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3 FOR A MODERN, AMBITIOUS AND FUTURE-ORIENTED  
4 MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK (MFF 2014-2020)  
5 PART OF THE GLOBAL SOLUTION TO RECOVER FROM THE CRISIS  
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8 **Background**  
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10 As the entire EU is currently facing a major financial, economic, social and ecological crisis, its parallel  
11 debt crisis has led Member States to curb public spending and implement austerity budgets. But these  
12 measures alone cannot solve the economic and social crisis nor the current imbalances in the  
13 European Union. Europe needs a substantial increase in investment, to address the structural problems  
14 underlying the crisis, to recover from it and to pave the way towards a sustainable economic  
15 development for the EU citizens. Furthermore the EU needs effective initiatives to reduce the high  
16 unemployment, especially among the youth.  
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18 The MFF (2014-2020) has a key role to play to reach the goals of EU-2020 strategy, to finance a future  
19 oriented policy and to fight the current crisis as it has the power to initiate reform and thus catalyse  
20 the move to the sustainable post-carbon, nuclear-free, resource efficient and renewables-based  
21 economy that is so urgently needed. This would allow the creation of new green jobs and lead to  
22 renewed EU-competitiveness.  
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24 Since 2006, when the last MFF was negotiated, some enlargements have been achieved; the Lisbon  
25 treaty has been ratified, transferring additional competencies to the EU, and the economic, social and  
26 ecological crisis impacted heavily the EU citizens requiring additional intervention from the EU level in  
27 particular through its budget. Thus, any direct comparison between the EU budget for the rest of the  
28 decade with last 7-year budget, which represented the pre-crisis, pre-Lisbon and pre-enlargements  
29 vision is flawed.  
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31 On February the 8th, the Heads of State and government, during a 26-hour long horse-trading "juste  
32 retour"-based negotiation, agreed on slashing the European Commission's budget proposal by almost  
33 10%, cutting mainly the future-oriented policy, the Youth-related policies, the pan-European  
34 infrastructure projects and the development aid while keeping a very conservative and national  
35 approach on the structure of the EU budget and on the content of the sectorial policies such as in  
36 Agriculture sector or in the Cohesion Policy.  
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38 On March the 13th, an overwhelming majority (506 against 161 representing 73% of the vote cast) of  
39 the Members of the European Parliament rejected the agreement negotiated behind closed-doors at  
40 the European Council while opening negotiations with the governments of the Members states.  
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43 **The European Green Party Council in Madrid,**  
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- 45 I. Welcomes the rejection by the European Parliament of the Multiannual Financial Framework  
46 as cobbled-together by the Member states; therefore encourages the Members of the  
47 European Parliament to hold on and stand their ground in face of the regressive choices  
48 promoted by MS.  
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53 2. Supports the efforts of the Greens-EFA MEPs in their attempts to build a steady coalition in this  
54 regard.  
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56 3. Calls on Members of the European Parliament to promote, with Members of national  
57 Parliaments and civil society organisations, a greener, more modern, more ambitious and future-  
58 oriented EU budget at all relevant political levels.  
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60 4. Affirms that the fiscal consolidation at national level can only be successful if carried out during  
61 an appropriate time horizon and if balanced by additional investments, coming also from the EU  
62 budget, by pooling public resources, making economy of scale and strengthening the leverage  
63 effects.  
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65 5. Calls for a substantial increase of the EU budget compared to 2013 levels, and insists on focusing  
66 the increases in the future-oriented policy sectors especially in research and innovation,  
67 infrastructure and in the 3 solidarity areas (inter-generational, intra-European and international  
68 solidarities). Also considers that there are operating economies which can and should be made  
69 in the EU budget and which would command public support (Strasbourg).
- 70 6. Insists on the urgent need to green and modernize the content of all European sectorial policies  
71 in particular in agriculture, Cohesion, research and innovation while stopping unsustainable  
72 projects financed by the European Union such as ITER.
- 73 7. Affirms that the EU budget shall be financed by own resources as stated in the Treaties;  
74 Therefore strongly supports the Commissions proposal for extending the EU's own resources  
75 and the introduction of the Financial Transaction Tax financing - at least in parts - directly the  
76 EU budget; Considers a future introduction of additional own resources based on revenues  
77 stemming from carbon and/or energy taxes, a flight ticket tax and/or a common consolidated  
78 corporate tax including the tax rates to finance directly the EU budget and to simultaneously  
79 and partly reduce the national contributions.  
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81 8. Stresses that the flexibility in the MFF (among and above headings, among and above financial  
82 years and flexibility instruments) is a key element of the MFF to ensure that the European  
83 Parliament may adapt the EU budget to the political priorities on an annual basis.  
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85 9. Declares that the MFF duration shall be aligned with the duration of the European institutions'  
86 political cycles (5 years), therefore insists that in order to allow the EU to react to unforeseen  
87 events which requires structural changes in the MFF there should be a legal and binding revision  
88 clause during the next MFF.  
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90 10. Calls on the European Parliament not to give the consent, if the final deal would result into a  
91 conservative backward looking EU budget deepening the austerity policies across the European  
92 Union, also because which would bind the EP next majority and next European Commission.