November 2017, the European Pillar of Social Rights was jointly proclaimed by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission as a response to social challenges in Europe**.** The twenty key principles of the pillar are structured around three categories: equal opportunities and access to the labour market; fair working conditions; social protection and inclusion. The twenty principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights should guide the actions under the

European Social Fund Plus (ESF+). In order to contribute to the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights the ESF+ should support investments in people and systems in the policy areas of employment, education and social inclusion, thereby supporting economic, territorial and social cohesion in accordance with ***Article*** 174 TFEU.	European Social Fund Plus (ESF+). In order to contribute to the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights the ESF+ should support investments in people and systems in the policy areas of employment, ***public services, health,*** education and social inclusion, thereby supporting economic, territorial and social cohesion in accordance with ***Articles*** 174 ***and 175*** TFEU. ***All actions under the ESF+ should respect the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (the Charter), the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and have regard to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to which the European Union and all its Member States are parties.***

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(2) At Union level, the European Semester of economic policy coordination is the framework to identify national reform priorities and monitor their implementation. Member States develop their own national multiannual investment strategies in support of those reform priorities. Those strategies should be presented alongside the yearly National Reform Programmes as a way to outline and coordinate priority investment projects to be supported by national and/or Union funding. They should also serve to use Union funding in a coherent manner and to maximise the added value of the financial support to be received notably from the programmes supported by the Union under the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the European Maritime and	(2) At Union level, the European Semester of economic policy coordination is the framework to identify national reform priorities and monitor their implementation. Member States develop their own national multiannual investment strategies in support of those reform priorities. Those strategies should ***be developed in partnership between national, regional and local authorities, include a gender perspective and*** be presented alongside the yearly National Reform Programmes as a way to outline and coordinate priority investment projects to be supported by national and/or Union funding. They should also serve to use Union funding in a coherent manner and to maximise the added value of the financial support to be received notably from the programmes supported by the Union under

Fisheries Fund and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, the European Investment Stabilisation Function and InvestEU, where relevant.	the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, the European Investment Stabilisation Function and InvestEU, where relevant.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(3) The Council of […] adopted revised guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States to align ***the text*** with the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights, with a view to improving Europe's competitiveness and making ***it*** a better place to invest***, create jobs and foster social cohesion***. In order to ensure the full alignment of the ESF+ with the objectives of ***these*** guidelines, ***particularly as regards*** employment***, education***, ***training and the fight against social exclusion, poverty and discrimination, the ESF+ should support*** Member States, taking account of ***the relevant Integrated*** Guidelines ***and*** relevant country-specific recommendations adopted in accordance with ***Article 121(2) TFEU and*** Article 148(4) TFEU and***, where appropriate***, at national level, the national reform programmes underpinned by national strategies. The ESF+ should also contribute to relevant aspects of the implementation of key Union initiatives and activities, in particular the "Skills Agenda for Europe" and the European Education Area, relevant Council Recommendations and other initiatives such as ***the Youth Guarantee***, Upskilling Pathways ***and*** on Integration of the long-term unemployed.	(3) ***The Guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States adopted by the Council in accordance with Article 148(2) TFEU, namely: boosting the demand for labour; enhancing labour supply: access to employment, skills and competences; enhancing the functioning of labour markets and the effectiveness of social dialogue and promoting equal opportunities for all, fostering social inclusion and combatting poverty, including improved public services in the health and other sectors, together with the broad economic guidelines adopted in accordance with Article 121(2) TFEU form part of the Integrated Guidelines underpinning the Europe 2020 Strategy.*** The Council of […] adopted revised guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States to align ***them*** with the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights, with a view to ***stimulate creation of jobs and foster social cohesion, thus*** improving Europe's competitiveness and making ***the Union*** a better place to invest. In order to ensure the full alignment of the ESF+ with the objectives of ***the*** Guidelines ***for the*** employment ***policies***, Member States ***should plan support under the ESF+ relevant to them***, taking account of ***those*** Guidelines***, as well as of*** relevant country-specific recommendations adopted

in accordance with Article 148(4) ***and Article 121(2)*** TFEU and, at national level, ***the employment and social aspects of*** the national reform programmes underpinned by national strategies. The ESF+ should also contribute to relevant aspects of the implementation of key Union initiatives and activities, in particular the "Skills Agenda for Europe" and the European Education Area, ***the Youth Guarantee and other*** relevant Council Recommendations and other initiatives such as ***Investing in children: breaking the cycle of disadvantage***, ***the*** Upskilling Pathways***,*** on Integration of the long-term unemployed***, a Quality Framework for Traineeships and Apprenticeships and the Action Plan on the integration of third-country nationals***.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(4) On 20 June 2017, the Council endorsed the Union response to the 'UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development' - a sustainable European future. The Council underlined the importance of achieving sustainable development across the three dimensions (economic, social and environmental), in a balanced and integrated way. It is vital that sustainable development is mainstreamed into all Union internal and external policy areas, and that the Union is ambitious in the policies it uses to address global challenges. The Council welcomed the Commission Communication on "Next steps for a sustainable European future" of 22 November 2016 as a first step in mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals and applying sustainable development as an essential guiding principle for all Union policies,	(4) On 20 June 2017, the Council endorsed the Union response to the 'UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development' - a sustainable European future. The Council underlined the importance of achieving sustainable development across the three dimensions (economic, social and environmental), in a balanced and integrated way. It is vital that sustainable development is mainstreamed into all Union internal and external policy areas, and that the Union is ambitious in the policies it uses to address global challenges. The Council welcomed the Commission Communication on "Next steps for a sustainable European future" of 22 November 2016 as a first step in mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals and applying sustainable development as an essential guiding principle for all Union policies,

including through its financing instruments.	including through its financing instruments. ***The ESF+ should contribute to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals by, inter alia, eradicating extreme forms of poverty (goal 1); promoting quality and inclusive education (goal 4); promoting gender equality (goal 5); promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (goal 8); and reducing inequality (goal 10).***

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(4a) The Union and its Member States, having in mind the European Social Charter signed at Turin on 18 October 1961, should have in their objectives the promotion of employment, improved living and working conditions, with a view to lasting high levels of employment and combating exclusion, in accordance with Article 151 TFEU.

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(4b) European society continues to face a range of social challenges. Over 100 million people are at risk of poverty and social exclusion, the youth unemployment rate is still over double the general unemployment rate and there is a need for

	better integration of third-country nationals. Those challenges not only threaten the well-being of the persons directly concerned, but also place economic and social pressure on European society as a whole.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(5) The Union is confronted with structural challenges arising from economic globalisation, the management of migration flows ***and the increased security threat***, clean energy transition, technological change and an increasingly ageing workforce and growing skills and labour shortages in some sectors and regions, experienced especially by SMEs. Taking into account the changing realities of the world of work, the Union should be prepared for the current and future challenges by investing in relevant skills, making growth more inclusive and by improving employment and social policies, including in view of labour mobility.	(5) The Union is confronted with structural challenges arising from economic globalisation, ***social inequalities,*** the management of migration flows ***and related integration challenges***, clean energy ***and just*** transition, technological change***, demographic decline, unemployment in general and youth unemployment*** and an increasingly ageing ***society and*** workforce and growing skills ***shortages*** and labour shortages in some sectors and regions, experienced especially by SMEs. Taking into account the changing realities of the world of work, the Union should be prepared for the current and future challenges by investing in relevant skills***, education, training and lifelong learning*** making growth more inclusive and by improving ***competences and knowledge,*** employment and social policies, including in view of labour mobility ***of Union citizens and addressing increasing health inequalities between and within Member States***.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(6) Regulation (EU) No […] establishes the framework for action by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+), the Cohesion Fund, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), the Asylum and Migration Fund (AMIF), Internal Security Fund (ISF) and the Border Management and Visa Instrument (BMVI) as a part of the Integrated Border Management Fund (IBMF), and lays down, in particular, the policy objectives and the rules concerning programming, monitoring and evaluation, management and control for Union funds implemented under shared management. It is therefore necessary to specify the general objectives of the ESF+, and to lay down specific provisions concerning the type of activities that may be financed by the ESF+.	(6) Regulation (EU) No […] establishes the framework for action by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+), the Cohesion Fund, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), the Asylum and Migration Fund (AMIF), Internal Security Fund (ISF) and the Border Management and Visa Instrument (BMVI) as a part of the Integrated Border Management Fund (IBMF), and lays down, in particular, the policy objectives and the rules concerning programming, monitoring and evaluation, management and control for Union funds implemented under shared management. It is therefore necessary to specify the general objectives of the ESF+ ***and its coordination with other funds***, and to lay down specific provisions concerning the type of activities that may be financed by the ESF+.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(7) Regulation (EU, Euratom) No [the new FR] (the 'Financial Regulation') lays down rules on the implementation of the Union budget, including the rules on grants, prizes, procurement, indirect implementation, financial assistance, financial instruments and budgetary guarantees. In order to ensure coherence in the implementation of Union funding programmes, the Financial Regulation is to apply to the actions to be implemented in direct or indirect management under the ESF+.	(7) Regulation (EU, Euratom) No [the new FR] (the 'Financial Regulation') lays down rules on the implementation of the Union budget, including the rules on grants, prizes, procurement, indirect implementation, financial assistance, financial instruments and budgetary guarantees ***and synergies between financial instruments***. In order to ensure coherence in the implementation of Union funding programmes, the Financial Regulation is to apply to the actions to be implemented in direct or indirect

management under the ESF+. ***This Regulation should specify the operational objectives and lay down the specific provisions concerning the eligible actions that may be financed by the ESF+ under direct and indirect management.***

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(8) The types of financing and the methods of implementation under this Regulation should be chosen on the basis of their ability to achieve the specific objectives of the actions and to deliver results, taking into account, in particular, the costs of controls, the administrative burden, and the expected risk of non-compliance. For grants, this should include consideration of the use of lump sums, flat rates and unit costs, as well as financing not linked to costs as envisaged in Article 125(1) of the Financial Regulation. To implement measures linked to the socio-economic ***integration*** of third country nationals, and in accordance with Article 88 of the Common Provisions Regulation, the Commission may reimburse Member States using simplified cost options including the use of lump sums.	(8) The types of financing and the methods of implementation under this Regulation should be chosen on the basis of their ability to achieve the specific objectives of the actions and to deliver results, taking into account, in particular, the costs of controls, the administrative burden, and the expected risk of non-compliance. For grants, this should include consideration of the use of lump sums, flat rates and unit costs, as well as financing not linked to costs as envisaged in Article 125(1) of the Financial Regulation. To implement measures linked to the socio-economic ***inclusion*** of third country nationals, and in accordance with Article 88 of the Common Provisions Regulation, the Commission may reimburse Member States using simplified cost options including the use of lump sums.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 9

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(9) In order to streamline and simplify	(9) In order to streamline and simplify

the funding landscape and create additional opportunities for synergies through integrated funding approaches, the actions which were supported by the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived ('FEAD'), the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation and the Programme for the Union's action in the field of health should be integrated into one ESF+. The ESF+ should therefore include three strands: the ESF+ strand under shared management, the Employment and Social Innovation strand, and the Health strand. This should contribute to reducing the administrative burden linked to the management of different funds, in particular for Member States, whilst maintaining simpler rules for simpler operations such as the distribution of food and/or basic material assistance.

the funding landscape and create additional opportunities for synergies through integrated funding approaches, the actions which were supported by the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived ('FEAD'), the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation and the Programme for the Union's action in the field of health should be integrated into one ESF+. The ESF+ should therefore include three strands: the ESF+ strand under shared management, the Employment and Social Innovation strand, and the Health strand ***under direct and indirect management***. This should contribute to reducing the administrative burden linked to the management of different funds, in particular for Member States ***and beneficiaries***, whilst maintaining simpler rules for simpler operations such as the distribution of food and/or basic material assistance.

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

(10) In view of this wider scope of the ESF+ it is appropriate to foresee that the aims to enhance the effectiveness of labour markets and promote access to quality employment, to improve the access to and the quality of education and training as well as to promote social inclusion and health and to ***reduce*** poverty ***are not only*** implemented under shared management, ***but also*** under direct and indirect management under the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands for actions required at Union level.

Amendment

(10) ***The Union should contribute to the employment policies of the Member States by encouraging cooperation and by complementing their actions.*** In view of this wider scope of the ESF+ it is appropriate to foresee that the aims to enhance the effectiveness of ***inclusive, open and fair*** labour markets ***for all genders*** and promote access to quality employment, to improve the access to and the quality of education and training***, to aid reintegration into education systems and to promote lifelong learning,*** as well as to promote social inclusion and health and to ***eradicate*** poverty ***will continue to be*** implemented ***mainly*** under shared management, ***and where appropriate,***

complemented under direct and indirect management under the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands for actions required at Union level.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(11) The integration of the Programme for the Union's action in the field of health with the ESF+ will also create synergies between the developments and testing of initiatives and policies to improve the effectiveness, resilience and sustainability of health systems developed by the Health strand of the ESF+ Programme and their implementation in the Member States by the tools provided by the other strands of the ESF+ Regulation.	(11) The integration of the Programme for the Union's action in the field of health with the ESF+ will also create synergies between the developments and testing of initiatives and policies to improve the effectiveness, ***accessibility,*** resilience and sustainability of health systems developed by the Health strand of the ESF+ Programme and their implementation in the Member States ***at national, regional and local level*** by the tools provided by the other strands of the ESF+ Regulation.

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 12

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(12) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope for the ESF+. ***Parts of this financial envelope should be used*** for actions to be implemented in direct and indirect management ***under the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands***.	(12) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope for the ESF+. ***It should specify the allocations for activities to be implemented under shared management and the allocations*** for actions to be implemented in direct and indirect management.

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 13

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(13) The ESF+ should aim to promote employment through active interventions enabling ***(re)integration*** into the labour market, notably for youth, the long-term unemployed and the inactive, as well as through promoting self–employment and the social economy. The ESF+ should aim to improve the functioning of labour markets by supporting the modernisation of labour market institutions such as the Public Employment Services in order to improve their capacity to provide intensified targeted counselling and guidance during the job search and the transition to employment and to ***enhance*** workers' mobility. The ESF+ should promote women's participation in the labour market through measures aiming to ensure, amongst others, improved work/life balance and access to childcare. The ESF + should also aim to provide a healthy and well-adapted working environment in order to respond to health risks related to changing forms of work and the needs of the ageing workforce.	(13) The ESF+***, in close cooperation with the Member States,*** should aim to promote employment through active interventions enabling ***the integration and re-integration*** into the labour market, notably for youth, the long-term unemployed, ***carers,*** the ***economically*** inactive ***and disadvantaged groups,*** as well as through promoting self–employment, ***entrepreneurship,*** and the social economy. The ESF+ should aim to improve ***employment policies and*** the functioning of labour markets by supporting the modernisation of labour market institutions such as the Public Employment Services in order to improve their capacity to provide intensified targeted ***and personalised, where suitable,*** counselling and guidance during the job search and the transition to employment***, with special attention to disadvantaged groups*** and to ***facilitate*** workers' mobility***, and to deliver their service in a non-discriminatory manner***. The ESF+ should promote women's participation in the labour market through measures aiming to ensure, amongst others, improved work/life balance and ***easy*** access to ***affordable or free quality*** childcare***, eldercare and other care services or support of high quality***. The ESF + should also aim to provide a ***safe,*** healthy and well-adapted working environment in order to respond to health risks related to ***work as well as to*** changing forms of work and the needs of the ageing workforce. ***The ESF+ should also support measures aimed to facilitate the transition of young people from education to employment.***

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 13 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(13a) With a view to supporting and unlocking the job creation potential in the social economy, the ESF+ should contribute to improving the integration of social economy enterprises in national employment and social innovation plans, and in their National Reform Programmes. The definition of a social economy enterprise should follow the definitions given in the Member States' social economy law and in the Council Conclusions of 7 December 2015 on the promotion of the social economy as a key driver of economic and social development in Europe.

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(14) ***The*** ESF+ should provide support to improving the quality, effectiveness and labour market relevance of education and training systems in order to facilitate the acquisition of key competences notably as regards digital skills which all individuals need for personal fulfilment and development, employment, social inclusion and active citizenship. The ESF+ should help progression within education and training and transition to work, support lifelong learning and employability, and contribute to competitiveness and societal and economic innovation by supporting scalable and sustainable initiatives in these	(14) ***Given that the*** ESF+ ***is the main Union instrument focusing on employment, skills and social inclusion it is essential that it is able to contribute to social, economic, and territorial cohesion in all parts of the Union. To that end it*** should provide support to improving the quality***, non-discriminatory nature, accessibility, inclusiveness***, effectiveness and labour market relevance of education and training systems in order to facilitate the acquisition of key competences notably as regards ***language skills, entrepreneurial and*** digital skills***, including data protection and information governance***

fields. This could be achieved for example through work-based learning and apprenticeships, lifelong guidance, skills anticipation in cooperation with ***industry***, up-to-date training materials, forecasting and graduate tracking, training of educators, validation of learning outcomes and recognition of qualifications.	***skills,*** which all individuals need for personal fulfilment and development, employment, social inclusion and active citizenship***. In case of the long-term unemployed and people coming from a disadvantaged social background, special attention should be paid to empower them***. The ESF+ should help progression within education and training and transition to ***work and reintegration to*** work, support lifelong learning and employability ***of all***, and contribute to ***inclusiveness,*** competitiveness***, the reduction of horizontal and vertical segregation,*** and societal and economic innovation by supporting scalable and sustainable initiatives in these fields. This could be achieved for example through ***investments in vocational education,*** work-based learning and apprenticeships, ***focusing in particular on the proven dual system combining teaching and work experience,*** lifelong guidance, skills anticipation in cooperation with ***the social partners***, up-to-date training materials, forecasting and graduate tracking, training of educators, ***support for informal and non-formal learning,*** validation of learning outcomes and recognition of qualifications. ***The ESF+ should also promote access to the teaching profession by minorities, aiming at a better integration of marginalised communities, such as the Roma, minorities and migrants.***

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(14a) The ESF+ should provide support to measures included in Member States' national plans aiming to eradicate energy poverty and to promote energy efficiency in buildings among vulnerable

households, including those affected by energy poverty and, where appropriate, in social housing, in line with the Commission Communication entitled 'The European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion: A European framework for social and territorial cohesion' and in accordance with Regulation (XX/XX) of the European Parliament and Council on the Governance Energy Union and Directive (XX/XX) of the European Parliament and Council amending Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(14b) In the future the allocation of ESF+ funding to Member States should be made contingent on provision of proof of effective involvement in projects to introduce or enhance, in the context of the Youth Guarantee, the dual system combining teaching and work experience.

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(15) Support through the ESF+ should be used to promote equal access for all, in particular for disadvantaged groups, to quality, non-segregated and inclusive education and training, from early childhood education and care through	(15) Support through the ESF+ should be used to promote equal access for all, in particular for disadvantaged groups, to quality, non-segregated and inclusive education and training, from early childhood education and care***, paying***

general and vocational education and training and to tertiary level, as well as adult education and learning, thereby fostering permeability between education and training sectors, preventing early school leaving, improving health literacy, reinforcing links with non-formal and informal learning and facilitating learning mobility for all. Synergies with the Erasmus programme***, notably to facilitate the participation of*** disadvantaged learners ***in*** learning mobility***, should be supported within this context.***	***special attention to children coming from a disadvantaged social background, such as children in institutional care and children experiencing homelessness,*** through general and vocational education and training and to tertiary level ***and re-integration into the education system***, as well as adult education and learning, thereby ***preventing the transmission of poverty through generations,*** fostering permeability between education and training sectors, ***reducing and*** preventing early school leaving ***and social exclusion***, improving health literacy, reinforcing links with non-formal and informal learning and facilitating learning mobility for all. ***Those forms of informal learning should not replace access to regular education, particularly pre-school and primary education.*** Synergies***, complementarity and policy coherence*** with the Erasmus programme ***should be established in this context in order to properly and actively reach out and to prepare*** disadvantaged learners ***for mobility experiences abroad and increase their participation in cross-border*** learning mobility.

