



Text proposed by the Commission	Amendment	Justification
<p>Recital 18</p> <p>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 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.</p> <p>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.;</p>	<p>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, persons with disabilities, homeless persons 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.</p> <p>Projects that promote active inclusion integrated approaches based on the three pillars of access to services, income support and inclusive labour markets should be encouraged. Synergies between ESF+ funded measures and income support, in the form of minimum income or social benefits which are of national competence and therefore not an eligible expenditure under ESF+, should be fostered to amplify impact on final beneficiaries.</p>	<p>Despite the need to mainstream disability issues across EU policies, there is still a need to clearly identify and tackle the sources of disadvantage and so that policy measures can effectively take into considerations the specificities of persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Active inclusion measures are based on three pillars: access to services, income support and inclusive labour markets. Income support is not an eligible expenditure in the frame of ESF and ESF+ and it is of national competence. This might have contributed to the fact that in the current programming period active inclusion measures funded by the ESF have been mainly limited to mere activation into the labour market. In the future, synergies between active inclusion projects funded by ESF+ and income support, which falls under national competence, should be developed to amplify impact on the lives of final beneficiaries.</p>

	<p>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 and coverage;</p>	<p>Social and health protection systems need to be accessible but also afford adequate coverage, ensuring the possibility to live in dignity and mitigate social risks.</p> <p>In addition, universal health coverage, in line with European Pillar of Social Rights principle 16 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG3) is critically linked to the achievement of health and wellbeing, reducing inequalities and eliminating poverty.</p>
<p>Recital 21</p> <p>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</p>	<p>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, as well as the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals. 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,</p>	<p>The proclamation of the European Pillar of Social Rights on 17 November 2017 by all EU Member States and institutions represents a decisive step towards a more Social Europe. Its 20 principles provide an important basis to improve the wellbeing of people and vulnerable groups in particular. In addition, the commitment of the EU to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (see Council Conclusions June 2017) should be taken on board and better mainstreamed in EU funding mechanisms (see also recommendations of the multi-stakeholder platform on implementing the SDGs through the MFF).</p>

<p>process, effective coordination in order to safeguard the consistency, coherence, complementarity and synergy among sources of funding, including technical assistance thereof.</p>	<p>complementarity and synergy among sources of funding, including technical assistance thereof.</p>	
<p>Recital 22</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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 30% of their national ESF+ resources of the ESF+ strand under shared management to fostering social inclusion and fighting poverty.</p> <p>Note: see further corresponding amendment to Article 7 (3)</p>	<p>Different forms of inequality across the EU and Member States are rising or have stagnated over the past years. The poverty reduction target of the Europe2020 Strategy has seen the least progress compared to all other targets. 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 allocated to foster the social inclusion of all disadvantaged groups while also ensuring active inclusion of third country nationals in society, Member States should allocate at least 30% to tackling poverty and social exclusion</p>
<p>Recital 28</p> <p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>References to the obligation to implement accessibility to persons with disabilities, in line with the UN CRPD, are included in recital 19 of the current ESF regulation. Accessibility is not limited to infrastructure, it concerns services, procedures and goods. Many services are funded by ESF and will continue to be funded by ESF+. Accessibility is one of the essential prerequisites to ensure equal opportunities for</p>

<p>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.</p>	<p>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 with regard inter alia to education, work, employment and accessibility for persons with disabilities.</p>	<p>all.</p>
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Part I - General provisions

<p>Art 3</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>The ESF+ aims to support Member States to achieve high levels of employment, job creation and job quality, quality and inclusive education and training, equal opportunities for all, as well as to enhance social inclusion, combat poverty and provide fair social protection, a skilled and resilient workforce ready for the future world of work, in line with the principles and rights set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights proclaimed by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on 17 November 2017.</p>	<p>To align ESF+ with the scope of the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR), it is necessary to add in the general objectives of ESF+ some wording from article 2 “Missions” of the current ESF regulation, as well as to better reflect the three strands of the European Pillar of Social Rights: equal opportunities and access to the labour market, fair working conditions, and social protection and inclusion.</p>
<p>Art 2 (13)</p> <p>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</p>		<p>The current Article leaves the definition of most deprived persons completely to national authorities. This bears the risk of overlooking the most vulnerable. It would be beneficial in terms of consistency (including with enabling conditions under the proposal for Common Provision Regulations which require social inclusion and poverty reduction strategies to</p>

