BULLETIN

European Affairs in the Croatian Parliament

The "European Affairs in the Croatian Parliament" bulletin is published monthly by the European Affairs Department. It provides the reader with an overview of parliamentary activities in the field of EU affairs and inter-parliamentary cooperation as well as with access to EU documents forwarded to national parliaments.

In Focus

Multiannual Financial Framework 2021 – 2027 adopted

In December 2020, the Council and the European Parliament adopted the next long-term EU budget for the period 2021-2027, paving the way for the current Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) to enter into force on 1 January 2021. As a result, \in 1.074 trillion [in 2018 prices] became available for beneficiaries of EU funding during the next seven years.

With the combined firepower of the long-term budget and the Instrument *Next Generation EU*, the package of a total of \notin 1.824 trillion [in 2018 prices] is the largest package ever financed through the EU budget.

By channelling the funds from the package, the EU will support citizens, companies and regions most affected by the coronavirus crisis. The package will also help rebuild a post-COVID-19 Europe, which will be greener, more digital, more resilient and better fit for the current and forthcoming challenges.

The European Commission will be able to start committing the funds under the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 as of 1 January 2021, following the adoption of the relevant sector-specific legislation as well as of the EU annual budget for the financial year 2021.

For the Commission to start borrowing under the Instrument *Next Generation EU*, thus making the instrument operational, the ratification of the new Own Resources Decision by all Member States in line with their constitutional requirements is needed.

On 18 December 2020, the Croatian Parliament in urgent procedure unanimously <u>approved</u> the Council Decision on the system of Own Resources of the European Union.

	MFF	NextGenerationEU	TOTAL
1. Single market, innovation and digital	€132.8 billion	€10.6 billion	$ \in 143.4 $ billion
2. Cohesion, resilience and values	€377.8 billion	ϵ 721.9 billion	ϵ 1099.7 billion
3. Natural resources and environment	ϵ 356.4 billion	$ \in 17.5 $ billion	€373.9 billion
4. Migration and border management	$ \in 22.7 $ billion	-	$ \in 22.7 $ billion
5. Security and defence	$ \in 13.2 $ billion	-	$ \in 13.2 $ billion
6. Neighbourhood and the world	€98.4 billion	-	€98.4 billion
7. European public administration	ϵ 73.1 billion	-	ϵ 73.1 billion
TOTAL MFF	€1 074.3 billion	ϵ 750 billion	ϵ 1824.3 billion



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Activities of the Croatian Parliament in the Decision-Making Process

Activities of the parliamentary committees

European Affairs Committee

10th session held on 19 January 2021

The European Affairs Committee discussed: i) the <u>Report</u> of the European Council meetings in 2020 submitted by the Government of the Republic of Croatia and ii) <u>Proposal</u> of the Plan for Harmonization of the Legislation of the Republic of Croatia with the acquis of the European Union for 2021.

11th session held on 27 January 2021

The European Affairs Committee discussed <u>Proposal</u> of the National Development Strategy until 2030 as well as <u>European documents</u> in accordance with the <u>Work Programme for the</u> <u>Consideration of the Positions of the Republic of Croatia for 2020.</u>

Other committees

Other parliamentary committees discussed <u>European documents</u> in accordance with the <u>Work</u> <u>Programme for the Consideration of the Positions of the Republic of Croatia for 2020.</u>

Monitoring the work of the Government in the European Union institutions

European Council

Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Croatia submitted to the Parliament <u>Report</u> on the European Council meeting in 2020. The Report is <u>presented</u> at the session of Parliament on 19 January and was adopted on 5 February 2021.

Council

The Croatian Government submitted to the relevant parliamentary committees its positions for 6 Council meetings held in January 2021.

EU documents Forwarded Directly to the Croatian Parliament

According to the Protocol (no 1) on the Role of the National Parliaments in the European Union, all draft laws and communications shall be forwarded directly to the national parliaments.

The Croatian Parliament publishes on a daily basis the EU documents received, along with the information on: document number, adoption procedure, transmission date and subsidiarity deadline.

In January 2021, EU institutions forwarded to the Croatian Parliament <u>39 documents</u>: 25 draft laws and 14 communications and other non-binding documents.

Inter-parliamentary Cooperation in the European Union

Inter-parliamentary cooperation in the European Union encompasses the cooperation between the European Parliament and the national parliaments and the cooperation among the national parliaments in the frame of the parliamentary dimension of the Council Presidency.

11 January - The Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC took place within the framework of the Parliamentary Dimension of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Chairman and deputy Chairman of the European Affairs Committee Domagoj Hajduković and Domagoj Ivan Milošević participated at the meeting held through video conferencing.

At this meeting, the two main topics were under discussion "The priorities of the Portuguese Presidency of the EU Council", with Augusto Santos Silva, Minister of Foreign Affairs, as speaker, and "The Recovery and Resilience Plans", presented by European Commissioner Elisa Ferreira, responsible for Cohesion and Reforms.

26 January – Meeting of the Agriculture Committee of the Croatian Parliament with Norbert Lins Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Parliament

At the <u>meeting</u> held through video conferencing two main topics were under discussion: i) Common Agriculture Policy and ii) Multiannual Financial Framework 2021 - 2027 and Recovery and Resilience Mechanism

Inter-parliamentary activities in February 2021

1-2 February - The eighth meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol (JPSG) (Lisbon, video conference)

22 February – European Parliamentary Week 2021 (Brussels, video conference)



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