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 15 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(15a) Support under the investment priority "community-led local development" contributes to the objectives as set out in this Regulation. Community-led local development strategies supported by the ESF+ should be inclusive with regard to disadvantaged people present on the territory, both in terms of governance of local action groups and in terms of content of the strategy. The ESF should be able to support community-led local development strategies in urban and rural

areas, as well as integrated territorial investments (ITI).

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 15 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(15b) The added value of the Union cohesion policy lies particularly in the place-based territorial dimension approach, the multilevel governance, the multiannual planning and shared and measurable objectives, the integrated development approach and the convergence towards European standards in administrative capabilities.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 15 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(15c) The Commission and the Member States should ensure that gender equality and the integration of the gender perspective is a binding principle in all phases of programming, from shaping the priorities of the operational programmes to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and that key actions for gender mainstreaming receive support.

Amendment 25

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 15 d (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(15d) The ESF+ should support educational schemes that offer adults with a low level of skills the possibility to acquire a minimum level of literacy, numeracy and digital competence in line with the Council Recommendation of 19 December 2016 on Upskilling Pathways: New Opportunities for Adults[1a].

[1a] OJ C 484, 24.12.2016, p. 1.

Amendment 26

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(16) The ESF+ should promote flexible upskilling and reskilling opportunities for all, notably digital skills and key enabling technologies, with a view to providing people with skills adjusted to digitalisation, technological change, innovation and social and economic change, facilitating ***career transitions***, mobility and supporting in particular low-skilled and/or poorly qualified adults, in line with the Skills Agenda for Europe.	(16) The ESF+ should promote flexible upskilling and reskilling opportunities for all***, taking into consideration the challenges of different disadvantaged groups***, notably ***entrepreneurial and*** digital skills and key enabling technologies, with a view to providing people ***and local communities*** with skills***, competences and knowledge*** adjusted to digitalisation, technological change, innovation and social and economic change, ***such as the ones induced by the transition to a low carbon economy,*** facilitating ***the transition from education to employment,*** mobility and supporting in particular, low-skilled***, persons with disabilities*** and/or poorly qualified adults, in line with the Skills Agenda for Europe ***and in coordination and complementarity***

with the Digital Europe Programme.

Amendment 27

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(17) Synergies with the Horizon Europe programme should ensure that the ESF+ can mainstream and scale up innovative curricula supported by Horizon Europe in order to equip people with the skills and competences needed for the jobs of the future.	(17) Synergies with the Horizon Europe programme should ensure that the ESF+ can mainstream and scale up innovative curricula supported by Horizon Europe in order to equip people with the skills and competences needed for ***their personal and professional development and for*** the jobs of the future ***and to address current and future societal challenges***. ***The Commission should ensure synergies between the Health Strand and the Horizon Europe programme in order to boost the results achieved in the area of health protection and diseases prevention.***

Amendment 28

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 17 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(17a) Synergies with the Rights and Values programme should ensure that ESF+ can mainstream and scale up actions to prevent and combat discrimination, racism, xenophobia, anti-semitism, islamophobia and other forms of intolerance, as well as devoting specific actions to prevent hatred, segregation and stigmatisation, including bullying, harassment and intolerant treatment.

Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 17 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(17b) The synergies created thanks to European territorial cooperation at regional and cross-border levels have also resulted in cooperation projects to improve employment, inclusion of the most vulnerable sections of the population, demographic challenges, health and education, not only in the Union but also with countries in the pre-accession phase and in neighbouring countries, where Union cooperation provides added value. The ESF+ should improve funding for projects of this type and ensure the transfer of knowledge between them and the legislative process to improve the European regulatory framework and promote the sharing of good practices between the territories of the Union.

Amendment 30

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 18

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(18) The ESF+ should support Member States' efforts ***to tackle*** poverty with a view to breaking the cycle of disadvantage across generations and promote social inclusion by ensuring equal opportunities for all, ***tackling*** discrimination and addressing health inequalities. This implies mobilising a range of policies targeting the most disadvantaged people regardless of their age, including children, marginalised communities such as the Roma, and the	(18) The ESF+ should support Member States' efforts ***at all levels of government, including at regional and local level, to eradicate*** poverty***, including energy poverty as provided for in the recently adopted rules on the Governance of the Energy Union [substitute number of the Regulation once published],*** with a view to breaking the cycle of disadvantage across generations and promote social inclusion by ensuring equal opportunities

working poor. The ESF+ should promote the active inclusion of people far from the labour market with a view to ensuring their socio-economic integration. The ESF+ should be also used to enhance timely and equal access to affordable, sustainable and high quality services such as healthcare and long-term care, in particular family and community-based care services. The ESF+ should contribute to the modernisation of social protection systems with a view in particular to promoting their accessibility.

for all, ***reducing barriers, fighting*** discrimination and addressing ***social and*** health inequalities. This implies ***also, but is not limited to,*** mobilising a range of ***pro-active and reactive*** policies ***and strategies*** targeting the most disadvantaged people regardless of their age, including children, marginalised communities such as the Roma, ***persons with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness, third-country nationals, including migrants*** and the working poor. The ESF+ should promote the active inclusion of people far from the labour market with a view to ensuring their socio-economic integration***, including through targeted support to the social economy***. ***Member States should promote ESF+ actions that complement national measures in line with the Commission Recommendation of 3 October 2008 on the active inclusion of people excluded from the labour market[1a] including measures on adequate income support.*** The ESF+ should be also used to enhance timely and equal access to affordable, sustainable and high quality services such as ***person-centred*** healthcare***, related care*** and long-term care, in particular family and community-based care services ***and services guiding access to adequate, social and affordable housing services***. ***This includes health promotion and diseases prevention services as part of primary healthcare services.*** The ESF+ should contribute to the modernisation of social protection systems with a view in particular to promoting their accessibility***, inclusiveness, and effectiveness in responding to the changing realities of world of work. The ESF+ should also address rural poverty stemming from the specific disadvantages of rural areas, such as an unfavourable demographic situation, a weak labour market, limited access to education and training services, or healthcare and social services.***

[1a] Commission Recommendation of 3 October 2008 on the active inclusion of

people excluded from the labour market (OJ L 307, 18.11.2008, p. 11).

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 19

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(19) The ESF+ should contribute to ***the reduction of*** poverty by supporting national schemes aiming to alleviate food and material deprivation and promote social integration of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion and the most deprived. ***With a view that at Union level at least 4% of the*** resources of the ESF+ strand under shared management ***supports the most deprived,*** Member States should allocate at least ***2%*** of their national resources of the ESF+ strand under shared management to ***address*** the forms of extreme poverty with the greatest social exclusion impact, such as homelessness, child poverty and food deprivation. Due to the nature of the operations and the type of end recipients, it is necessary that ***simpler*** rules apply to support which addresses material deprivation of the most deprived.	(19) The ESF+ should contribute to poverty ***eradication*** by supporting national schemes aiming to alleviate food and material deprivation and promote social integration of people ***experiencing or*** at risk of poverty or social exclusion and the most deprived. Member States should allocate at least ***3%*** of their national resources of the ESF+ strand under shared management to ***combat*** the forms of extreme poverty with the greatest social exclusion impact, such as homelessness, child poverty***, old-age poverty*** and food deprivation. Due to the nature of the operations and the type of end recipients, it is necessary that ***the simplest possible*** rules apply to support which addresses material deprivation of the most deprived.

Amendment 32

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 19 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(19a) ESF+ should aim to address the poverty among elderly women across the Union, taking into account that the gender pension gap, standing at 40%, constitutes an acute risk for worsening

levels of poverty among older women, especially those living without a partner, thus following up on the commitments made in the 2015 'Council conclusions on equal income opportunities for women and men: closing the gender gap in pensions'[1a]. Poverty among elder women is also exacerbated by the rising out-of-pocket costs for health care and medicines that have to be borne by the elderly patients, especially women who spend a larger proportion of their lifespan in ill health than men mostly due to longer life expectancy.

1a

http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-9302-2015-INIT/en/pdf.

Amendment 33

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 19 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(19b) In order to eradicate poverty and ensure greater social inclusion, the ESF+ should promote the active participation of specialised NGOs and organisations representing people living in poverty both in the preparation and in the implementation of the programmes dedicated to this.

Amendment 34

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 20

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(20) In light of the persistent need to enhance efforts to address the management of the migration flows in the Union as a whole and in order to ensure a coherent, strong and consistent support to the solidarity and responsibility-sharing efforts, the ESF+ should provide support to promote the socio-economic integration of third country nationals complementary to the actions financed under the Asylum and Migration Fund.	(20) In light of the persistent need to enhance efforts to address the management of the migration flows in the Union as a whole and in order to ensure a coherent, strong and consistent support to the solidarity and ***fair*** responsibility-sharing efforts, the ESF+ should provide support to promote the socio-economic integration of third country nationals***, including migrants, which may include initiatives at local level,*** complementary to the actions financed under the Asylum and Migration Fund***, the European Regional Development Fund and those funds which can have a positive effect on the inclusion of third-country nationals.***

Amendment 35

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 20 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(20a) The authorities of the Member States responsible for planning and implementing the ESF+ should coordinate with the authorities designated by Member States to manage the interventions of the Asylum and Migration Fund in order to promote the integration of third-country nationals at all levels in the best possible way through strategies implemented mainly by local and regional authorities and non-governmental organisations and by the most appropriate measures tailored to the particular situation of the third-country nationals. The scope of the integration measures should focus on third-country nationals legally residing in a Member State or where appropriate in the process

of acquiring legal residence in a Member State, including beneficiaries of international protection.

Amendment 36

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 21

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(21) The ESF+ should support policy and system reforms in the fields of employment, social inclusion, healthcare and long-term care, and education and training. In order to strengthen alignment with the European Semester, Member States should allocate an appropriate amount of their resources of the ESF+ strand under shared management to implement relevant country-specific recommendations relating to structural challenges which it is appropriate to address through multiannual investments falling within the scope of the ESF+. The Commission and the Member States should ensure coherence, coordination and complementarity between the shared-management and Health strands of ESF+ and the Reform Support Programme, including the Reform Delivery Tool and the Technical Support Instrument. In particular, the Commission and the Member State should ensure, in all stages of the process, effective coordination in order to safeguard the consistency, coherence, complementarity and synergy among sources of funding, including technical assistance thereof.	(21) The ESF+ should support policy and system reforms in the fields of employment, social inclusion, ***poverty eradication,*** healthcare and long-term care, and education and training. In order to strengthen alignment with the European Semester Member States should allocate an appropriate amount of their resources of the ESF+ strand under shared management to implement relevant country-specific recommendations relating to structural challenges***,*** which it is appropriate to address through multiannual investments falling within the scope of the ESF+. The Commission and the Member States should ***involve local and regional authorities to*** ensure coherence, coordination and complementarity between the shared-management and Health strands of ESF+ and the Reform Support Programme, including the Reform Delivery Tool and the Technical Support Instrument. In particular, the Commission and the Member State should ensure, in all stages of the process, effective coordination in order to safeguard the consistency, coherence, complementarity and synergy among sources of funding, including technical assistance thereof***, taking into account principles and rights set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights, the Social Scoreboard under the European Semester, the ILO Decent Work Agenda, and regional specificities, thereby contributing to the goals of the Union set out in Article 174 TFEU as regards to***

strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion.

Amendment 37

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 21 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(21a) Given the diversity of the level of development in the regions and different social realities across the Union, the degree of flexibility of the ESF+ should be sufficient to take the regional and territorial specificities into account.

Amendment 38

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(22) To ensure that the social dimension of Europe as set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights is duly put forward and that a minimum amount of resources is targeting those most in need Member States should allocate at least ***25%*** of their national ESF+ resources of the ESF+ strand under shared management to fostering social inclusion.	(22) To ensure that the social dimension of Europe as set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights is duly put forward and that a minimum amount of resources is targeting those most in need Member States should allocate at least ***27%*** of their national ESF+ resources of the ESF+ strand under shared management to fostering social inclusion ***and poverty eradication. That percentage should be complementary to the national resources to address extreme poverty.***

Amendment 39

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 22 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(22a) All Member States have ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), which constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child. The promotion of children's rights is an explicit objective of Union policies (Article 3 of the Lisbon Treaty), and the Charter requires the best interests of the child to be a primary consideration in all Union action. The Union and Member States should make appropriate use of the ESF+ to break the cycle of disadvantage for children living in poverty and social exclusion, as defined in the 2013 Commission Recommendation Investing in children. The ESF+ should support actions promoting effective interventions that contribute to the realisation of children's rights.

Amendment 40

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 22 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(22b) In light of the persistently high level of child poverty and social exclusion in the Union (26,4 % in 2017), and the European Pillar of Social Rights which states that children have the right to protection from poverty, and children from disadvantaged backgrounds have the rights to specific measures to enhance equal opportunities, Member States should allocate at least 5 % of ESF+ resources under shared management to

the European Child Guarantee scheme in order to contribute to children's equal access to free healthcare, free education, free childcare, decent housing and adequate nutrition for the eradication of child poverty and social exclusion. Investing early in children yields significant returns for these children and society as a whole and is crucial to break the cycle of disadvantage in early years. Supporting children to develop skills and capabilities enables them to develop their full potential, brings them the best educational and health outcomes, and helps them to become active members of society and to increase their chances on the labour market as young people.

Amendment 41

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 23

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(23) In the light of persistently high levels of youth unemployment and inactivity in a number of Member States and regions, in particular affecting young people who are neither in employment, nor in education or training, it is necessary that ***those*** Member States continue to invest ***sufficient*** resources of the ESF+ strand under shared management towards actions to promote youth employment ***including*** through the implementation of Youth Guarantee schemes. Building on the actions supported by the Youth Employment Initiative in the 2014-2020 programming period targeting individual persons, Member States should further promote employment and education reintegration pathways and outreach measures for young people by prioritising, where relevant, long-term unemployed, inactive and disadvantaged young people including through youth work. Member States should also invest in measures	(23) In the light of persistently high levels of youth unemployment and inactivity in a number of Member States and regions, in particular affecting young people who are neither in employment, nor in education or training ***(NEETs), which levels are even higher in case of young people coming from a disadvantaged social background***, it is necessary that Member States continue to invest ***adequate*** resources of the ***ESF+*** strand under shared management towards actions to promote youth employment***, in particular*** through the implementation of Youth Guarantee schemes. Building on the actions supported by the Youth Employment Initiative in the 2014-2020 programming period targeting individual persons, Member States should further promote ***high-quality*** employment and education reintegration pathways and ***effective*** outreach measures for young people by prioritising, where relevant,

aimed at facilitating school-to-work transition as well as reforming and adapting employment services with a view to providing tailor-made support to young people. Member States ***concerned*** should ***therefore*** allocate at least ***10%*** of their national resources of the ESF+ strand ***under shared management*** to support youth employability.	long-term unemployed, inactive and disadvantaged young people***, young people who are hardest to reach and young people in vulnerable situations,*** including through youth work. Member States should also invest in measures aimed at facilitating school-to-work transition as well as reforming and adapting employment services with a view to providing tailor-made support to young people ***and at delivering their service without discrimination of any kind***. Member States should allocate at least ***3%*** of their national resources of the ESF+ strand to support ***policies in the field of*** youth employability***, continued education, quality employment, apprenticeships and traineeships. Member States with a NEET rate above the Union average, or above 15 %, should allocate at least 15 % of their national resources of the ESF+ to support policies in this field, acting at the appropriate territorial level.***

Amendment 42

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 23 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(23a) Disparities are growing at subregional level, including in more prosperous regions where there are pockets of poverty.

Amendment 43

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 23 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*

(23b) Given the extension of the scope of the ESF+, the extra tasks should be coupled with an increased budget in order to fulfil the goals of the Programme. More funding is needed to combat unemployment, in particular youth unemployment, poverty and for the support of professional development and training, especially in the digital workplace, in line with the principles set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Amendment 44

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 23 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(23c) EURES should be strengthened on a long-term basis, in particular through the comprehensive development of the internet platform and the active involvement of the Member States. Member States should use this existing model more effectively and publish details of all vacant jobs in the EURES system.

Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 24

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(24) Member States should ensure coordination and complementarity between the actions supported by ***these funds***.	(24) Member States ***and the Commission*** should ensure coordination and complementarity ***and exploit synergies*** between the actions supported by ***the ESF+ and the other Union programmes and instruments such as the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, the***

European Regional Development Fund, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, Erasmus, the Asylum and Migration Fund, Horizon Europe, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, the Digital Europe Programme, InvestEU, Creative Europe or the European Solidarity Corps.

Amendment 46

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 25

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(25) In accordance with ***Article*** 349 TFEU and Article 2 of Protocol No 6 to the 1994 Act of Accession, the outermost regions ***and*** the northern sparsely populated regions are entitled to specific measures under common policies and EU programmes. Due to the ***permanent constraints*** these regions ***require*** specific support.	(25) In accordance with ***Articles*** 349 ***and 174*** TFEU and Article 2 of Protocol No 6 to the 1994 Act of Accession, the outermost regions***,*** the northern sparsely populated regions ***and islands*** are entitled to specific measures under common policies and EU programmes. ***Because they suffer from severe and permanent natural handicaps,*** these regions ***need*** specific support.

Justification

The geographical extent of ESF+ needs to be clearly established.

Amendment 47

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 25 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(25a) In accordance with Article 174 TFEU, the Member States and the Commission should ensure that the ESF+ contributes to the development and implementation of specific policies to

address the constraints and difficulties experienced by regions that suffer from severe and permanent demographic handicaps, such as depopulated regions and sparsely populated regions.

Amendment 48

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 26

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(26) Efficient and effective implementation of actions supported by the ESF+ depends on good governance and partnership between ***all actors at the relevant territorial levels*** and the socio-economic actors, in particular the social partners and civil society. It is therefore essential that Member States ***encourage the*** participation of social partners and civil society in the ***implementation*** of the ESF+ ***under shared management***.	(26) Efficient and effective implementation of actions supported by the ESF+ depends on good governance and partnership between ***Union institutions and local, regional and national authorities*** and the socio-economic actors, in particular the social partners and civil society. It is therefore essential that Member States***, in partnership with regional and local authorities, ensure meaningful*** participation of social partners and civil society ***organisations, equality bodies, national human rights institutions and other relevant or representative organisations*** in the ***programming and delivery*** of the ESF+ ***from shaping priorities for operational programmes to implementing, monitoring and evaluating the results and impact in line with the European code of conduct on partnership in the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds established by Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 240/2014[1a]. Furthermore, for the sake of safeguarding non-discrimination and equal opportunities, equality bodies and national human rights institutions should also be involved in each stage.***

[1a] Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 240/2014 of 7 January 2014 on the European code of conduct on

partnership in the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds (OJ L 74, 14.3.2014, p. 1).