<p>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;</p>		<p>be in place) to provide guidelines how to define most deprived persons. The definition could be based on living situations, for instance based on the European Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion</p>
<p>Art.4.1 (specific objectives) (i) improving access to employment of all jobseekers, in particular youth and longterm unemployed, and of inactive people, promoting self-employment and the social economy;</p>	<p>(i) improving access to quality employment of all jobseekers, in particular by supporting integration into the labour market of young people, including through the implementation of the Youth Guarantee, the long- term unemployed, and inactive people, including by promoting self-employment and the social economy improving</p>	<p>along with stressing the integration of young people into the labour market, the Youth Guarantee should evolve from an emergency initiative to address the impact of the economic crisis, and become a more permanent measure to tackle youth unemployment and foster social inclusion. The implementation of the scheme also plays a key role in delivering the European Pillar of Social Rights.</p>
<p>(iv) improving the quality, effectiveness and labour market relevance of education and training systems, to support acquisition of key competences including digital skills;</p>	<p>improving the quality, effectiveness, inclusiveness and labour market relevance of education and training systems, to support acquisition of key competences including digital skills by all; promote digital inclusion and facilitate the transition from education to employment;</p>	<p>exclusion from quality education contributes to inequality and leads to the reproduction of marginalisation, something which is further exacerbated by technology and the digital divide. It is therefore essential to stress equitable and inclusive education in this context.</p>
<p>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;</p>	<p>promoting lifelong learning, notably and learner-centred flexible upskilling and reskilling opportunities for all, in formal, non-formal and formal settings, taking into account digital skills, better anticipating change and new skills requirements based on labour market needs, facilitating career transitions and promoting professional mobility and participation in society;</p>	

<p>(vii) fostering active inclusion with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability;</p>	<p>fostering active inclusion with a view to promoting equal opportunities, non-discrimination and active participation, improving employability and social inclusion</p>	<p>To enable gradual steps out of poverty, towards participation in society and, when possible, in the labour market, the objective should be broadened to cover active inclusion approaches beyond employment related topics (based on three pillars of access to services, income support and inclusive labour markets).</p>
<p>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;</p>	<p>enhancing the equal and timely access to quality, sustainable and affordable services; modernising social protection systems, including promoting access to adequate social protection and to affordable and social housing; improving accessibility, effectiveness and resilience of healthcare systems and long-term care services</p>	<p>affordable housing is essential to employment and education while strongly intertwined with access to services and health outcomes. It should therefore be addressed in an integrated manner.</p>
<p>(viii) promoting socio-economic integration of third country nationals and of marginalised communities such as the Roma;</p>	<p>➔ Split in 2 separate objectives on equal footing</p>	<p>Both groups should receive adequate attention supporting one should not happen to the detriment of the other. We therefore support 2 separate objectives, as outlined in the LIBE committee opinion, however both objectives should to be on equal grounds and one should not be treated as a sub-objective of the other.</p>
<p>(x) promoting social integration of people at risk of poverty and social exclusion, including the most deprived, and children;</p>	<p>promoting social integration of people at risk of poverty and/or social exclusion, including the most deprived, persons with disabilities and children;</p>	
<p>Art 4.3 (Health strand) Under the Health strand, the ESF+ shall support health promotion and disease</p>	<p>Under the Health strand, the ESF+ shall support health and wellbeing, including health</p>	<p>To support a holistic approach to health, (physical, mental, social) beyond the sense of ‘healthcare’, and in line with</p>

<p>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.</p>	<p>promotion and disease prevention, contribute to effectiveness, accessibility, non-discrimination and resilience of health systems, make healthcare safer, reduce health inequalities, end the pathologisation of stigmatised groups, including persons with mental or intellectual disabilities, trans and intersex people, protect people living in the Union from cross-border health threats, and support Union health legislation.</p>	<p>the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 3)</p>
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Part II – Implementation under the ESF+ strand under shared management