Amendment 49

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 26 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(26a) Good governance and partnership between managing authorities and the partners require the effective and efficient use of capacity building for stakeholders, to whom Member Stes should allocate an appropriate amount of ESF+ resources. As investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administration and public services at the national, regional and local levels with a view to reforms, better regulation and good governance, is no longer included as an operational objective of the ESF+ under shared management, but has been included in the Structural Support Reform Programme, it is necessary that the Commission and the Member States ensure effective coordination between the two instruments.

Amendment 50

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 27

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(27) With a view to rendering policies more responsive to social change and to encourage and support innovative solutions, support for social innovation is crucial. In particular, testing and evaluating	(27) With a view to rendering policies more responsive to social change and to encourage and support innovative solutions***, including at local level***, support for social innovation ***and the social***

innovative solutions before scaling them up is instrumental in improving the efficiency of the policies and thus justifies specific support from the ESF+.	***economy*** is crucial. In particular, testing and evaluating innovative solutions before scaling them up is instrumental in improving the efficiency of the policies and thus justifies specific support from the ESF+.

Amendment 51

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 27 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(27a) With a view to fully tapping into the potential of cross-sectorial cooperation and to improving synergies and coherence with other policy fields to achieve its general objectives, the ESF+ should support innovative actions which use sport and physical activity and culture to drive social inclusion, fight youth unemployment, particularly for disadvantaged groups, improve social inclusion of marginalised groups and to promote good health and disease prevention.

Amendment 52

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 28

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(28) The Member States and the Commission should ensure that ESF+ contributes to the promotion of equality between women and men in accordance with Article 8 TFEU to foster equality of treatment and opportunities between women and men in all areas, including regarding participation in the labour	(28) The Member States and the Commission should ensure that ESF+ contributes to the promotion of equality between women and men in accordance with Article 8 TFEU to foster equality of treatment and opportunities between women and men in all areas, including regarding participation in the labour

market, terms and conditions of employment and career progression. ***They*** should also ensure that the ESF+ ***promotes equal opportunities for all, without discrimination in accordance with Article 10 TFEU and*** promotes the inclusion in society of persons with disabilities on equal basis with others and contributes to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. These principles should be taken into account in all dimensions and in all stages of the preparation, monitoring, implementation and evaluation of programmes, in a timely and consistent manner while ensuring that specific actions are taken to promote gender equality and equal opportunities. The ESF+ should also promote the transition from ***residential/***institutional care to family and community-based care, in particular for those who face multiple discrimination. The ESF+ should not support any action that contributes to segregation or to social exclusion. Regulation (EU) No [future CPR] provides that rules on eligibility of expenditure are to be established at national level, with certain exceptions for which it is necessary to lay down specific provisions with regard to the ESF+ strand under shared management.

market, terms and conditions of employment and career progression. ***The gender aspects should be taken into account in all programmes implemented, throughout their preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Moreover, the ESF+ should in particular comply with Article 21 of the Charter that stipulates that any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age, sexual orientation is prohibited; furthermore, any discrimination based on sex characteristics or gender identity and on grounds of nationality should also be prohibited. Member States and the Commission*** should also ensure that the ESF+ promotes the inclusion in society of persons with disabilities on equal basis with others and contributes to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities***, with regard inter alia to education, work, employment and universal accessibility***. These principles should be taken into account in all dimensions and in all stages of the preparation, monitoring, implementation and evaluation of programmes, in a timely and consistent manner while ensuring that specific actions are taken to promote gender equality and equal opportunities. The ESF+ should also promote the transition from institutional care to family and community-based care, in particular for those who face multiple ***and intersectional*** discrimination. The ESF+ should not support any action that contributes to segregation or to social exclusion. Regulation (EU) No [future CPR] provides that rules on eligibility of expenditure are to be ***in line with the Charter and*** established at national level, with certain exceptions for which it is necessary to lay down specific provisions with regard to the ESF+ strand under

shared management.

Amendment 53

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 28 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(28a) The use of regional indicators should be considered in order to allow subregional disparities to be better taken into account.

Amendment 54

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 28 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(28b) The ESF+ should support the study of languages in fostering mutual understanding and in building an inclusive society, also through a wider adoption by the Member States of the toolkit for language support for refugees developed by the Council of Europe.

Amendment 55

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 29

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(29) In order to reduce the administrative burden for the collection of data, Member States should, where such data are	(29) In order to reduce the administrative burden for the collection of data, Member States should, where such data***, possibly***

available in registers, allow managing authorities to collect data from registers.

disaggregated by sex, are available in registers, allow managing authorities to collect data from registers ***while respecting the protection of personal data in accordance to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council[1a]. It is advisable to incentivise the continuation of the electronic transmission of data as it helps reducing the administrative burden.***

[1a] Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).

Amendment 56

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 31

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(31) Social experimentation is a small-scale project testing which allows gathering evidence on the feasibility of social innovations. It should be possible for feasible ***ideas*** to be pursued on a wider scale or ***in*** other contexts with financial support from the ESF+***, as well as from*** other sources.	(31) Social experimentation is a small-scale project testing which allows gathering evidence on the feasibility of social innovations. It should be possible ***and encouraged for ideas to be tested at local level and*** for ***those that are*** feasible to be pursued on a wider scale ***- where appropriate -*** or ***transferred to*** other contexts ***in different regions or Member States*** with financial support from the ESF+ ***or in combination with*** other sources.

Amendment 57

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 32

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(32) ESF+ lays down provisions intended to achieve freedom of movement for workers on a non-discriminatory basis by ensuring the close cooperation of the ***central*** employment services of Member States ***with one another and with*** the Commission. The European network of employment services should promote a better functioning of the labour markets by facilitating the cross-border mobility of workers and a greater transparency of information on the labour markets. The ESF+ scope also includes developing and supporting targeted mobility schemes with a view to filling vacancies where labour market shortcomings have been identified.	(32) ESF+ lays down provisions intended to achieve freedom of movement for workers on a non-discriminatory basis by ensuring the close cooperation of the ***public*** employment services of Member States***,*** the Commission ***and the social partners***. The European network of employment services, ***with the involvement of the social partners,*** should promote a better functioning of the labour markets by facilitating the cross-border mobility of workers and a greater transparency of information on the labour markets. The ESF+ scope also includes developing and supporting targeted mobility schemes with a view to filling vacancies where labour market shortcomings have been identified. ***The ESF + covers cross-border partnerships between regional public employment services and social partners and their activities to promote mobility, as well as transparency and integration of cross-border labour markets through information, advice and placement. In many border regions they play an important role in the development of a genuine European labour market.***

Amendment 58

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 33

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(33) Lack of access to finance for microenterprises, social economy and	(33) Lack of access to finance for microenterprises, social economy and

social enterprises is one of the main obstacles to business creation, especially among people furthest from the labour market. The ESF+ Regulation lays down provisions in order to create a market eco-system to increase the supply of and access to finance for social enterprises as well as to meet demand from those who need it most, and in particular the unemployed, women and ***vulnerable people*** who wish to start up or develop a microenterprise. This objective will also be addressed through financial instruments and budgetary guarantee under the social investment and skills policy window of the InvestEU Fund.	social ***economy*** enterprises is one of the main obstacles to business creation, especially among people furthest from the labour market. The ESF+ Regulation lays down provisions in order to create a market eco-system to increase the supply of and access to finance ***and support services*** for social ***economy*** enterprises***, including in the cultural and creative sector,*** as well as to meet demand from those who need it most, and in particular the unemployed, women and ***disadvantaged groups*** who wish to start up or develop a microenterprise. This objective will also be addressed through financial instruments and budgetary guarantee under the social investment and skills policy window of the InvestEU Fund.

Amendment 59

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 33 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(33a) The Commission should introduce at Union level a 'European Social Economy Label' for social and solidarity-based enterprises, based on clear criteria designed to highlight the specific characteristics of these enterprises and their social impact, increase their visibility, create incentives for investment and facilitate access to funding and to the single market for those willing to expand nationally or into other Member States, in a manner consistent with the different legal forms and frameworks in the sector and in the Member States.

Amendment 60

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 34

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(34) Social investment market players, including philanthropic actors, can play a key role in achieving several ESF+ objectives, as they offer financing as well as innovative and complementary approaches to combatting social exclusion and poverty, reducing unemployment and contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, philanthropic actors such as foundations and donors should be involved, as appropriate, in ESF+ actions in particular in those aimed at developing the social investment market ecosystem.	(34) Social investment market players, including philanthropic actors, can play a key role in achieving several ESF+ objectives, as they offer financing as well as innovative and complementary approaches to combatting social exclusion and poverty, reducing unemployment and contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, philanthropic actors such as foundations and donors should be involved, as appropriate ***and as long as they do not have a political or social agenda in conflict with Union ideals***, in ESF+ actions in particular in those aimed at developing the social investment market ecosystem.

Amendment 61

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 34 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(34a) Transnational cooperation has significant added value and should therefore be supported by all Member States with the exception of duly justified cases taking into account the principle of proportionality. It is also necessary to reinforce the Commission's role in facilitating exchanges of experience and coordinating implementation of relevant initiatives.

Amendment 62

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 35 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(35a) The Commission should increase participation of Member States and underrepresented organisations by lowering as much as possible the barriers to participation, including the administrative burden of applying for and receiving funding.

Amendment 63

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 35 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(35b) One of the main Union objectives is to strengthen health systems by supporting the digital transformation of health and patient care and developing a sustainable health information system as well as supporting national reforms to make health systems more effective, accessible and resilient.

Amendment 64

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 36

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(36) Keeping people healthy and active ***longer*** and empowering them to take an active role in managing their health will have positive effects on health, health inequalities, quality of life, productivity, competitiveness and inclusiveness, while reducing pressures on national budgets.	(36) ***Continued effort is required in order to meet the requirements set out in Article 168 TFEU.*** Keeping ***all*** people healthy and active ***in a non-discriminatory way*** and empowering them to take an active role in managing their health will have positive effects on health, health inequalities,

The Commission has been committed to help Member States to reach their sustainable development goals (SDG), in particular SDG 3 "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages".[17]	quality of life, productivity, competitiveness and inclusiveness, while reducing pressures on national budgets. ***Support for, and recognition of, innovation, including social innovation, which has an impact on health, helps in order to take up the challenge of sustainability in the health sector in the context of addressing the challenges of demographic change. Moreover, action to reduce inequalities in health is important for the purposes of achieving 'inclusive growth'.*** The Commission has been committed to help Member States to reach their sustainable development goals (SDG), in particular SDG 3 "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.[17]
[17] COM (2016) 739 final	[17] COM (2016) 739 final

Amendment 65

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 36 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(36a) According to the definition of the World Health Organisation (WHO), "Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". In order to improve the health of the population in the Union, it is essential not to focus only on physical health and social well-being. According to the WHO, mental health problems account for almost 40 % of years lived with disability. Mental health problems are also wide-ranging, long-lasting and a source of discrimination, and contribute significantly to inequality in health. Moreover, the economic crisis affects factors determining mental health, as protective factors are weakened and risk

factors increased.

Amendment 66

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 37

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(37) Evidence and the common values and principles in European Union Health Systems as set out in the Council Conclusions of 2 June 2006 should support the decision-making processes for planning and managing innovative, efficient and resilient health systems, promoting tools for ensuring universal access to quality healthcare, and the voluntary wider scale implementation of best practices.	(37) Evidence and the common values and principles in European Union Health Systems as set out in the Council Conclusions of 2 June 2006 should support the decision-making processes for planning and managing innovative, efficient and resilient health systems, promoting tools for ensuring universal access to quality ***person-centred*** healthcare ***and related care***, and the voluntary wider scale implementation of best practices. ***This includes health promotion and disease prevention services as part of primary healthcare services.***

Amendment 67

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 37 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(37a) The previous programmes of Union action in the field of public health (2003-2008) and in the field of health (2008-2013 and 2014-2020), established respectively by Decisions No 1786/2002/EC[1a] and 1350/2007/EC[1b] and Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council[1c] ("the previous health

programmes"), have been positively assessed as resulting in a number of important developments and improvements. The Health strand of the ESF+ should build on the achievements of the previous health programmes.

[1a] Decision No 1786/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2002 adopting a programme of Community action in the field of public health (2003-2008) (OJ L 271, 9.10.2002, p. 1).

[1b] Decision No 1350/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2007 establishing a second programme of Community action in the field of health (2008-13) (OJ L 301, 20.11.2007, p. 3).

[1c] Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on the establishment of a third Programme for the Union's action in the field of health (2014-2020) and repealing Decision No 1350/2007/EC (OJ L 86, 21.3.2014, p. 1).

Amendment 68

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 37 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(37b) The Health strand of the ESF+ should be a means of promoting actions in areas where there is Union added value that can be demonstrated on the basis of the following: exchanging good practices between Member States and between regions; supporting networks for knowledge sharing or mutual learning; supporting qualification of health professionals; addressing cross-border

threats to reduce their risks and mitigate their consequences; addressing certain issues relating to the internal market where the Union has substantial legitimacy to ensure high-quality solutions across Member States; unlocking the potential of innovation in health; actions that could lead to a system for benchmarking to allow informed decision-making at Union level; improving efficiency by avoiding a waste of resources due to duplication, and optimising the use of financial resources.

Amendment 69

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 38

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(38) The Health strand of the ESF+ should contribute to disease prevention throughout the lifetime of the ***Union's citizens*** and to health promotion by addressing health risk factors such as tobacco use and passive smoking, harmful use of alcohol, consumption of illicit drugs and reduction of drugs-related health damage, unhealthy dietary habits and physical inactivity and foster supportive environments for healthy lifestyles in order to complement Member States action in line with the relevant strategies. The Health strand of the ESF+ should mainstream effective prevention models, innovative technologies and new business models and solutions to contribute to innovative, efficient and sustainable health systems of the Member States and facilitate access to better and safer healthcare for ***European citizens***.	(38) The Health strand of the ESF+ should contribute to disease prevention***, early diagnosis*** throughout the lifetime of the ***people living in the Union*** and to health promotion by addressing health risk factors such as tobacco use***, smoking*** and passive smoking, harmful use of alcohol, ***environmental health risk factors,*** consumption of illicit drugs and reduction of drugs-related health damage, ***obesity and*** unhealthy dietary habits***, also related to poverty*** and physical inactivity and foster supportive environments for healthy lifestyles***, greater public awareness of risk factors, well-designed public health interventions for reducing the burden and impact of infections and preventable infectious diseases, including through vaccinations, in the overall health throughout life*** in order to complement Member States action in line with the relevant strategies. ***In this context, special attention should be given to health***

education as it helps individuals and communities improve their health, increase their knowledge and influence their attitudes. Current health challenges can only be effectively addressed through collaboration at Union level and continued Union action in the field of health. The Health strand of the ESF+ should ***support implementation of the relevant Union law***, mainstream effective prevention ***and awareness raising*** models ***reaching out to all***, innovative technologies and new business models and solutions to contribute to innovative, ***accessible***, efficient and sustainable health systems of the Member States and facilitate access to better and safer healthcare for ***people living in the Union in both urban and rural areas***.

Amendment 70

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 38 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(38a) In order to implement the actions under the Health strand, the Commission should support the creation of a Steering Board for Health. In addition, the Commission should propose ways and methodology for aligning the health-related activities with the European Semester process, now empowered to recommend health systems (and other social determinants of health in fact) reforms towards greater accessibility and sustainability of healthcare and social protection provisions in Member States.

Amendment 71

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 39

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(39) Non-communicable diseases are responsible for over 80 % of premature mortality in the Union and an effective prevention entails multiple cross border dimensions. In parallel, the European Parliament and the Council underlined the need to minimise the public health consequences of serious cross-border threats to health such as communicable diseases and other biological, chemical, environmental and unknown threats, by supporting preparedness and response capacity building.	(39) Non-communicable diseases are responsible for over 80 % of premature mortality in the Union and an effective prevention entails multiple ***cross-sectoral actions and*** cross border dimensions. In parallel, the European Parliament and the Council underlined the need to minimise the public health consequences of serious cross-border threats to health such as ***sudden and cumulative environmental emissions and pollution,*** communicable diseases and other biological, chemical, environmental and unknown threats, by supporting preparedness and response capacity building.

Amendment 72

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 39 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(39a) Continuous investments in innovative community-based approaches to tackle cross-border diseases such as the epidemics of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and viral hepatitis are vital as the social dimension of the diseases is a major factor affecting the ability to tackle them as epidemics in the Union and neighbouring countries. A more ambitious political leadership and adequate technical and financial means to provide a sustainable regional response to the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and hepatitis in Europe will be instrumental to reach the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals on these diseases.

Amendment 73

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 40

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(40) Reducing the burden of resistant infections and healthcare associated infections and securing the availability of effective antimicrobials is essential for the efficiency of health systems and for the health of citizens.	(40) Reducing the burden of resistant infections and healthcare associated infections and securing the availability of effective antimicrobials***, whilst nonetheless reducing their use in order to help tackle antimicrobial resistance,*** is essential for the efficiency of health systems and for the health of citizens.

Amendment 74

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 42

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(42) Given the specific nature of some of the objectives covered by the Health strand of the ESF+ and by the type of the actions under that strand, the respective competent authorities of the Member States are best placed to implement the related activities. Those authorities, designated by the Member States themselves, should therefore be considered to be identified beneficiaries for the purpose of Article [195]of [the new Financial Regulation] and the grants be awarded to such authorities without prior publication of calls for proposals.	(42) Given the specific nature of some of the objectives covered by the Health strand of the ESF+ and by the type of the actions under that strand, the respective competent authorities of the Member States are best placed to implement the related activities ***with the active support of civil society***. Those authorities, designated by the Member States themselves***, and additionally, civil society organisations, as appropriate***, should therefore be considered to be identified beneficiaries for the purpose of Article [195]of [the new Financial Regulation] and the grants be awarded to such authorities without prior publication of calls for proposals.

Justification

The report should ask that civil society is meaningfully involved supporting the Member States' competent authorities. Their involvement is vital to achieve the goals of the proposal.

Amendment 75

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 42 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(42a) In order to increase the performance of programme monitoring inefficiencies and inadequacies, the Commission should implement and use programmatic and action specific monitoring indicators to ensure that programme objectives are achieved.

Amendment 76

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 42 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(42b) The ESF+ programme should address existing obstacles to civil society participation, for example through simplifying the application procedures, easing the financial criteria by waiving the co-financing percentage in some cases, but also through building the capacity of patients, their organisations and other stakeholders through training and education. The programme shall also aim to enable the functioning of civil society networks and organisations at Union level that contribute to the achievement of its objectives, including Union-level organisations.

Justification

"The role of civil society is key to achieving societal well-being. They bring a unique added value by empowering people which absence results in poor health.". (Greer, S., Wismar, M., Pastorino, G. and Kosinska, M. (2017) Civil society and health).

Amendment 77

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 42 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(42c) The implementation of the Health strand of the ESF+ should be such that the responsibilities of the Member States, for the definition of their health policy and for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care, are respected. Whilst respecting Treaty obligations and the role of Member States as the primary interlocutor in the Union decision-making process, competent authorities at sub-national level should be engaged in order to ensure an effective and lasting impact of Union health policy through their integration with social policies on the ground.

Amendment 78

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 44

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(44) EU health legislation has an immediate impact on the lives of citizen, on the efficiency and resilience of the health systems and the good functioning of the internal market. The regulatory framework for medical products and technologies (medicinal products, medical	(44) EU health legislation has an immediate impact on the lives of citizen, on the efficiency and resilience of the health systems and the good functioning of the internal market. The regulatory framework for medical products and technologies (medicinal products, medical

devices and substances of human origin), as well as on tobacco legislation, patients' rights on cross-border health and serious cross-border threats to health is essential to health protection in the EU. ***Regulation, as well its implementation and enforcement, must keep pace with innovation and research advances and with societal changes in this area, while delivering*** on health ***objectives. It is therefore necessary to continuously develop the evidence base required for implementing legislation of such a scientific nature***.

devices and substances of human origin), as well as on tobacco legislation, patients' rights on cross-border health and serious cross-border threats to health is essential to health protection in the EU. ***In addition, many other Union legal acts have significant impacts*** on health ***such as those relating to food and food labelling, air pollution, endocrine disruptors and pesticides. In some cases, the cumulative impacts of environmental risk factors are not clearly understood, potentially leading to unacceptable risks to citizens' health***.

Amendment 79

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 44 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(44a) Regulation with health implications, as well as its implementation and enforcement, should keep pace with innovation and research advances and with societal change in this area, whilst remaining underpinned by the precautionary principle, as enshrined in the Treaties. It is therefore necessary to continuously develop the evidence base required for implementing legislation of such scientific nature and, in order to ensure the possibility of independent scrutiny thereby re-gaining public trust in Union processes and because, by its very nature the sharing of this evidence is in the public interest, the highest level of transparency should be guaranteed.

Amendment 80

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 44 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(44b) Facing health challenges cannot be done by the health sector alone, as health is determined by multiple factors outside of it. Hence, as stated in the Maastricht and Amsterdam Treaties, health in all policies is important for the Union's ability to face future challenges. However, making other sectors aware of the health impacts of their decisions and to integrate health into their policies is one of the biggest challenges the European health sector currently encounters. Important advances in health have been registered so far through policies in sectors such as education, traffic, nutrition, agriculture, labour, or planning. As an example, heart health has registered significant improvements through changes in policies and regulations regarding the quality of food, increased physical activity and decreased smoking.

Amendment 81

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 46

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(46) Reflecting the importance of tackling climate change in line with the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, this Regulation will contribute to mainstream climate action in the Union's policies and to the achievement of an overall target of 25 % of the EU budget expenditures supporting climate objectives. Relevant actions will be identified during the preparation and implementation, and reassessed in the context of the mid-term	(46) Reflecting the importance of tackling climate change in line with the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, this Regulation will contribute to mainstream climate action in the Union's policies and to the achievement of an overall target of 25 % of the EU budget expenditures supporting climate objectives ***over the MFF 2021-2027 period, and an annual target of 30 % as soon as possible and at the latest by 2027***. Relevant actions will be

evaluation.	identified during the preparation and implementation, and reassessed in the context of the mid-term evaluation.

Amendment 82

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 47

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(47) Pursuant to Article [94 of Council Decision 2013/755/EU[19]], persons and entities established in Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) are to be eligible for funding subject to the rules and objectives of the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands and possible arrangements applicable to the Member State to which the relevant OCTs are linked.	(47) Pursuant to Article [94 of Council Decision 2013/755/EU[19]], persons and entities established in Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) are to be eligible for funding subject to the rules and objectives of the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands and possible arrangements applicable to the Member State to which the relevant OCTs are linked. ***The programme will need to allow for the particular constraints affecting persons and entities established in those territories in order to provide for proper access to those strands.***
[19]Council Decision 2013/755/EU of 25 November 2013 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Union ('Overseas Association Decision') (OJ L 344, 19.12.2013, p. 1).	[19]Council Decision 2013/755/EU of 25 November 2013 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Union ('Overseas Association Decision') (OJ L 344, 19.12.2013, p. 1).

Amendment 83

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 48

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(48) Third countries which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA)	(48) ***Subject to complying with all the relevant rules and regulations,*** third

may participate in Union programmes in the framework of the cooperation established under the EEA agreement, which provides for the implementation of the programmes by a decision under that agreement. A specific provision should be introduced in this Regulation to grant the necessary rights for and access to the authorising officer responsible, the European Anti-Fraud Office as well as the European Court of Auditors to comprehensively exert their respective competences.	countries which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA) may participate in Union programmes in the framework of the cooperation established under the EEA agreement, which provides for the implementation of the programmes by a decision under that agreement. A specific provision should be introduced in this Regulation to grant the necessary rights for and access to the authorising officer responsible, the European Anti-Fraud Office as well as the European Court of Auditors to comprehensively exert their respective competences.

Amendment 84

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 50 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(50a) It is important to ensure sound and fair financial management of the Fund to guarantee that it is implemented in such a way as to make it as clear, effective and easy to use as possible, while guaranteeing legal certainty and ensuring that it is accessible to all participants. As ESF+ activities are carried out under shared management, the Member States should not add additional rules or amend the rules as they go, as that would complicate the use of the funds for the beneficiaries and may lead to a delay in the payment of invoices.

Amendment 85

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 51

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(51) Since the objective of this Regulation, namely enhancing the effectiveness of labour markets and promoting access to quality employment, improving the access to and the quality of education ***and*** training, promoting social inclusion and health and ***reducing*** poverty as well as the actions under the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States but can rather, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. 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 that objective.	(51) Since the objective of this Regulation, namely enhancing the effectiveness ***and fairness*** of labour markets and promoting access to quality employment, improving the access to and the quality of education***,*** training ***and care***, promoting social inclusion***, equal opportunities,*** and health and ***eradicating*** poverty as well as the actions under the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States but can rather, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. 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 that objective.

Amendment 86

Proposal for a regulation
Article 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 1 Subject matter	Article 1 Subject matter
This Regulation establishes the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+).	This Regulation establishes the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)***. ESF+ consists of three strands: the strand under shared management, the Employment and Social Innovation strand and the Health strand***.
It lays down the objectives of the ESF+, the budget for the period 2021-2027, the methods of implementation, the forms of Union funding and the rules for providing such funding.	***This Regulation*** lays down the objectives of the ESF+, the budget for the period 2021-2027, the methods of implementation, the forms of Union funding and the rules for providing such

	funding***, complementing the general rules applicable to ESF+ under Regulation (EU) No [Regulation laying down Common Provisions]***.

Amendment 87

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 2	Article 2
Definitions	Definitions
1. For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions ***shall*** apply:	1. For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions apply:
(1) 'accompanying measures' means activities provided in addition to the distribution of food and/or basic material assistance with the aim of addressing social exclusion such as referring to and providing social services or advice on managing a household budget;	(1) 'accompanying measures' means activities provided in addition to the distribution of food and/or basic material assistance with the aim of addressing social exclusion ***and eradicating poverty*** such as referring to and providing social services ***and psychological support, providing relevant information on public services*** or advice on managing a household budget;
(2) ‘associated country’ means a third country which is party to an agreement with the Union allowing for its participation in the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands of the ESF+ in accordance with Article 30;	(2) ‘associated country’ means a third country which is party to an agreement with the Union allowing for its participation in the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands of the ESF+ in accordance with Article 30;
(3) 'basic material assistance' means goods which fulfil the basic needs of a person for a life with dignity, such as clothing, hygiene goods and school material;	(3) 'basic material assistance' means goods which fulfil the basic needs of a person for a life with dignity, such as clothing, hygiene goods***, including feminine hygiene products,*** and school material;
(4) 'blending operation' means actions supported by the Union budget, including within blending facilities pursuant to Article 2(6) of the Financial Regulation, combining non-repayable forms of support and/or financial instruments from the	(4) 'blending operation' means actions supported by the Union budget, including within blending facilities pursuant to Article 2(6) of the Financial Regulation, combining non-repayable forms of support and/or financial instruments from the

Union budget with repayable forms of support from development or other public finance institutions, as well as from commercial finance institutions and investors;

(5) ‘common immediate result indicators’ means common result indicators which capture effects within four weeks as from the day the participant leaves the operation (exit date);

(6) ‘common longer term result indicators’ means common result indicators which capture effects six months after a participant has left the operation;

(7) 'costs of purchasing food and/or basic material assistance' means the actual costs linked to the purchase of food and/or basic material assistance by the beneficiary and not limited to the price of the food and/or basic material assistance;

(8) 'end recipient' means the most deprived person or persons receiving the support as laid down in point (xi) of Article 4(1);

(9) ‘health crisis’ means any crisis commonly perceived as a threat, having a health dimension and which requires urgent action by authorities under conditions of uncertainty;

(10) 'legal entity' means any natural person, or any legal person created and recognised as such under national law, Union law or international law, which has a legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations;

(11) 'microfinance' includes guarantees, microcredit, equity and quasi-equity, coupled with accompanying business development services such as in the form

Union budget with repayable forms of support from development or other public finance institutions, as well as from commercial finance institutions and investors;

(5) ‘common immediate result indicators’ means common result indicators which capture effects within four weeks as from the day the participant leaves the operation (exit date);

(6) ‘common longer term result indicators’ means common result indicators which capture effects six ***and twelve*** months after a participant has left the operation;

(7) 'costs of purchasing food and/or basic material assistance' means the actual costs linked to the purchase of food and/or basic material assistance by the beneficiary and not limited to the price of the food and/or basic material assistance;

(7a) ‘cross-border partnerships’ in the Employment and Social Innovation strand means permanent structures of cooperation between public employment services, civil society or the social partners located in at least two Member States;

(8) 'end recipient' means the most deprived person or persons receiving the support as laid down in point (xi) of Article 4(1);

(9) ‘health crisis’ means any crisis commonly perceived as a threat, having a health dimension and which requires urgent action by authorities under conditions of uncertainty;

(10) 'legal entity' means any natural person, or any legal person created and recognised as such under national law, Union law or international law, which has a legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations;

(11) 'microfinance' includes guarantees, microcredit, equity and quasi-equity, coupled with accompanying business development services such as in the form

of individual counselling, training and mentoring, extended to persons and micro-enterprises that experience difficulties accessing credit for the purpose of professional and/or revenue-generating activities;

(12) micro-enterprise' means an enterprise with fewer than 10 employees and an annual turnover or balance sheet below EUR 2 000 000;

(13) 'most deprived persons' means natural persons, whether individuals, families, households or groups composed of such persons, whose need for assistance has been established according to the objective criteria set by the national competent authorities in consultation with relevant stakeholders, while avoiding conflicts of interest and which are approved by those national competent authorities and which may include elements that allow the targeting of the most deprived persons in certain geographical areas;

(14) 'reference value' means a value to set targets for common and programme specific result indicators which is based on existing or previous similar interventions;

(15) 'social enterprise' means ***an*** undertaking, regardless of its legal form, or a natural person ***which***

(a) in accordance with its Articles of Association, Statutes or with any other legal document that may result in liability under the rules of the Member State where it is located, has as its primary social objective the achievement of measurable, positive social impacts rather than generating profit for other purposes, and which provides services or goods that generate a social return, and/or employs methods of production of goods or services that embodies social objectives;

(b) ***uses*** its profits first and foremost to achieve its primary social objective, and has predefined procedures and rules

of individual counselling, training and mentoring, extended to persons and micro-enterprises that experience difficulties accessing credit for the purpose of professional and/or revenue-generating activities;

(12) micro-enterprise' means an enterprise with fewer than 10 employees and an annual turnover or balance sheet below EUR 2 000 000;

(13) 'most deprived persons' means natural persons, whether individuals, families, households or groups composed of such persons***, including children and homeless people***, whose need for assistance has been established according to the objective criteria set by the national competent authorities in consultation with relevant stakeholders, while avoiding conflicts of interest and which are approved by those national competent authorities and which may include elements that allow the targeting of the most deprived persons in certain geographical areas;

(14) 'reference value' means a value to set targets for common and programme specific result indicators which is based on existing or previous similar interventions;

(15) 'social enterprise' means ***a social economy*** undertaking, regardless of its legal form, or a natural person ***who:***

(a) in accordance with its Articles of Association, Statutes or with any other legal document that may result in liability under the rules of the Member State where it is located, has as its primary social objective the achievement of measurable, positive social***, including environmental,*** impacts rather than generating profit for other purposes, and which provides services or goods that generate a social return, and/or employs methods of production of goods or services that embodies social objectives;

(b) ***reinvests most of*** its profits first and foremost to achieve its primary social objective, and has predefined procedures

covering any distribution of profits that ensure that such distribution does not undermine the primary social objective;	and rules covering any distribution of profits that ensure that such distribution does not undermine the primary social objective;
(c) is managed in an entrepreneurial, accountable and transparent way, in particular by involving workers, customers and stakeholders impacted by its business activities;	(c) is managed in an entrepreneurial***, democratic, participatory***, accountable and transparent way, in particular by involving workers, customers and stakeholders impacted by its business activities;
	(15a) 'social economy enterprise' means different types of enterprises and entities falling within the social economy, such as cooperatives, mutuals, associations, foundations, social enterprises and other forms of enterprises regulated by the laws of the individual Member States and based on the primacy of the individual and social objectives over capital, democratic governance, solidarity and the reinvestment of the majority of profits or surpluses;
(16) 'social innovations' mean activities that are social both as to their ends and their means and in particular those which relate to the development and implementation of new ideas (concerning products, services and models) that simultaneously meet social needs and create new social relationships or collaborations, thereby benefiting society and boosting its capacity to act;	(16) 'social innovations' mean activities***, including collective activities,*** that are social both as to their ends and their means and in particular those which relate to the development and implementation of new ideas (concerning products, services***, practices*** and models) that simultaneously meet social needs and create new social relationships or collaborations, ***including between public, third sector organisations such as voluntary and community organisations and social economy enterprises,*** thereby benefiting society and boosting its capacity to act;
(17) 'social experimentations' mean policy interventions that offer an innovative response to social needs, implemented on a small scale and in conditions that enable their impact to be measured, prior to being implemented in other contexts or on a larger scale, if the results prove convincing;	(17) 'social experimentations' mean policy interventions that offer an innovative response to social needs, implemented on a small scale and in conditions that enable their impact to be measured, prior to being implemented in other***, including geographical and sectorial,*** contexts or on a larger scale, if the results prove convincing;
(18) 'key competences' means the knowledge, skills and competences all individuals need, at any stage of their lives, for personal fulfilment and development,	(18) 'key competences' means the knowledge, skills and competences all individuals need, at any stage of their lives, for personal fulfilment and development,

employment, social inclusion and active citizenship. The key competences are: literacy; multilingual; mathematics, science, technology and engineering; digital; personal, social and learning to learn; citizenship; entrepreneurship; cultural awareness and expression;	employment, social inclusion and active citizenship. The key competences are: literacy; multilingual; mathematics, science, technology***, arts*** and engineering; digital; ***media;*** personal, social and learning to learn; citizenship; entrepreneurship; ***(inter)***cultural awareness and expression ***and critical thinking***;
(19) 'third country' means a country that is not member of the European Union***.***	(19) 'third country' means a country that is not member of the European Union***;***
	(19a) 'disadvantaged groups' means targeted groups with a high level of people experiencing or at risk of poverty, discrimination or social exclusion, including among others ethnic minorities such as Roma, third-country nationals, including migrants, elderly people, children, single parents, persons with disabilities or persons with chronic diseases;
	(19b) 'lifelong learning' means learning in all its forms (formal, non-formal and informal learning) taking place at all stages in life including early childhood education, general education, vocational education and training, higher education and adult education, and resulting in an improvement in knowledge, skills, competences, and possibilities to participate in society.
2. The definitions in Article [2] of [the future CPR] ***shall*** also apply for the ESF+ strand under shared management.	2. The definitions in Article [2] of [the future CPR] also apply for the ESF+ strand under shared management.
	2a. The definitions in Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union[1a] also apply to the Employment and Social Innovation strand and to the Health strand under direct and indirect management.
	[1a] Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU)

No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

Amendment 88

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 3	Article 3
General objectives and methods of implementation	General objectives and methods of implementation
The ESF+ ***aims to*** support Member States to achieve high employment ***levels***, ***fair*** social protection and a skilled and resilient workforce ready for the future world of work***,*** in line with the principles set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights proclaimed by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on 17 November 2017.	The ESF+ ***shall*** support Member States***, at national, regional and local level, and the Union*** to achieve ***inclusive societies,*** high ***levels of quality*** employment***, job creation, quality and inclusive education and training, equal opportunities, eradicating poverty, including child poverty, social inclusion and integration, social cohesion,*** social protection and a skilled and resilient workforce ready for the future world of work***.*** ***The ESF+ shall be in line with the Treaties of the European Union and the Charter, delivering on the principles set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights proclaimed by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on 17 November 2017, thereby contributing to the goals of the Union as regards to strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion in accordance with Article 174 TFEU and the commitment of the Union and its Member States to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and commitments made under the Paris Agreement.***
The ESF+ shall support, complement and	The ESF+ shall support, complement and

add value to the policies of the Member States to ensure equal opportunities, access to the labour market, ***fair*** working conditions, social protection and inclusion, and a high level of human health protection.	add value to the policies of the Member States to ensure equal opportunities, ***equal*** access to the labour market, ***lifelong learning, high quality*** working conditions, social protection***, integration*** and inclusion, ***eradicating poverty, including child poverty, investment in children and young people, non-discrimination, gender equality, access to basic services*** and a high level of human health protection.
It shall be implemented:	It shall be implemented:
a) under shared management, for the part of the assistance which corresponds to the specific objectives indicated in Article 4(1) (the 'ESF+ strand under shared management'), and	a) under shared management, for the part of the assistance which corresponds to the specific objectives indicated in Article 4(1) (the 'ESF+ strand under shared management'), and
b) under direct and indirect management for the part of the assistance which corresponds to the objectives indicated in Articles 4(1) and 23 (the 'Employment and Social Innovation strand') and for the part of the assistance which corresponds to the objectives indicated in Articles 4(1) and (3) and 26 (the 'Health strand').	b) under direct and indirect management for the part of the assistance which corresponds to the objectives indicated in Articles 4(1) and 23 (the 'Employment and Social Innovation strand') and for the part of the assistance which corresponds to the objectives indicated in Articles 4(1) and (3) and 26 (the 'Health strand').