<p>Art 6 (1)</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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. These operations include increasing the participation and progress of women in employment, combating the feminisation of poverty and of gender stereotypes in the labour market and in education and training, and promoting the reconciliation of work and personal life for all, as well as the equal sharing of care responsibilities between women and men. They shall also aim to promote equal opportunities for all, without</p>	<p>Although the provisions of the ESF + Regulation Proposal meet the requirements for non-discrimination based on disability, equal opportunities for persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups and de-institutionalization, all references of the previous Regulation to the obligation to implement accessibility to persons with disabilities to all funded actions have been removed from it. Taking into account that accessibility concerns not only infrastructure but also services (that are mainly funded by the ESF+), procedures and goods, there is a clear need to include in the ESF+ Regulation an explicit reference to accessibility, which is the "key", and one of the essential prerequisites to ensure the equal opportunities for all, which is one of the main goals of the ESF+</p>
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<p>Art 6 (2)</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation throughout their preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. They shall also ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities, as set out in Article 9 of the UN CRPD including to the labor market.</p> <p>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 improving accessibility for persons with disabilities and the transition from residential/institutional care to family and community-based care.</p>	<p>Article 6 of ESF+ merges articles 7 and 8 from the current ESF regulation. It is worth including again some wording to give examples about what kind of measures ESF+ can support to contribute to gender equality. It is also very important to restate the obligation to implement accessibility by the means of the use of ESF+. Practice from ESF implementation shows that when a specific measure</p>
<p>Art 7 (1)</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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 the take into account principles and rights set out in the European Pillar of Social Rights.</p>	<p>The ESF+ is the primary financial instrument for the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights and as such should be at the forefront of programming on the same level as the National Reform Programmes and Country Specific Recommendations.</p>
<p>Member States shall allocate at least 25% of their ESF+</p>	<p>Member States shall allocate at least 30% of their ESF+</p>	

<p>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.</p>	<p>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 inclusion of third country nationals.</p>	<p>See justification below.</p>
<p>Article 7.4 Member States shall allocate at least 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).</p>	<p>In addition to the minimum allocation of at least 30% of the ESF+ resources under shared management to the specific objectives (vii) – (x) of Article 4(1), Member States shall allocate at least 4% of their ESF+ resources under shared management to the specific objective of addressing social inclusion of the most deprived and/or material deprivation as set out in points (x) and (xi) of Article 4(1)</p>	<p>To ensure that social inclusion minimum allocation is increased to 30% the scope of which is specific objectives (vii) – (x); The post-FEAD (support to the most deprived) minimum allocation comes on top of this percentage. The post-FEAD minimum allocation is 4%;</p> <p>Furthermore, the regulations need to make clear that specific objective (x) falls under general support of the ESF+ strand under shared management (Chapter II); <u>it can, however, contribute also to addressing the social inclusion of the most deprived and/or material deprivation</u> under the 4% allocation of ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation (Chapter III). This will be in line with the national strategic framework of poverty reduction and social inclusion as established in the enabling condition 4.3.</p>
<p>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 verifying compliance with the minimum allocation of at least 2% set out in the first subparagraph of</p>	<p>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.</p>	

this paragraph.		
<p>Article 8 (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.</p>	<p>Each Member State shall ensure the meaningful and inclusive participation of social partners, civil society organisations and service users in the management, programming, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of activities and policies supported by the ESF+ strand under shared management, including as relevant of to employment, education, and social inclusion and anti-discrimination policies and according to Article 6 of the proposed CPR Regulation and the “Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 240/2014”</p>	<p>Adequacy is a very subjective term. The partnership principle in the ESF+ regulations needs to be strengthened. The proposed text is weaker than the provisions on involving partners in the 2014-2020 ESF Regulation (Article 6). Partnership must be ensured throughout programming, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the funds, not just in the delivery of policies supported by those funds.</p> <p>To ensure the meaningful and inclusive participation of social partners and civil society instead of the adequate participation and to ensure implementation of the revised European Code of Conduct on Partnership (ECCP). For more information, see the review of the European Code of Conduct on Partnership developed by the Thematic Network of European Social Fund on Partnership.</p>

<p>Article 11 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.</p>	<p>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. EU Member States shall ensure consistency, coherence and synergies of these priorities with the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals.</p>	<p>The future EU budget represents an essential leverage to ensure the successful implementation of the Pillar and SDGs. It therefore needs to become a stronger engine for a change to bring positive change to people’s lives and restore trust in the EU as a citizens’ project.</p> <p>In addition, whilst the European Semester covers many important social issues, it does not and cannot cover the full range of social challenges in each Member State or region. This limitation could be solved</p>
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Part IV – Final Provisions

<p>Art 40.3 ESF+ Committee The ESF+ Committee shall include one representative from each of the organisations representing workers' organisations and employers' organisations at Union level.</p>	<p>The ESF+ committee shall include one representative from each of the organisations representing workers organisations', employers' organisations' and civil society organisations' at Union level.</p>	<p>Civil Society Organisations play a key role in the design and delivery of the ESF. This role needs to be enhanced in line with a continuous and ambitious implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights. The involvement of Civil Society in addition to government and social partners should also be strongly support at national level (Art. 40.2)</p>
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