Amendment 89

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 4	Article 4
Specific objectives	Specific objectives
1. The ESF+ shall support the following specific objectives in the policy areas of employment, education, social inclusion and health and thereby also contributing to the policy objective for "A more social Europe - Implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights" set out in Article [4] of the [future CPR]:	1. The ESF+ shall support the following specific objectives in the policy areas of employment, education, ***mobility,*** social inclusion***, poverty eradication*** and health and thereby also contributing to the policy objective for "A more social Europe - Implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights" set out in Article [4] of the [future CPR]:

(i) improving access to employment of all jobseekers, in particular ***youth and*** long-term unemployed, ***and of*** inactive people, promoting self-employment and the social economy;	(i) improving access to ***quality*** employment ***and activation measures*** of all jobseekers, in particular ***specific measures for young people, especially though the implementation of the Youth Guarantee,*** long-term unemployed, ***economically*** inactive people ***and disadvantaged groups***, ***with focus on persons furthest away from the labour market,*** promoting ***employment,*** self-employment***, entrepreneurship*** and the social economy;
(ii) modernising labour market institutions and services to assess and anticipate skills needs and ensure timely and tailor-made assistance and support to labour market matching, transitions and mobility;	(ii) modernising labour market institutions and services to assess and anticipate skills needs and ensure timely and tailor-made assistance and support to labour market matching, transitions and mobility;
(iii) promoting women's labour market participation, a better work/life balance including access to childcare, a healthy and well–adapted working environment addressing health risks, adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change, and active and healthy ageing;	(iii) promoting women's labour market participation ***and career progression, promoting the principle of equal pay for equal work,*** a better work/life balance***, with a special focus on single parents,*** including access to ***affordable, inclusive and quality*** childcare, ***early childhood education, eldercare, and other care services and support; and*** a healthy and well–adapted working environment addressing health ***and disease*** risks, adaptation of workers***, professional reorientation***, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change, and active and healthy ageing;
(iv) improving the quality, effectiveness and labour market relevance of education and training systems, to support acquisition of key competences including digital skills;	(iv) improving the quality***, inclusiveness***, effectiveness and labour market relevance of education and training systems, to support acquisition of key competences including ***entrepreneurial and*** digital skills ***and recognising non-formal and informal learning, to promote e-inclusion and facilitate the transition from education to work, in order to reflect social and economic requirements***;
(v) promoting equal access to and completion of, quality and inclusive education and training, in particular for disadvantaged groups, from early childhood education and care through general and vocational education and	(v) promoting equal access to and completion of, ***high*** quality***, affordable*** and inclusive education and training, in particular for disadvantaged groups ***and carers,*** from early childhood education and care through general and vocational

training***,*** and to tertiary level, as well as adult education and learning, ***including facilitating*** learning mobility for all;	education and training, and to tertiary level, as well as adult education and learning, ***addressing early school leaving, promoting the introduction of dual-training systems, apprenticeships,*** learning mobility for all ***and accessibility for persons with disabilities***;
(vi) promoting lifelong learning, notably flexible upskilling and reskilling opportunities for all taking into account digital skills, better anticipating change and new skills requirements based on labour market needs, facilitating career transitions and promoting professional mobility;	(vi) promoting lifelong learning, notably flexible upskilling and reskilling opportunities for all taking into account ***entrepreneurial and*** digital skills, better anticipating change and new skills requirements based on labour market needs, facilitating career transitions and promoting professional mobility ***and full participation in society***;
(vii) fostering active inclusion with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability;	(vii) fostering active inclusion with a view to promoting equal opportunities***, non-discrimination*** and active participation, and improving employability***, in particular for disadvantaged groups***;
(viii) promoting socio-economic integration of third country nationals ***and of marginalised communities such as the Roma***;	(viii) promoting ***long-term*** socio-economic integration of third country nationals***, including migrants***;
	(viiia) fighting discrimination against and promoting the socio-economic integration of marginalised communities such as Roma;
(ix) enhancing the equal and timely access to quality, sustainable and affordable services; modernising social protection systems, including promoting access to social protection; improving accessibility, effectiveness and resilience of healthcare systems and long-term care services;	(ix) enhancing the equal and timely access to quality, sustainable***, accessible*** and affordable services***, including services for access to housing and person-centred healthcare and related care***; modernising social ***security institutions, public employment services, social*** protection ***and social inclusion*** systems, including promoting access to ***equal*** social protection***, with a particular focus on children and disadvantages groups and the most deprived people***; improving accessibility ***including for persons with disabilities***, effectiveness and resilience of healthcare systems and long-term care services;
	(ixa) increasing the accessibility for persons with disabilities with a view to improving their inclusion in employment,

	education and training;
(x) promoting social integration of people at risk of poverty ***or*** social exclusion, including the most deprived and children;	(x) promoting social integration of people ***experiencing or*** at risk of poverty ***and/or*** social exclusion, including the most deprived and children;
(xi) addressing material deprivation through food and/or basic material assistance to the most deprived, including accompanying measures.	(xi) addressing material deprivation through food and/or basic material assistance to the most deprived, including accompanying measures, ***aiming to ensure their social inclusion, with an emphasis on children in vulnerable situations***.
2. Through the actions implemented under the ESF+ strand under shared management to achieve the specific objectives referred to in paragraph 1, the ESF+ ***shall also*** contribute to ***the*** other policy objectives listed in Article [4] of [the future CPR], in particular those related to:	2. Through the actions implemented under the ESF+ strand under shared management to achieve the specific objectives referred to in paragraph 1, the ESF+ ***aims to*** contribute to other policy objectives listed in Article [4] of [the future CPR], in particular those related to:
1. a smarter Europe through the development of skills for smart specialisation, skills for key enabling technologies, industrial transition, sectorial cooperation on skills and entrepreneurship, the training of researchers, networking activities and partnerships between higher education institutions, vocational and educational training (VET) institutions, research and technological centres and enterprises and clusters, support to micro, small and medium sized enterprises and the social economy;	1. a smarter Europe through the development of skills for smart specialisation, skills for key enabling technologies, industrial transition, sectorial cooperation on skills and entrepreneurship, the training of researchers, networking activities and partnerships between higher education institutions, vocational and educational training (VET) institutions, research and technological centres***, medical and healthcare centres*** and enterprises and clusters, support to micro, small and medium sized enterprises and the social economy ***taking into account social economy laws and frameworks established in the Member States***;
2. a greener, low carbon Europe through the improvement of education and training systems necessary for the adaptation of skills and qualifications, the upskilling of all, including the labour force, the creation of new jobs in sectors related to the environment, climate and energy, and the bioeconomy.	2. a greener, low carbon Europe through the improvement of education and training systems necessary for the adaptation of skills and qualifications, ***awareness raising among the population about sustainable development and lifestyles,*** the upskilling of all, including the labour force, the creation of new jobs in sectors related to the environment, climate and energy, ***circular economy*** and the bioeconomy***;***
	2a. a Union that is closer to citizens through poverty reduction and social

inclusion measures taking into account the specificities of urban, rural and coastal regions in view of tackling the socioeconomic inequalities in cities and regions;

2b. under the Employment and Social Innovation Strand, the ESF+ shall support the development, implementation monitoring and evaluation of the Union's instruments, policies and relevant law and promote evidence-based policy making, social innovation and social progress in partnership with the social partners, civil society organisations and public and private bodies (specific objective 1); it shall promote workers' voluntary geographical mobility on a fair basis and boost employment opportunities (specific objective 2); it shall promote employment and social inclusion by increasing the availability and accessibility of microfinance for micro-enterprises and social economy enterprises, in particular for vulnerable people (specific objective 3);

3. Under the Health strand, the ESF+ shall ***support*** health ***promotion*** and disease prevention, contribute to effectiveness, accessibility and resilience of health systems, make healthcare safer, reduce health inequalities, protect citizens from cross-border health threats, and support EU ***health*** legislation.

3. under the Health strand, the ESF+ shall ***contribute to a high level of human*** health ***protection*** and disease prevention, ***including through the promotion of physical activity and promotion of health education***, contribute to effectiveness, accessibility and resilience of health systems, make healthcare safer, reduce health inequalities, ***increase life expectancy at birth***, protect citizens from cross-border health threats, ***foster disease prevention and early diagnosis, and health promotion throughout the lifetime and strengthen*** and support EU ***health-related*** legislation***, including in the area of environmental health, and fostering Health in all Union policies***. ***The Union's health policy shall be guided by Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to ensure that the Union and Member States reach the targets of SDG 3 "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages".***

Amendment 90

Proposal for a regulation
Article 5

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 5	Article 5
Budget	Budget
1. The total financial envelope for the ESF+ for the period 2021-2027 shall be ***EUR 101 174 000 000*** in current prices.	1. The total financial envelope for the ESF+ for the period 2021-2027 shall be ***EUR 106 781 000 000 in 2018 prices (EUR 120 457 000 000*** in current prices***)***.
2. The part of the financial envelope for the ESF+ strand under shared management under the Investment for Jobs and Growth goal shall be ***EUR 100 000 000 000 in current prices or EUR 88 646 194 590 in 2018 prices*** of which EUR 200 000 000 in current prices or EUR 175 000 000 in 2018 prices shall be allocated for transnational cooperation supporting innovative solutions as referred to in Article 23(i) and EUR 400 000 000 in current prices or EUR 376 928 934 in 2018 prices as additional funding to the outermost regions identified in Article 349 TFEU and the NUTS level 2 regions fulfilling the criteria laid down in Article 2 of Protocol No 6 to the 1994 Act of Accession.	2. The part of the financial envelope for the ESF+ strand under shared management under the Investment for Jobs and Growth goal shall be ***EUR 105 686 000 000 in 2018 prices (EUR 119 222 000 000 in current prices)*** of which EUR 200 000 000 in current prices or EUR 175 000 000 in 2018 prices shall be allocated for transnational cooperation supporting innovative solutions as referred to in Article 23(i), ***EUR 5 900 000 000 shall be allocated for measures falling under the European Child Guarantee referred to in Article 10a,*** and EUR 400 000 000 in current prices or EUR 376 928 934 in 2018 prices as additional funding to the outermost regions identified in Article 349 TFEU and the NUTS level 2 regions fulfilling the criteria laid down in Article 2 of Protocol No 6 to the 1994 Act of Accession.
3. The financial envelope for the Employment and Social Innovation strand and the Health strand for the period 2021-2027 shall be ***EUR 1 174 000 000*** in current prices.	3. The financial envelope for the Employment and Social Innovation strand and the Health strand for the period 2021-2027 shall be ***EUR 1 095 000 000 in 2018 prices (EUR 1 234 000 000*** in current prices***).***
4. The indicative distribution of the amount referred in paragraph 3 shall be:	4. The indicative distribution of the amount referred in paragraph 3 shall be:
(a) ***EUR 761 000 000*** for the implementation of the Employment and Social Innovation strand;	(a) ***EUR 675 000 000 in 2018 prices (EUR 761 000 000 in current prices)*** for the implementation of the Employment and Social Innovation strand;

(b) ***EUR 413 000 000*** for the implementation of the Health strand.	(b) ***EUR 420 000 000 in 2018 prices (EUR 473 000 000 in current prices; or 0,36 % of the MFF 2021-2027)*** for the implementation of the Health strand.
5. The amounts referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 may also be used for technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the programmes, such as preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities including corporate information technology systems.	5. The amounts referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 may also be used for technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the programmes, such as preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities including corporate information technology systems.

Amendment 91

Proposal for a regulation
Article 6

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 6	Article 6
Equality between men and women and equal opportunities, and non-discrimination	Equality between men and women and equal opportunities, and non-discrimination
Equality ***between men and women*** and equal opportunities, and non-discrimination	***Gender*** equality and equal opportunities, and non-discrimination
1. All programmes implemented under the ESF+ ***strand under shared management, as well as the operations supported by the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands*** shall ensure equality ***between men and women*** throughout their preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. They shall also promote equal opportunities for all, without discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation throughout their preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.	1. All programmes implemented under the ESF+ shall ensure ***gender*** equality throughout their preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. They shall also ***support specific actions aimed at increasing the participation of women in working life and their professional development as well as conciliation between working and personal life,*** promote equal opportunities for all, without discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability ***or health condition***, age or sexual orientation***, including the accessibility to persons with disabilities also in terms of ICT,*** throughout their preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation***, thereby enhancing social***

	inclusion and reducing inequalities.
2. The Member States and the Commission shall also support specific targeted actions to promote the principles referred to in paragraph 1 within any of the objectives of the ESF+, including the transition from ***residential***/institutional care to family and community-based care.	2. The Member States and the Commission shall also support specific targeted actions to promote the principles referred to in paragraph 1 within any of the objectives of the ESF+, including the transition from institutional care to family and community-based care ***and improving universal accessibility for persons with disabilities***.

Amendment 92

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 7	Article 7
Consistency and thematic concentration	Consistency and thematic concentration
1. Member States shall concentrate the ESF+ resources under shared management on interventions that address the challenges identified in their national reform programmes, in the European Semester as well as in the relevant country-specific recommendations adopted in accordance with Article 121(2) TFEU and Article 148(4) TFEU, and take into account principles and rights set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights.	1. Member States shall concentrate the ESF+ resources under shared management on interventions that address the challenges identified in their national reform programmes, in the European Semester as well as in the relevant country-specific recommendations adopted in accordance with Article 121(2) TFEU and Article 148(4) TFEU, and take into account principles and rights set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights***, the Social Scoreboard under the European Semester and regional specificities thereby contributing to the goals of the Union set out in Article 174 TFEU as regards to strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion and that are fully in line with the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.***
Member States and, where appropriate the Commission, shall foster synergies and ensure coordination, complementarity and coherence between the ESF+ and other Union funds, programmes and instruments such as Erasmus, the Asylum and	Member States and, where appropriate the Commission, shall foster synergies and ensure coordination, complementarity and coherence between the ESF+ and other Union funds, programmes and instruments such as ***the European Regional***

Migration Fund and the Reform Support Programme, including the Reform Delivery Tool and the Technical Support Instrument, both in the planning phase and during implementation. Member States and, where appropriate the Commission, shall optimise mechanisms for coordination to avoid duplication of effort and ensure close cooperation between those responsible for implementation to deliver coherent and streamlined support actions.	***Development Fund (ERDF), the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF), the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, InvestEU, Creative Europe, the Rights and Values Instrument,*** Erasmus, the Asylum and Migration Fund***, the post-2020 EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies*** and the Reform Support Programme, including the Reform Delivery Tool and the Technical Support Instrument, both in the planning phase and during implementation. Member States and, where appropriate the Commission, shall optimise mechanisms for coordination to avoid duplication of effort and ensure close cooperation between those ***Managing Authorities*** responsible for implementation to deliver ***integrated approaches,*** coherent and streamlined support actions.
2. Member States shall allocate an appropriate amount of their ESF+ resources under shared management to address challenges identified in relevant country-specific recommendations adopted in accordance with Article 121(2) TFEU and Article 148(4) TFEU and in the European Semester falling within the scope of the ESF+ as set out in Article 4.	2. Member States shall allocate an appropriate amount of their ESF+ resources under shared management to address challenges identified in relevant country-specific recommendations adopted in accordance with Article121(2) TFEU and Article 148(4) TFEU and in the European Semester falling within the scope of the ESF+ as set out in Article 4.
3. Member States shall allocate at least ***25%*** of their ESF+ resources under shared management to the specific objectives for the social inclusion policy area set out in points (vii) to ***(xi)*** of Article 4(1), including the promotion of the socio-economic integration of third country nationals.	3. Member States shall allocate at least ***27%*** of their ESF+ resources under shared management to the specific objectives for the social inclusion policy area set out in points (vii) to ***(x)*** of Article 4(1), including the promotion of the socio-economic integration of third country nationals.
	3a. Within the specific objectives for the social inclusion policy area set out in points (vii) to (x) of Article 4(1), Member States shall allocate at least 5 % of their ESF+ resources under shared management to targeted actions aiming at implementing the European Child Guarantee, in order to contribute to children's equal access to free healthcare, free education, free childcare, decent housing and adequate nutrition.
4. Member States shall allocate at least	4. ***In addition to the minimum***

2% of their ESF+ resources under shared management to the specific objective of addressing material deprivation set out in ***point*** (xi) of Article 4(1).	***allocation of at least 27 % of the ESF+ resources under shared management to the specific objectives set out in points (vii) to (x) of Article 4(1),*** Member States shall allocate at least ***3%*** of their ESF+ resources under shared management to the specific objective of addressing ***social inclusion of the most deprived and/or*** material deprivation set out in ***points (x) and*** (xi) of Article 4(1).
In duly justified cases, the resources allocated to the specific objective set out in point (x) of Article 4(1) and targeting the most deprived may be taken into account for verifying compliance with the minimum allocation of at least 2% set out in the first subparagraph of this paragraph.	
5. Member States ***having a rate of young people aged 15 to 29 not in employment, education or training above the Union average in 2019 on the basis of Eurostat data,*** shall allocate at least ***10%*** of their ESF+ resources under shared management ***for the years 2021 to 2025*** to targeted actions and structural reforms to support youth employment and school-to-work transition, pathways to reintegrate into education or training and second chance education, in particular in the context of implementing Youth Guarantee schemes.	5. Member States shall allocate at least ***3%*** of their ESF+ resources under shared management to targeted actions and structural reforms to support youth employment and school-to-work transition, pathways to reintegrate into education or training and second chance education, in particular in the context of implementing Youth Guarantee schemes.
	Member States having a rate of young people aged 15 to 29 not in employment, education or training (NEET) above the Union average in 2019 or where the NEET rate is above 15 % on the basis of Eurostat data, shall allocate at least 15 % of their ESF+ resources under shared management for the years 2021 to 2025 in the programming period to the above mentioned actions and structural reform measures, paying special attention to those regions more affected taking into account the divergences between them.
When programming the ESF+ resources under shared management for 2026 and 2027 at mid-term in accordance with Article [14] of [the future CPR], Member	When programming the ESF+ resources under shared management for 2026 and 2027 at mid-term in accordance with Article [14] of[the future CPR], Member

States having a rate of young people aged 15 to 29 not in employment, education or training above the Union average in 2024 on the basis of Eurostat data, shall allocate at least ***10***% of their ESF+ resources under shared management for the years 2026 to 2027 to these actions.	States having a rate of young people aged 15 to 29 not in employment, education or training above the Union average in 2024 ***or where the NEET rate is above 15%*** on the basis of Eurostat data, shall allocate at least ***15***% of their ESF+ resources under shared management for the years 2026 to 2027 to these actions ***or structural reform measures***.
Outermost regions meeting the conditions set out in the ***first*** and ***second*** subparagraphs shall allocate at least 15% of the ESF+ resources under shared management in their programmes to the targeted actions set out in the first subparagraph. This allocation shall be taken into account for verifying compliance with the minimum percentage at national level set out in the first and second subparagraphs.	Outermost regions meeting the conditions set out in the ***second*** and ***third*** subparagraphs shall allocate at least 15% of the ESF+ resources under shared management in their programmes to the targeted actions set out in the first subparagraph. This allocation shall be taken into account for verifying compliance with the minimum percentage at national level set out in the first and second subparagraphs. ***That allocation shall not replace funding necessary for infrastructure and development for outermost regions.***
When implementing such actions, Member States shall give priority to inactive and long-term unemployed young people and put in place targeted outreach measures.	When implementing such actions, Member States shall give priority to inactive and long-term unemployed young people and put in place targeted outreach measures.
6. Paragraphs 2 to 5 shall not apply to the specific additional allocation received by the outermost regions and the NUTS level 2 regions fulfilling the criteria laid down in Article 2 of Protocol No 6 to the 1994 Act of Accession.	6. Paragraphs 2 to 5 shall not apply to the specific additional allocation received by the outermost regions and the NUTS level 2 regions fulfilling the criteria laid down in Article 2 of Protocol No 6 to the 1994 Act of Accession.
7. Paragraphs 1 to 5 shall not apply to technical assistance.	7. Paragraphs 1 to 5 shall not apply to technical assistance.

Amendment 93

Proposal for a regulation
Article 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	Article 7a

Respect for fundamental rights

Member States and the Commission shall ensure respect for fundamental rights and compliance with the Charter in the implementation of the funds.

Any cost incurrent for action that is not in line with the Charter shall not be eligible in accordance with Article 58(2) of the Common Provisions Regulation xx/xx and Delegated Regulation (EU) No 240/2014.

Amendment 94

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 8 Partnership	Article 8 Partnership
1. ***Each*** Member State shall ensure ***adequate*** participation of social partners ***and*** civil society organisations in the delivery of employment, education and social inclusion policies supported by the ESF+ strand under shared management.	1. ***In accordance with Article 6 of the [future CPR] and with the Delegated Regulation (EU) No 240/2014, each*** Member State shall ensure***, in partnership with local and regional authorities, a meaningful*** participation of social partners***,*** civil society organisations***, equality bodies, national human rights institutions and other relevant or representative organisations*** in the ***programming and*** delivery of employment, education***, non-discrimination*** and social inclusion policies ***and initiatives*** supported by the ESF+ strand under shared management. ***Such meaningful participation shall be inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities.***
2. Member States shall allocate ***an appropriate amount*** of ESF+ resources ***under shared management in each programme*** for the capacity building of social partners and civil society organisations.	2. Member States shall allocate ***at least 2%*** of ESF+ resources for the capacity building of social partners and civil society organisations ***at Union and national level in the form of training, networking measures, and strengthening of the social***

dialogue, and to activities jointly undertaken by the social partners.

Amendment 95

Proposal for a regulation
Article 9

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 9	Article 9
Addressing material deprivation	Addressing material deprivation
The resources referred to in Article 7(4) shall be programmed under a dedicated priority or programme.	The resources referred to in Article 7(4) ***regarding social inclusion of the most deprived and/or material deprivation*** shall be programmed under a dedicated priority or programme. ***The co-financing rate for this priority or programme is set, at least, at 85%.***

Amendment 96

Proposal for a regulation
Article 10

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 10	Article 10
Support to youth employment	Support to youth employment
Support in accordance with Article 7(5) shall be programmed under a dedicated priority and it shall support the specific objective set out in point (i) of Article 4(1).	Support in accordance with Article 7(5) shall be programmed under a dedicated priority ***or programme*** and it shall support the specific objective set out in point (i) of Article 4(1).

Amendment 97

Proposal for a regulation

Article 10 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	Article 10a
	Support to the European Child Guarantee
	Support in accordance with Article 7(3a) shall be programmed under a dedicated priority or programme reflecting the 2013 European Commission Recommendation on Investing in Children. It shall support for tackling child poverty and social exclusion within the specific objectives set out in points (vii) to (x) of Article 4(1).

Amendment 98

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 11	Article 11
Support to relevant country-specific recommendations	Support to relevant country-specific recommendations
The actions addressing the challenges identified in relevant country-specific recommendations and in the European Semester as referred to in Article 7(2) shall be programmed under ***one or more dedicated priorities***.	The actions addressing the challenges identified in relevant country-specific recommendations and in the European Semester as referred to in Article 7(2) shall be programmed under ***any of the specific objectives referred to in Article 4(1)***. ***Member States shall ensure complementarity, coherence, coordination and synergies with the European Pillar of Social Rights.***
	Sufficient flexibility shall be ensured at Managing Authority level to identify priorities and areas for ESF+ investments in line with the specific local or regional challenges.

Amendment 99

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	Article 11a
	Integrated territorial development
	1. The ESF+ may support integrated territorial development within programmes under both goals referred to in Article 4(2) of Regulation (EU) 2018/xxxx [new CPR] in accordance with Chapter II of Title III of that Regulation [new CPR].
	2. Member States shall implement integrated territorial development, supported by the ESF+, exclusively through the forms referred to in Article [22] of Regulation (EU) 2018/xxxx [new CPR].

Amendment 100

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	Article 11b
	Transnational cooperation
	1. Member States may support transnational cooperation actions under a dedicated priority.
	2. Transnational cooperation actions may be programmed under any of the specific objectives set out in points (i) to (x) of Article 4(1).
	3. The maximum co-financing rate for this priority may be increased to 95% for the allocation of maximum 5% of the

national ESF+ allocation under shared management to such priorities.

Amendment 101

Proposal for a regulation
Article 12

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 12 Scope	Article 12 Scope
This Chapter applies to ESF+ support under points (i) to (x) of Article 4(1) when implemented under shared management (the 'general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management').	This Chapter applies to ESF+ support under points (i) to (x) of Article 4(1) when implemented under shared management (the 'general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management'). ***In addition, Article 13 also applies to ESF+ support under point (xi) of Article 4(1).***

Amendment 102

Proposal for a regulation
Article 13

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 13 ***Innovative*** actions	Article 13 ***Social innovative*** actions
1. Member States shall support actions of social innovation and social experimentations, ***or strengthen*** bottom-up approaches based on partnerships involving public authorities, the private sector, and civil society ***such as the Local Action Groups designing and implementing community-led local development strategies***.	1. Member States shall support actions of social innovation and***/or*** social experimentations***, including those with a socio-cultural component, using*** bottom-up approaches based on partnerships involving public authorities, ***the social partners, social economy enterprises,*** the private sector, and civil society. ***1a. Member States shall identify, either in their operational programmes or at a later stage during implementation, fields***

	for social innovation and social experimentations that correspond to the Member States' specific needs.
2. Member States may support the upscaling of innovative approaches tested on a small-scale (social experimentations) developed under the Employment and Social Innovation strand and other Union programmes.	2. Member States may support the upscaling of innovative approaches tested on a small-scale (social ***innovation and social*** experimentations***, including those with a socio-cultural component***) developed under the Employment and Social Innovation strand and other Union programmes.
3. Innovative actions and approaches may be programmed under any of the specific objectives set out in ***points (i) to (x) of*** Article 4(1).	3. Innovative actions and approaches may be programmed under any of the specific objectives set out in Article 4(1).
4. Each Member State shall dedicate at least one priority to the implementation of paragraphs 1 or 2 or to both. The maximum co-financing rate for these priorities may be increased to 95% for the allocation of maximum 5% of the national ESF+ allocation under shared management ***to such priorities***.	4. Each Member State shall dedicate at least one priority to the implementation of paragraphs 1 or 2 or to both. The maximum co-financing rate for these priorities may be increased to 95% for the allocation of maximum 5% of the national ESF+ allocation under shared management.

Amendment 103

Proposal for a regulation
Article 14

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 14	Article 14
Eligibility	Eligibility
1. In addition to the costs referred to in Article [58] of [the future CPR], the following costs are not eligible under the general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management:	1. In addition to the costs referred to in Article [58] of [the future CPR], the following costs are not eligible under the general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management:
(a) the purchase of land and real estate, and the ***provision*** of infrastructure, and	(a) the purchase of land and real estate, and the ***purchase*** of infrastructure, and
(b) the purchase of furniture, equipment and vehicles except where the purchase is necessary for achieving the objective of the operation, or these items are fully	(b) the purchase of furniture, equipment and vehicles except where the purchase is ***absolutely*** necessary for achieving the objective of the operation, or these items

depreciated, or the purchase of these items is the most economic option.

2. Contributions in kind in the form of allowances or salaries disbursed by a third party for the benefit of the participants in an operation may be eligible for a contribution from the general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management provided that the contributions in kind are incurred in accordance with national rules, including accountancy rules, and do not exceed the cost borne by the third party.

3. The specific additional allocation received by the outermost regions and the NUTS level 2 regions fulfilling the criteria laid down in Article 2 of Protocol No 6 to the 1994 Act of Accession shall be used to support the achievement of the specific objectives set out in paragraph 1 of Article 4.

4. Direct staff costs shall be eligible for a contribution from the general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management ***provided that*** their level ***is*** not higher than 100% of the usual remuneration for the profession concerned in the Member State as demonstrated by Eurostat data.

are fully depreciated, or the purchase of these items is the most economic option.

2. Contributions in kind in the form of allowances or salaries disbursed by a third party for the benefit of the participants in an operation may be eligible for a contribution from the general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management provided that the contributions in kind are incurred in accordance with national rules, including accountancy rules, and do not exceed the cost borne by the third party.

3. The specific additional allocation received by the outermost regions and the NUTS level 2 regions fulfilling the criteria laid down in Article 2 of Protocol No 6 to the 1994 Act of Accession shall be used to support the achievement of the specific objectives set out in paragraph 1 of Article 4.

4. Direct staff costs shall be eligible for a contribution from the general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management. ***If a collective agreement applies, they shall be determined according to that agreement. If no collective agreement applies,*** their level ***shall*** not ***be*** higher than 100% of the usual remuneration for the profession ***or the specific expertise*** concerned in the Member State ***or region*** as demonstrated by ***relevant documentary justification provided by the respective Managing Authority and/or*** Eurostat data.

Amendment 104

Proposal for a regulation
Article 15

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 15	Article 15
Indicators and reporting	Indicators and reporting
1. Programmes benefitting from the	1. Programmes benefitting from the

general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management shall use common output and result indicators, as set out in Annex 1 to this Regulation to monitor progress in implementation. The programmes may also use programme-specific indicators.

general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management shall use common output and result indicators, as set out in Annex 1 ***or Annex IIa for actions targeting social inclusion of the most deprived within point (x) of Article 4(1),*** to this Regulation to monitor progress in implementation. The programmes may also use programme-specific indicators ***and action-specific indicators***.

2. The baseline for common and programme-specific output indicators shall be set at zero. Where relevant to the nature of the operations supported, cumulative quantified milestones and target values for those indicators shall be set in absolute numbers. The reported values for the output indicators shall be expressed in absolute numbers.

2. The baseline for common and programme-specific output indicators shall be set at zero. Where relevant to the nature of the operations supported, cumulative quantified milestones and target values for those indicators shall be set in absolute numbers. The reported values for the output indicators shall be expressed in absolute numbers.

3. The reference value for common and programme-specific result indicators for which a cumulative quantified milestone for 2024 and a target value for 2029 have been set, shall be fixed using the latest available data or other relevant sources of information. Targets for common result indicators shall be fixed in absolute numbers or as a percentage. Programme-specific result indicators and related targets may be expressed in quantitative or qualitative terms. The reported values on common result indicators shall be expressed in absolute numbers.

3. The reference value for common and programme-specific result indicators for which a cumulative quantified milestone for 2024 and a target value for 2029 have been set, shall be fixed using the latest available data or other relevant sources of information. Targets for common result indicators shall be fixed in absolute numbers or as a percentage. Programme-specific result indicators and related targets may be expressed in quantitative or qualitative terms. The reported values on common result indicators shall be expressed in absolute numbers.

4. Data on the indicators for participants shall only be transmitted when all data required under point (1a) of Annex 1 relating to that participant are available.

4. Data on the indicators for participants shall only be transmitted when all data required under point (1a) of Annex 1 relating to that participant are available.

4a. The data referred to in paragraph 3 shall include a gender impact assessment to monitor the implementation of the ESF+ programmes with regard to gender equality and be disaggregated by sex.

5. Member States ***shall***, when data are available in registers or equivalent sources, enable the Managing Authorities and other bodies entrusted with data collection necessary for the monitoring and the evaluation of the general support of the

5. Member States ***may***, when data are available in registers or equivalent sources, enable the Managing Authorities and other bodies entrusted with data collection necessary for the monitoring and the evaluation of the general support of the

ESF+ strand under shared management to obtain those data from data registers or equivalent sources, in accordance with points (c) and (e) of Article 6(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/679.	ESF+ strand under shared management to obtain those data from data registers or equivalent sources, in accordance with points (c) and (e) of Article 6(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/679.
6. The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 38 to amend the indicators in Annex I where considered necessary to ensure effective assessment of progress in the implementation of programmes.	6. The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 38 to amend the indicators in Annex I ***and Annex IIa*** where considered necessary to ensure effective assessment of progress in the implementation of programmes.

Amendment 105

Proposal for a regulation
Article 17

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 17	Article 17
Principles	Principles
1. The ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation may only be used to support the distribution of food and goods that are in conformity with the Union law on consumer product safety.	1. The ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation may only be used to support the distribution of food and goods that are in conformity with the Union law on consumer product safety.
2. Member States and beneficiaries shall choose the food and/or the basic material assistance on the basis of objective criteria related to the needs of the most deprived persons. The selection criteria for the food products, and where appropriate for goods, shall also take into consideration climatic and environmental aspects, in particular with a view to reduction of food waste. Where appropriate, the choice of the type of food products to be distributed shall be made having considered their contribution to the balanced diet of the most deprived persons.	2. Member States and beneficiaries shall choose the food and/or the basic material assistance on the basis of objective criteria related to the needs of the most deprived persons. The selection criteria for the food products, and where appropriate for goods, shall also take into consideration climatic and environmental aspects, in particular with a view to reduction of food waste ***and single-use plastic***. Where appropriate, the choice of the type of food products to be distributed shall be made having considered their contribution to the balanced diet of the most deprived persons.
The food and/or basic material assistance may be provided directly to the most	The food and/or basic material assistance may be provided directly to the most

deprived persons or indirectly through electronic vouchers or cards, provided that they can only be redeemed against food and/or basic material assistance as set out in Article 2(3).	deprived persons or indirectly through electronic vouchers or cards, provided that they can only be redeemed against food and/or basic material assistance as set out in Article 2(3) ***and are not replacing any existing social benefit***.
The food provided for the most deprived persons may be obtained from the use, processing or sale of the products disposed of in accordance with Article 16(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, provided that this is economically the most favourable option and does not unduly delay the delivery of the food products to the most deprived persons.	The food provided for the most deprived persons may be obtained from the use, processing or sale of the products disposed of in accordance with Article 16(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, provided that this is economically the most favourable option and does not unduly delay the delivery of the food products to the most deprived persons.
Any amount derived from such a transaction shall be used for the benefit of the most deprived persons, in addition to the amounts already available to the programme.	Any amount derived from such a transaction shall be used for the benefit of the most deprived persons, in addition to the amounts already available to the programme.
3. The Commission and the Member States shall ensure that aid provided in the framework of the ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation respects the dignity and prevents stigmatisation of the most deprived persons.	3. The Commission and the Member States shall ensure that aid provided in the framework of the ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation respects the dignity and prevents stigmatisation of the most deprived persons.
4. The delivery of food and/or material assistance ***may*** be complemented with re-orientation towards competent services and other accompanying measures aiming at the social inclusion of the most deprived persons.	4. The delivery of food and/or material assistance ***shall*** be complemented with re-orientation towards competent services and other accompanying measures aiming at the social inclusion of the most deprived persons.

Amendment 106

Proposal for a regulation
Article 20

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 20	Article 20
Eligibility of expenditure	Eligibility of expenditure
1. The eligible costs of the ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation	1. The eligible costs of the ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation

shall be:

(a) the costs of purchasing food and/or basic material assistance, including costs related to transporting food and/or basic material assistance to the beneficiaries delivering the food and/or basic material assistance to the end recipients;

(b) where the transport of the food and/or basic material assistance to the beneficiaries distributing them to the end recipients is not covered by point (a), the costs borne by the purchasing body related to transporting food and/or basic material assistance to the storage depots and/or the beneficiaries and storage costs at a flat-rate of 1% of the costs referred to in point (a) or, in duly justified cases, costs actually incurred and paid;

(c) the administrative, transport and storage costs borne by the beneficiaries involved in the distribution of the food and/or basic material assistance to the most deprived at a flat-rate of 5% of the costs referred to in point (a); or 5% of the costs of the value of the food products disposed of in accordance with Article 16 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

(d) the cost of collection, transport, storage and distribution of food donations and directly related awareness raising activities;

(e) the costs of accompanying measures undertaken by or on behalf of beneficiaries and declared by the beneficiaries delivering the food and/or basic material assistance to the most deprived persons at a flat- rate of ***5%*** of the costs referred to in point (a).

2. A reduction of the eligible costs referred to in point (a) of paragraph 1 because the body responsible for the purchase of food and/or basic material assistance did not comply with applicable law, shall not lead to a reduction of the eligible costs set out in points (c) and (e) of paragraph 1.

3. The following costs shall not be eligible:

shall be:

(a) the costs of purchasing food and/or basic material assistance, including costs related to transporting food and/or basic material assistance to the beneficiaries delivering the food and/or basic material assistance to the end recipients;

(b) where the transport of the food and/or basic material assistance to the beneficiaries distributing them to the end recipients is not covered by point (a), the costs borne by the purchasing body related to transporting food and/or basic material assistance to the storage depots and/or the beneficiaries and storage costs at a flat-rate of 1% of the costs referred to in point (a) or, in duly justified cases, costs actually incurred and paid;

(c) the administrative, transport and storage costs borne by the beneficiaries involved in the distribution of the food and/or basic material assistance to the most deprived at a flat-rate of 5% of the costs referred to in point (a); or 5% of the costs of the value of the food products disposed of in accordance with Article 16 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

(d) the cost of collection, transport, storage and distribution of food donations and directly related awareness raising activities;

(e) the costs of accompanying measures undertaken by or on behalf of beneficiaries and declared by the beneficiaries delivering the food and/or basic material assistance to the most deprived persons at a flat- rate of ***5,5%*** of the costs referred to in point (a).

2. A reduction of the eligible costs referred to in point (a) of paragraph 1 because the body responsible for the purchase of food and/or basic material assistance did not comply with applicable law, shall not lead to a reduction of the eligible costs set out in points (c) and (e) of paragraph 1.

3. The following costs shall not be eligible:

(a) interest on debt;	(a) interest on debt;
(b) ***provision*** of infrastructure;	(b) ***purchase*** of infrastructure;
(c) costs of second-hand goods.	(c) costs of second-hand goods ***of reduced quality***.

Amendment 107

Proposal for a regulation
Article 21

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 21	Article 21
Indicators and reporting	Indicators and reporting
1. Priorities addressing material deprivation shall use common output and result indicators, as set out in Annex II to this Regulation to monitor progress in implementation. These programmes may also use programme-specific indicators.	1. Priorities addressing material deprivation shall use common output and result indicators, as set out in Annex II to this Regulation to monitor progress in implementation. These programmes may also use programme-specific indicators.
2. The reference values for common and programme-specific result indicators shall be established.	2. The reference values for common and programme-specific result indicators shall be established. ***Reporting requirements shall be kept as simple as possible.***
3. By 30 June 2025 and 30 June 2028, Managing Authorities shall report to the Commission the results of a structured survey of the end recipients carried out during the previous year. This survey shall be based on the model which shall be established by the Commission by means of an implementing act.	3. By 30 June 2025 and 30 June 2028, Managing Authorities shall report to the Commission the results of a structured ***anonymous*** survey of the end recipients carried out during the previous year ***and also focusing on their living conditions and the nature of their material deprivation***. This survey shall be based on the model which shall be established by the Commission by means of an implementing act.
4. The Commission shall adopt an implementing act establishing the model to be used for the structured survey of end recipients in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 39(2) in order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Article.	4. The Commission shall adopt an implementing act establishing the model to be used for the structured survey of end recipients in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 39(2) in order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Article.

5. The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 38 to amend the indicators in Annex II where considered necessary to ensure effective assessment of progress in the implementation of programmes.	5. The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 38 to amend the indicators in Annex II where considered necessary to ensure effective assessment of progress in the implementation of programmes.

Amendment 108

Proposal for a regulation
Article 22 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Audit of operations may cover all stages of its implementation and all levels of the distribution chain, with the sole exception of control of the end recipients, unless a risk assessment establishes a specific risk of irregularity or fraud.	Audit of operations may cover all stages of its implementation and all levels of the distribution chain, with the sole exception of control of the end recipients, unless a risk assessment establishes a specific risk of irregularity or fraud. ***The audit of operations shall include more controls in the early stages of implementation so that in case of risk of fraud the funds may be re-directed to other projects.***

Amendment 109

Proposal for a regulation
Article 23

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 23	Article 23
Operational objectives	Operational objectives
The Employment and Social Innovation strand has the following operational objectives:	The Employment and Social Innovation strand has the following operational objectives:
a) to develop high-quality comparative analytical knowledge in order to ensure that policies to achieve the specific objectives referred to in Article 4 are based	a) to develop high-quality comparative analytical knowledge in order to ensure that policies to achieve the specific objectives referred to in Article 4 are based

on sound evidence and are relevant to needs, challenges and conditions in the associated countries;	on sound evidence and are relevant to needs, challenges and conditions in the associated countries;
b) to facilitate effective and inclusive information-sharing, mutual learning, peer reviews and dialogue on policies in the fields referred to in Article 4 in order to assist the associated countries in taking appropriate policy measures;	b) to facilitate effective and inclusive information-sharing, mutual learning, peer reviews and dialogue on policies in the fields referred to in Article 4 in order to assist the associated countries in taking appropriate policy measures;
c) to support social experimentations in the fields referred to in Article 4 and build up the stakeholders' capacity to implement, transfer or upscale the tested social policy innovations;	c) to support social experimentations in the fields referred to in Article 4 and build up the stakeholders' capacity to ***prepare, design and*** implement, transfer or upscale the tested social policy innovations ***with a special focus on promoting the scaling up of local projects developed by cities, local and regional authorities, social partners, civil society organisations and socio-economic actors in the field of reception and social inclusion and integration of third-country nationals***;
d) to provide specific support services to employers and job-seekers with a view to the development of integrated European labour markets, ranging from pre-recruitment preparation to post-placement assistance to fill vacancies in certain sectors, professions, countries, border regions or for particular groups (e.g. vulnerable ***people***);	d) to ***develop and*** provide specific support services to employers and job-seekers with a view to the development of integrated European labour markets, ranging from pre-recruitment preparation to post-placement assistance to fill vacancies in certain sectors, professions, countries, border regions or for particular groups (e.g. ***people in*** vulnerable ***situations***);
	(da) to support cross-border partnerships between public employment services, civil society and social partners to promote a cross-border labour market and cross-border mobility with adequate conditions;
	(db) to support the provision of EURES services for the recruitment and placing of workers in quality and sustainable employment through the clearance of job vacancies and applications, including through cross-border partnerships;
	dc) to facilitate the voluntary geographical mobility of workers with adequate social conditions and increase employment opportunities through the development of high-quality and inclusive labour markets in the Union, which are

	open and accessible to all, while respecting workers' rights throughout the Union;
e) to support the development of the market eco-system related to the provision of microfinance for micro-enterprises in start-up and development phases, in particular those that employ vulnerable ***people***;	e) to support the development of the market eco-system related to the provision of microfinance***, as well as its availability and accessibility*** for micro-enterprises ***social economy enterprises and vulnerable people*** in start-up and development phases, in particular those that employ ***people in*** vulnerable ***situations including disadvantage groups***;
f) to support networking at Union level and dialogue with and among relevant stakeholders in the fields referred to in Article 4 and contribute to build up the institutional capacity of ***these*** stakeholders, including the public employment services (PES), social security institutions, microfinance institutions and institutions providing finance to social enterprises and social economy;	f) to support networking at Union level and dialogue with and among relevant stakeholders in the fields referred to in Article 4 and contribute to build up the institutional capacity of ***involved*** stakeholders, including the public employment services (PES), social security institutions, ***civil society,*** microfinance institutions and institutions providing finance to social ***economy*** enterprises and social economy;
g) to support the development of social enterprises and the emergence of a social investment market, facilitating public and private interactions and the participation of foundations and philanthropic actors in that market;	g) to support the development of social ***economy*** enterprises and the emergence of a social investment market, facilitating public and private interactions and the participation of foundations and philanthropic actors in that market;
h) to provide guidance for the development of social infrastructure (including housing, child care and education and training, health care and long term care) needed for the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights;	h) to provide guidance for the development of social infrastructure (including housing, ***early childhood education and care, eldercare, accessibility requirements and transition from institutional to family and community-based care services including accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities,*** child care and education and training, health care and long term care) needed for the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights;
i) to support transnational cooperation to accelerate the transfer of, and to facilitate the scaling of, innovative solutions, in particular for the areas ***of*** employment, skills and social inclusion, across Europe.	i) to support transnational cooperation to accelerate the transfer of, and to facilitate the scaling of, innovative solutions, in particular for the areas ***combating poverty,*** employment, skills and social inclusion, across Europe.
j) to support the implementation of	j) to support the implementation of

relevant international social and labour standards in the context of harnessing globalisation and the external dimension of Union policies in the fields referred to in Article 4.	relevant international social and labour standards in the context of harnessing globalisation and the external dimension of Union policies in the fields referred to in Article 4.

Amendment 110

Proposal for a regulation
Article 23 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	Article 23a
	Thematic concentration and funding
	The part of the ESF+ financial envelope for the Employment and Social Innovation Strand referred to in Article 5(4)(a) shall be allocated over the whole period to the specific objectives set out in Article 4(2b) according to the following indicative percentages:
	(a) 55% to the specific objective 1;
	(b) 18% to the specific objective 2;
	(c) 18% to the specific objective 3.

Amendment 111

Proposal for a regulation
Article 24

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 24	Article 24
Eligible actions	Eligible actions
1. Only actions pursuing the objectives referred to in Article 3 and 4 shall be eligible for funding.	1. Only actions pursuing the objectives referred to in Article 3 and 4 shall be eligible for funding.
2. The Employment and Social	2. The Employment and Social

Innovation strand may support the following actions:

(a) Analytical activities, including in relation to third countries, in particular:

(i) surveys, studies, statistical data, methodologies, classifications, micro-simulations, indicators, support to European-level observatories and benchmarks;

(ii) social experimentations evaluating social innovations;

(iii) monitoring and assessment of the transposition and application of Union law;

(b) Policy implementation, in particular:

(i) cross-border partnerships and support services in cross-border regions;

(ii) an EU-wide labour targeted mobility scheme at Union level to fill job vacancies where labour market shortcomings have been identified;

(iii) support to microfinance and social enterprises, including through blending operations such as asymmetric risk sharing or reducing transaction costs, as well as support to the development of social infrastructure and skills;

(iv) support to transnational cooperation and partnership with a view to transferring and upscaling innovative solutions;

(c) Capacity building, in particular:

(i) of networks at Union level related to the fields referred to in Article 4(1);

(ii) of national contact points providing guidance, information and assistance related the implementation of the strand;

(iii) of participating countries administrations, social security institutions and employment services responsible for promoting labour mobility, of microfinance institutions and of institutions providing finance to social enterprises or other social investment actors, as well as networking;

(iv) of stakeholders in view of

Innovation strand may support the following actions:

(a) Analytical activities, including in relation to third countries, in particular:

(i) surveys, studies, statistical data, methodologies, classifications, micro-simulations, indicators, support to European-level observatories and benchmarks;

(ii) social experimentations evaluating social innovations;

(iii) monitoring and assessment of the transposition and application of Union law;

(b) Policy implementation, in particular:

(i) cross-border partnerships and support services in cross-border regions;

(ii) an EU-wide labour targeted mobility scheme at Union level to fill job vacancies where labour market shortcomings have been identified;

(iii) support to microfinance and social ***economy*** enterprises, including through blending operations such as asymmetric risk sharing or reducing transaction costs, as well as support to the development of social infrastructure and skills;

(iv) support to transnational cooperation and partnership with a view to transferring and upscaling innovative solutions;

(c) Capacity building, in particular:

(i) of networks at Union level related to the fields referred to in Article 4(1);

(ii) of national contact points providing guidance, information and assistance related the implementation of the strand;

(iii) of participating countries administrations, social security institutions and employment services responsible for promoting labour mobility, of microfinance institutions and of institutions providing finance to social ***economy*** enterprises or other social investment actors, as well as networking;

(iv) of ***the social partners and***

transnational cooperation;	stakeholders in view of transnational cooperation;
(d) Communication and dissemination activities, in particular:	(d) Communication and dissemination activities, in particular:
(i) mutual learning through exchange of good practices, innovative approaches, results of analytical activities, peer reviews, and benchmarking;	(i) mutual learning through exchange of good practices, innovative approaches, results of analytical activities, peer reviews, and benchmarking;
(ii) guides, reports, informative material and media coverage of initiatives related to the fields referred to in Article 4(1);	(ii) guides, reports, informative material and media coverage of initiatives related to the fields referred to in Article 4(1);
(iii) information systems disseminating evidence related to the fields referred to in Article 4(1);	(iii) information systems disseminating evidence related to the fields referred to in Article 4(1);
(iv) ***Council Presidency events, conferences and seminars.***	(iv) ***technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the work programme, such as preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities including information technology systems.***

Amendment 112

Proposal for a regulation
Article 25 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(b) Any legal entity created under Union law or ***any*** international organisation.	(b) Any legal entity created under Union law or ***relevant*** international organisation;

Amendment 113

Proposal for a regulation
Article 25 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	Article 25a
	Governance

	1. The Commission shall consult stakeholders within the Union, in particular social partners and civil society organisations, on the employment and social innovation work programmes, their priorities and strategic orientation and their implementation.
	2. The Commission shall establish the necessary links with the Employment Committee, the Social Protection Committee, the Advisory Committee on Health and Safety at Work, the Group of Directors-General for Industrial Relations and the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement of Workers in order to ensure that they are regularly and appropriately informed of progress in implementing these programmes. The Commission shall also inform other committees dealing with policies, instruments and actions of relevance to the Employment and Social innovation Strand.

Amendment 114

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point –a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(-a) Support a Union public health strategy aiming to:
	(i) support Member States in their efforts to protect and enhance public health; and
	(ii) advance the Union's mission in health in accordance with Article 168 TFEU, which stipulates that a high level of human health protection shall be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Union policies and activities.

Amendment 115

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point a – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(a) Strengthen crisis-preparedness, management and response in the Union to ***protect citizens against*** cross-border health threats**.**	(a) Strengthen crisis-preparedness, management and response in the Union to ***address*** cross-border health threats

Amendment 116

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point a – point iv a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(iva) Well-designed public health interventions for reducing the burden and impact of infection and preventable infectious diseases

Amendment 117

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point a – point iv b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(ivb) Support the development of skills and tools for effective risk communication

Amendment 118

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point b – point i

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(i) Invest in health promotion and disease prevention.	(i) Invest in health promotion and disease prevention***, including through health literacy and education programmes, and through the promotion of physical activity***

Amendment 119

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point b – point i a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(ia) Invest in early diagnosis and screening

Amendment 120

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point b – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(ii) Support the digital transformation of health and care	(ii) Support the digital transformation of health and care ***that address the needs and concerns of patients and citizens, in particular by establishing links to programmes that support media literacy and digital skills***

Amendment 121

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point b – point ii a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(iia) Promote digital public services in areas such as health

Amendment 122

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point b – point ii b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(iib) Strengthen the security and quality of health information

Amendment 123

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point b – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(ii) Support the development of a sustainable Union health information system	(ii) Support the development of a sustainable***, transparent and accessible*** Union health information system***, whilst ensuring protection of private data***.

(In the COM proposal the numbering of the points in Article 26, point b is not correct, there are two points numbered as (ii))

Amendment 124

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point b – point iii

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(iii) Support Member States with knowledge transfer useful for the national reform processes for more effective, accessible ***and*** resilient health systems and better health promotion and disease prevention addressing, in particular, the challenges identified in the European Semester.	(iii) Support Member States with knowledge transfer ***and implementation support*** useful for the national reform processes for more effective, accessible***,*** resilient***, non-discriminatory, inclusive and equitable*** health systems ***tackling social inequalities,*** and better health promotion and disease prevention addressing, in particular, the challenges identified in the European Semester***. This also includes supporting high-quality national registries that shall also deliver comparable data.***

Amendment 125

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point b – point iv a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(iva) Support the transition towards person-centred care, proximity health and social services, and community-based integrated care, in particular promoting organizational models based on interprofessional teamwork and multi-stakeholders networking

Amendment 126

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point b – point iv b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(ivb) Ensure the engagement of all relevant stakeholders in the above actions, at Union and/or national level as

appropriate

Amendment 127

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point b – point iv c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(ivc) Develop and implement tools and strategies to prevent and tackle health inequalities and to promote social inclusion, citizen empowerment and community participation

Amendment 128

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point c – point i

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(i) support the implementation of the legislation on medicinal products and medical devices	(i) Support the implementation of the legislation on medicinal products***, access to such products throughout the Union*** and medical devices

Amendment 129

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point c – point vi

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(vi) Support ***to the Commission' scientific committees on "Consumer Safety" and on "***Health***, Environmental and Emerging Risks"***	(vi) Support ***the development of Health in All Policies and establish processes by which*** health ***implications can be considered and taken into account in all policies***

Amendment 130

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(ca) Support the monitoring of, implementation of, and strengthen, other Union law and policies with health implications so as to help ensure a high level of protection of human health, including but not limited to those relating to:
	(i) air pollution
	(ii) endocrine disruptors and other chemicals with harmful properties
	(iii) pesticide residues in food, water and air
	(iv) food and food labelling, including on transfatty acids, alcohol labelling, additives and food contact materials

Justification

The addition of the need to strengthen and implement other Union legislation with health implications is a natural consequence of Article 168 TFEU which stipulates that 'a high level of human health shall be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Union policies and activities'

Amendment 131

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point d – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(ii) Support the development of cooperation on Health Technology Assessment (HTA) in preparation of new harmonised rules	(ii) Support the development of cooperation on ***and capacity-building in*** Health Technology Assessment (HTA) in preparation of new harmonised rules

Amendment 132

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point d – point iii a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(iiia) Support the implementation of programmes and best practices on sexual and reproductive health education and campaigns for young people

Amendment 133

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point d – point iii b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(iiib) Support Union-level civil society organisations working on health and health related issues

Amendment 134

Proposal for a regulation
Article 26 – paragraph 2 – point d – point iii c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(iiic) Support the creation of a Steering Board for Health for implementing the actions under the Health strand

Amendment 135

Proposal for a regulation
Article 27 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
1. Only actions pursuing the objectives referred to in Articles 3 and 26 are eligible for funding.	1. Only actions ***related to health*** pursuing the objectives referred to in Articles 3***, 4*** and 26 are eligible for funding.

Amendment 136

Proposal for a regulation
Article 27 – paragraph 2 – point a – point i a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(ia) activities designed to monitor the cumulative health impacts of environmental risk factors, including those arising from contaminants in food, water, air and other sources;

Amendment 137

Proposal for a regulation
Article 27 – paragraph 2 – point a – point i b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(ib) activities monitoring the health impacts of Union law, such as pharmacovigilance and similar;

Amendment 138

Proposal for a regulation
Article 27 – paragraph 2 – point a – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	The results of analytical activities, once finalised, shall be made publicly available.

Amendment 139

Proposal for a regulation
Article 27 – paragraph 2 – point b – point i

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(i) cross-border collaboration and partnerships, including in cross-border regions;	(i) cross-border collaboration and partnerships, including in cross-border regions ***and including in relation to air pollution and other cross-border environmental contamination***;

Amendment 140

Proposal for a regulation
Article 27 – paragraph 2 – point c – point i

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(i) through transfer, adaptation and roll-out of best practices with established Union level added value between Member States;	(i) through ***exchange,*** transfer, adaptation and roll-out of best practices with established Union level added value between Member States;

Amendment 141

Proposal for a regulation
Article 27 – paragraph 2 – point c – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*

(ii) of EU-level networks related to the fields referred to in Article 26;	(ii) of EU-level networks related to the fields referred to in Article 26***, in a continuous and sustainable way, ensuring the presence of an active civil society at Union level***;

Justification

Umbrella NGOs with pan-European networks of grassroots members are important contributors to the European project, strengthening the links between the EU and civil society, and among different European civil society groups. These European NGOs represent a unique European value which should be recognised. The EU budget shall help to grow civil society around Europe and contribute to a thriving civil society in the EU.

Amendment 142

Proposal for a regulation
Article 27 – paragraph 2 – point c – point iv

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(iv) of national contact points providing guidance, information and assistance related the implementation of the programme;	(iv) of ***regional, subnational and*** national contact points providing guidance, information and assistance related the implementation of the programme;

Amendment 143

Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
The Commission shall consult the health authorities of the Member States in the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases or in other relevant Commission expert group or similar entities on the work plans established for the Health strand and its priorities and strategic orientations and its implementation, and also on the health	The Commission shall consult the health authorities of the Member States in the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases or in other relevant Commission expert group or similar entities ***such as professional bodies in the health sector,*** on the ***annual*** work plans established for the Health strand and its priorities and strategic orientations and

policy perspective of other policies and support mechanisms, thus increasing their overall coordination and added value.	its implementation, and also on the health policy perspective of other policies and support mechanisms, thus increasing their overall coordination and added value. ***Strong political leadership and adequate governance structure dedicated to health will ensure that health protection and promotion is guaranteed across all Commission portfolios, according to Article 168(1) TFEU.***

Amendment 144

Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	Article 29a
	Steering Board for Health
	1. The Commission shall establish a Steering Board for Health ('the Steering Board') for implementing the actions under the Health strand.
	2. The Steering Board shall focus on creating synergies between the Health strand and other programmes where a health dimension is integrated, through coordination and cooperation, promoting patients and society engagement, and providing scientific advice and recommendations. Those actions shall provide value oriented health actions, sustainability, better health solutions, foster access and reduce health inequalities.
	3. The Steering Board shall provide a comprehensive strategy and steering in developing the work plans under the Health strand.
	4. The Steering Board shall be an independent stakeholder group, composed of actors from relevant sectors in the field of public health, wellbeing and social

protection, with participation of representatives of regions and local health authorities, patient representatives and citizens.

5. The Steering Board shall be composed of 15 to 20 high level individuals drawn from across disciplines and activities referred to in paragraph 4. The members of the Steering Board shall be appointed by the Commission, following an open call for nominations or for expression of interests or both.

6. The Chair of the Steering Board shall be appointed by the Commission from among its members.

7. The Steering Board shall:

(i) provide input to annual work plans for the Health strand, following a proposal from the Commission;

(ii) elaborate a blueprint for steering coordination and cooperation between the Health strand and other programmes where health dimension is integrated.

The blueprint shall facilitate ensuring visibility and coordination of all the existing financial mechanisms relevant to health, and shall help steering coordination and cooperation.

Amendment 145

Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	Article 29b
	International cooperation
	The Commission shall develop cooperation with relevant international organisations such as the United Nations

and its specialised agencies, in particular the World Health Organisation (WHO), as well as with the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to implement the Health strand, in order to maximise the effectiveness and efficiency of actions at Union and international level.

Amendment 146

Proposal for a regulation
Article 31

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 31	Article 31
Forms of EU funding and methods of implementation	Forms of EU funding and methods of implementation
1. The Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands may provide funding in any of the forms laid down in the Financial Regulation, in particular grants, prizes, procurement and voluntary payments to International Organisations of which the Union is a member or in whose work it participates.	1. The Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands may provide funding in any of the forms laid down in the Financial Regulation, in particular grants, prizes, procurement***, contributions,*** and voluntary payments to International Organisations of which the Union is a member or in whose work it participates.
2. The Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands shall be implemented directly as provided for by the Financial Regulation or indirectly with bodies referred to in Article [61(1)(c)] of the Financial Regulation.	2. The Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands shall be implemented directly as provided for by the Financial Regulation or indirectly with bodies referred to in Article [61(1)(c)] of the Financial Regulation.
When awarding grants, the evaluation committee referred to in article [150] of the Financial Regulation may be composed of external experts.	When awarding grants, the evaluation committee referred to in article [150] of the Financial Regulation may be composed of external experts.
3. Blending operations under the Employment and Social Innovation strand shall be implemented in accordance with the [InvestEU regulation] and Title X of the Financial Regulation.	3. Blending operations under the Employment and Social Innovation strand shall be implemented in accordance with the [InvestEU regulation] and Title X of the Financial Regulation.
4. Under the Health strand, direct grants	4. Under the Health strand, direct grants

may be awarded without a call for proposals to fund actions having a clear Union added value co-financed by the competent authorities that are responsible for health in the Member States or in the third countries associated to the Programme, or by public sector bodies and non-governmental bodies, acting individually or as a network, mandated by those competent authorities.	may be awarded without a call for proposals to fund actions having a clear Union added value co-financed by the competent authorities that are responsible for health in the Member States or in the third countries associated to the Programme, or by public sector bodies and non-governmental bodies, acting individually or as a network, mandated by those competent authorities.
5. Under the Health strand, direct grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to European Reference Networks that are approved as Networks by the Board of Member States of the European Reference Networks, following the approval procedure set out in Commission Implementing Decision 2014/287/EU of 10 March 2014 setting out criteria for establishing and evaluating European Reference Networks and their Members and for facilitating the exchange of information and expertise on establishing and evaluating such Networks.	5. Under the Health strand, direct grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to European Reference Networks that are approved as Networks by the Board of Member States of the European Reference Networks, following the approval procedure set out in Commission Implementing Decision 2014/287/EU of 10 March 2014 setting out criteria for establishing and evaluating European Reference Networks and their Members and for facilitating the exchange of information and expertise on establishing and evaluating such Networks.

Amendment 147

Proposal for a regulation
Article 32

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 32	Article 32
Work programme and coordination	Work programme and coordination
The ***Employment and Social Innovation strand and Health strand*** shall ***be implemented by*** work programmes referred to in Article [108] of Financial Regulation. ***Work*** programmes shall set out, where applicable, the overall amount reserved for blending operations.	The ***Commission*** shall ***adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 38 in order to supplement the Employment and Social Innovation strand and the Health strand by establishing*** work programmes ***as*** referred to in Article [108] of Financial Regulation. ***Those work*** programmes shall set out, where applicable, the overall amount reserved for blending operations.
The Commission shall foster synergies and ensure effective coordination between the	The Commission shall foster synergies and ensure effective coordination between the

Health strand of ESF+ and the Reform Support Programme, including the Reform Delivery Tool and the Technical Support Instrument.	Health strand of ESF+ and the Reform Support Programme, including the Reform Delivery Tool and the Technical Support Instrument.

Amendment 148

Proposal for a regulation
Article 33

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 33	Article 33
Monitoring and reporting	Monitoring and reporting
1. Indicators to monitor implementation and progress of the strands towards the achievement of the specific objectives set out in Article 4 and the operational objectives set out in Articles 23 and 26 shall be set.	1. Indicators to monitor implementation and progress of the strands towards the achievement of the specific objectives set out in Article 4 and the operational objectives set out in Articles 23 and 26 shall be set.
2. The performance reporting system shall ensure that data for monitoring implementation of the strands and results are collected efficiently, effectively and in a timely fashion. To that end, proportionate reporting requirements shall be imposed on recipients of Union funds and, where relevant, Member States.	2. The performance reporting system shall ensure that data for monitoring implementation of the strands and results are collected efficiently, effectively and in a timely fashion. To that end, proportionate reporting requirements shall be imposed on recipients of Union funds and, where relevant, Member States.
3. The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 38 to supplement or amend the indicators in ***Annex*** III where considered necessary to ensure effective assessment of progress in the implementation of the strands.	3. The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 38 to supplement or amend the indicators in ***Annexes II b and*** III where considered necessary to ensure effective assessment of progress in the implementation of the strands.
	3a. With a view to regular monitoring of the strands and to making any adjustments needed to their policy and funding priorities, the Commission shall draw up an initial qualitative and quantitative monitoring report covering the first year, followed by three reports covering consecutive two-year periods and shall submit those reports to the

European Parliament and the Council. The reports shall also be submitted, for information, to the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. The reports shall include the results of the strands and the extent to which the principles of equality between women and men and gender mainstreaming have been applied, as well as how anti-discrimination considerations, including accessibility issues, have been addressed through their activities. The reports shall be made available to the public in order to enhance the transparency of the strands.

Amendment 149

Proposal for a regulation
Article 35

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 35	Article 35
Evaluation	Evaluation
1. Evaluations shall be carried out in a sufficiently timely manner to feed into the decision-making process.	1. Evaluations shall be carried out in a sufficiently timely manner to feed into the decision-making process.
2. ***The interim*** evaluation of the strands ***may be performed once there is sufficient information available about their implementation, but not later than four years after the start of the implementation of the strands.***	2. ***By 31 December 2024, the Commission shall carry out a mid-term*** evaluation of the strands ***in order to:***
	(a) measure, on a qualitative and quantitative basis, progress made in meeting the objectives of the strand;
	(b) address the social environment within the Union and any major changes introduced by Union law;
	(c) determine whether the resources of the strands have been used efficiently and to assess its Union added value.

	The results of that mid-term evaluation shall be presented to the European Parliament and to the Council.
3. At the end of the implementation period, but no later than four years after the end of the period specified in Article 5, a final evaluation of the strands shall be carried out by the Commission.	3. At the end of the implementation period, but no later than four years after the end of the period specified in Article 5, a final evaluation of the strands shall be carried out by the Commission.
4. The Commission shall communicate the conclusions of the evaluations accompanied by its observations, to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.	4. The Commission shall communicate the conclusions of the evaluations accompanied by its observations, to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.

Amendment 150

Proposal for a regulation
Article 37

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 37	Article 37
Information, communication and publicity	Information, communication and publicity
1. The recipients of Union funding shall acknowledge the origin and ensure the visibility of the Union funding (in particular when promoting the actions and their results), by providing coherent, effective and targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media and the public.	1. The recipients of Union funding shall acknowledge the origin and ensure the visibility of the Union funding (in particular when promoting the actions and their results), by providing coherent, effective and targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media and the public.
2. The Commission shall implement information and communication actions relating to the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands, and their actions and results. Financial resources allocated to the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands shall also contribute to the ***corporate*** communication of the political priorities of the Union, as far as they are related to the objectives referred to in Articles 4, 23 and 26.	2. The Commission shall implement information and communication actions relating to the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands, and their actions and results. Financial resources allocated to the Employment and Social Innovation and Health strands shall also contribute to the communication of the political priorities of the Union, as far as they are related to the objectives referred to in Articles 4, 23 and 26.

Amendment 151

Proposal for a regulation
Article 38

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 38	Article 38
Exercise of the delegation	Exercise of the delegation
1. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in this Article.	1. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in this Article.
2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Article 15(6), Article 21(5) and Article 33(3) shall be conferred on the Commission for an indeterminate period of time from date of entry into force of this Regulation.	2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Article 15(6), Article 21(5)***, Article 32*** and Article 33(3) shall be conferred on the Commission for an indeterminate period of time from date of entry into force of this Regulation.
3. The delegation of power referred to in Article 15(6), Article 21(5) and Article 33(3)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.	3. The delegation of power referred to in Article 15(6), Article 21(5)***, Article 32*** and Article 33(3)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.
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 on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016[28] .	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 on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016[28] .
5. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.	5. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.
6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 15(6), Article 21(5) and Article 33(3) 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	6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 15(6), Article 21(5)***, Article 32*** and Article 33(3) 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.

[28] OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 13.

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.

[28] OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 13.

Amendment 152

Proposal for a regulation
Article 40

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
Article 40	Article 40
Committee under Article 163 TFEU	Committee under Article 163 TFEU
1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Committee set up under Article 163 TFEU (the 'ESF+ Committee').	1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Committee set up under Article 163 TFEU (the 'ESF+ Committee').
2. Each Member State shall appoint one government representative, one representative of the workers' organisations, one representative of the employers' organisations and one alternate for each member for a maximum period of seven years. In the absence of a member, the alternate shall be automatically entitled to take part in the proceedings.	2. Each Member State shall appoint one government representative, one representative of the workers' organisations, one representative of the employers' organisations, ***one representative of civil society, one representative of the equality bodies or other independent human rights institutions in accordance with point (c) of Article 6(1) of [the future CPR]*** and one alternate for each member for a maximum period of seven years. In the absence of a member, the alternate shall be automatically entitled to take part in the proceedings.
3. The ESF+ Committee shall include one representative from each of the organisations representing workers' organisations ***and*** employers' organisations at Union level.	3. The ESF+ Committee shall include one representative from each of the organisations representing workers' organisations, employers' organisations ***and civil society organisations*** at Union level.

	3a. The ESF+ Committee may invite representatives of the European Investment Bank and the European Investment Fund.
	3b. Gender balance and appropriate representation of minority and other excluded groups in the ESF+ Committee shall be safeguarded.
4. The ESF+ Committee shall be consulted on the planned use of technical assistance in the case of support from the ESF+ strand under shared management, as well as on other issues having an impact on the implementation of strategies at Union level relevant to the ESF+;	4. The ESF+ Committee shall be consulted on the planned use of technical assistance in the case of support from the ESF+ strand under shared management, as well as on other issues having an impact on the implementation of strategies at Union level relevant to the ESF+;
5. The ESF+ Committee may deliver opinions on:	5. The ESF+ Committee may deliver opinions on:
(a) questions related to the ESF+ contribution to the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, including country-specific recommendations and semester-related priorities (national reform programmes, etc.);	(a) questions related to the ESF+ contribution to the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, including country-specific recommendations and semester-related priorities (national reform programmes, etc.);
(b) issues concerning the [future CPR] relevant for the ESF+;	(b) issues concerning the [future CPR] relevant for the ESF+;
(c) questions related to the ESF+ referred to it by the Commission other than those referred to in paragraph 4.	(c) questions related to the ESF+ referred to it by the Commission other than those referred to in paragraph 4.
The opinions of the ESF+ Committee shall be adopted by an absolute majority of the votes validly cast, and shall be communicated to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, for information. The Commission shall inform the ESF+ Committee of the manner in which it has taken account of its opinions.	The opinions of the ESF+ Committee shall be adopted by an absolute majority of the votes validly cast, and shall be communicated to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, for information. The Commission shall inform the ESF+ Committee ***in writing*** of the manner in which it has taken account of its opinions.
6. The ESF+ Committee may set up working groups for each of the strands of the ESF+.	6. The ESF+ Committee may set up working groups for each of the strands of the ESF+.

Amendment 153

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
ANNEX I[1]	ANNEX I[1]
Common indicators for the general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management	Common indicators for the general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management
All personal data are to be broken down by gender (female, male, 'non binary'). If certain results are not ***possible***, data for those results do not have to be collected and reported.	All personal data are to be broken down by gender (female, male, 'non binary'). If certain results are not ***available***, data for those results do not have to be collected and reported. ***Sensitive personal data can be surveyed anonymously.***
(1) Common output indicators related to operations targeting people:	(1) Common output indicators related to operations targeting people:
(1a) Common output indicators for participants	(1a) Common output indicators for participants
– The common output indicators for participants are:	– The common output indicators for participants are:
– unemployed, including long-term unemployed*,	– unemployed, including long-term unemployed*,
– long-term unemployed*,	– long-term unemployed*,
– inactive*,	– inactive*,
– employed, including self-employed*,	– employed, including self-employed*,
	– ***not in education or training (NEET)*,***
– below ***30*** years of age *,	– ***children*** below ***18*** years of age *,
	– ***young people between 18-29 years of age *,***
– above 54 years of age*,	– above 54 years of age*,
– with lower secondary education or less (ISCED 0-2)*,	– with lower secondary education or less (ISCED 0-2)*,
– with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)*,	– with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)*,
– with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)*.	– with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)*.
The total number of participants is to be calculated automatically on the basis of the	The total number of participants is to be calculated automatically on the basis of the

common output indicators relating to employment status.	common output indicators relating to employment status.
(1b) Other common output indicators	(1b) Other common output indicators
If data for these indicators is not collected from data registers, values on these indicators can be determined based on informed estimates by the beneficiary.	If data for these indicators is not collected from data registers, values on these indicators can be determined based on informed estimates by the beneficiary. ***Data is always provided by participants on a voluntary basis.***
– participants with disabilities**,	– participants with disabilities**,
	– ***participants below 18 years of age*,***
– third country nationals*,	– third country nationals*,
– participants with a foreign background*,	– participants with a foreign background*,
– minorities (***including marginalised communities such as the*** Roma)**,	– minorities (***other than from the*** Roma ***community***)**,
	– ***participants from the Roma community*****
– homeless or affected by housing exclusion*,	– homeless or affected by housing exclusion*,
– participants from rural areas***.**	– participants from rural areas*
	– ***participants from geographical areas with high levels of poverty and social exclusion*,***
	– ***participants transitioning from institutional to family and community based care*****.
(2) Common output indicators for entities are:	(2) Common output indicators for entities are:
– number of supported public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level,	– number of supported public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level,
– number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, social enterprises).	– number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, social enterprises).
(3) The common immediate result indicators for participants are:	(3) The common immediate result indicators for participants are:
– participants engaged in job searching upon leaving*,	– participants engaged in job searching upon leaving*,
– participants in education or training upon leaving*,	– participants in education or training upon leaving*,
– participants gaining a qualification	– participants gaining a qualification

upon leaving*,	upon leaving*,
– participants gaining a qualification upon leaving*,	– participants gaining a qualification upon leaving*,
(4) Common longer-term result indicators for participants:	(4) Common longer-term result indicators for participants:
– participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving*,	– participants in employment, including self-employment, six ***and twelve*** months after leaving*,
– participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving*,	– participants with an improved labour market situation six ***and twelve*** months after leaving*,
As a minimum requirement, these data are to be collected based on a representative sample of participants within each specific objective. Internal validity of the sample is to be ensured in such a way that the data can be generalised at the level of the specific objective.	As a minimum requirement, these data are to be collected based on a representative sample of participants within each specific objective. Internal validity of the sample is to be ensured in such a way that the data can be generalised at the level of the specific objective.
[1] Data reported under the indicators marked with * are personal data according to Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/679.	[1] Data reported under the indicators marked with * are personal data according to Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/679.
Data reported under the indicators marked with ** are a special category of data according to Article 9 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679.	Data reported under the indicators marked with ** are a special category of data according to Article 9 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679.

Amendment 154

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
ANNEX II	ANNEX II
Common indicators for ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation	Common indicators for ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation
(1) Output indicators	(1) Output indicators
(a) Total monetary value of distributed food and goods.	(a) Total monetary value of distributed food and goods.
(i) total value of the food support;	(i) total value of the food support;

(ia) total monetary value of food for children;	(ia) total monetary value of food for children;
(ib) total monetary value of food for the homeless;	(ib) total monetary value of food for the homeless;
(ic) total monetary value of food for other target groups.	(ic) total monetary value of food for other target groups.
(ii) total value of goods distributed	(ii) total value of goods distributed
(iia) total monetary value of goods for children;	(iia) total monetary value of goods for children;
(iib) total monetary value of goods for the homeless;	(iib) total monetary value of goods for the homeless;
(iic) total monetary value of goods for other target groups.	(iic) total monetary value of goods for other target groups.
(b) Total quantity of food support distributed (tons).	(b) Total quantity of food support distributed (tons).
Thereof[2]:	Thereof[2]:
(a) share of food for which only transport, distribution and storage were paid for by the programme (in %);	(a) share of food for which only transport, distribution and storage were paid for by the programme (in %);
(b) proportion of the ESF+ co-financed food products in the total volume of food distributed the beneficiaries (in %)	(b) proportion of the ESF+ co-financed food products in the total volume of food distributed the beneficiaries (in %)
(3) Common result indicators[3]	(3) Common result indicators[3]
Number of the end recipients receiving food support	Number of the end recipients receiving food support
– Number of children below 18 years of age	– Number of children below 18 years of age,
– Number of youths aged 18-29 years;	– Number of youths aged 18-29 years,
– Number of end recipients above 54 years of age,	– Number of end recipients above 54 years of age,
– Number of end recipients with disabilities,	– Number of end recipients with disabilities,
– Number of third country nationals;	– Number of third country nationals
– Number of end recipients with a foreign background and minorities (***including marginalised communities such as the*** Roma),	– Number of end recipients with a foreign background and minorities (***other than from the*** Roma ***community***),
	– ***participants from the Roma community,***
– Number of homeless end recipients or end-recipients affected by housing	– Number of homeless end recipients or end-recipients affected by housing

exclusion.	exclusion.
Number of the end recipients receiving material support	Number of the end recipients receiving material support
– Number of children below 18 years of age,	– Number of children below 18 years of age,
– Number of youths aged 18-29 years,	– Number of youths aged 18-29 years,
– Number of end recipients above 54 years of age,	– Number of end recipients above 54 years of age,
– Number of end recipients with disabilities,	– Number of end recipients with disabilities,
– Number of third country nationals,	– Number of third country nationals,
– Number of end recipients with a foreign background and minorities (***including marginalised communities such as the*** Roma),	– Number of end recipients with a foreign background and minorities (***other than from the*** Roma ***community***),
	– ***participants from the Roma community,***
– Number of homeless end recipient or end recipients affected by housing exclusion	– Number of homeless end recipient or end recipients affected by housing exclusion
[2] Values on these indicators shall be determined based on the informed estimation by the beneficiaries	[2] Values on these indicators shall be determined based on the informed estimation by the beneficiaries
[3] Ibid	[3] Ibid

Amendment 155

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	ANNEX IIa
	Common indicators for ESF+ support for promoting social inclusion for the most deprived people
	Output indicators
	(1) Total number of people who receive help towards social inclusion.

Of which:

(a) number of children aged 15 or younger;

(b) number of persons aged 65 or older;

(c) number of women;

(d) number of people with a foreign background and minorities (other than from the Roma community);

(e) participants from the Roma community;

(f) number of homeless people.

Amendment 156

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	ANNEX IIb
	Indicators for the Employment and Social Innovation Strand
	1. Level of declared gain of better understanding of Union policies and legislation
	(1) Number of analytical activities,
	(2) Number of mutual learning, awareness and dissemination activities,
	(3) Support for main actors
	2. Level of active collaboration and partnership between government institutions of the Union, Member States and associated countries
	(1) Number of analytical activities,
	(2) Number of mutual learning, awareness and dissemination activities,
	(3) Support for main actors
	3. Declared use of social policy innovation in the implementation of social CSRs and the results of social policy

experimentation for policy making

(1) Number of analytical activities,

(2) Number of mutual learning, awareness and dissemination activities,

(3) Support for main actors

4. Number of visits of the EURES platform

5. Number of youth job placements achieved or supported under the Preparatory Action Your First EURES Job (YfEJ) as well as under Targeted Mobility Schemes

6. Number of individual personal contacts of EURES advisers with jobseekers, job changers and employers

7. Number of businesses created or consolidated that have benefitted from Union support

8. Proportion of beneficiaries that have created or further developed a business with Union microfinance that are unemployed or belonging to disadvantaged groups

Amendment 157

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – point 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
2. Number of ***health technology joint clinical assessments***	2. Number of ***beneficiaries (professionals, citizens, patients) affected by the results of the programme***

Justification

Considering the peculiarities and the wide range of projects of the health strand, we suggest to include other indicators such as the number of beneficiaries (professionals, citizens, patients) affected by the results of the programme.

Amendment 158

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – point 3

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
3. Number of ***best practices transferred***	3. Number of ***health technology joint clinical assessments***

Amendment 159

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – point 4

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
4. ***Degree of use of the results of the programme in national health policy as measured by a "before and after" questionnaire***	4. ***Number of best practices transferred***

Amendment 160

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – point 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	4a. Degree of use of the results of the programme in regional and national health policies or tools as measured by validated methods