

FIEC is the European Construction Industry Federation, representing via its 29 National Member Federations in 26 countries (23 EU & EFTA and Turkey) construction enterprises of all sizes, i.e. small and medium-sized enterprises as well as "global players", carrying out all forms of building and civil engineering activities.
Recognised "Sectoral Social Partner" (employers)



EUROPEAN CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRY FEDERATION

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FIEC voting recommendations

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Draft regulation laying down common provisions of the various funds under the Cohesion Policy (COM(2018)375)

Dear Honourable Member of the European Parliament,

In view of the **upcoming plenary vote on 13th February regarding the regulation laying down common provisions of the various funds under the Cohesion Policy**, the European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC) calls upon the Members of the European Parliament to consider the following voting recommendations.

VOTE AGAINST

Proposal for a Regulation Recital 63	AM 42 (-)
(63) Trans-European transport networks projects in accordance with Regulation (EU) No [new CEF Regulation] will continue to be financed from the Cohesion Fund via both shared management and the direct implementation mode under the Connecting Europe Facility ('CEF'). Building on the successful approach of the 2014-2020 programming period, EUR 10 000 000 000 of the Cohesion Fund should be transferred to the CEF for this purpose.	(63) Trans-European transport networks projects in accordance with Regulation (EU) No [new CEF Regulation] will continue to be financed from the Cohesion Fund via both shared management and the direct implementation mode under the Connecting Europe Facility ('CEF'). Building on the successful approach of the 2014-2020 programming period, EUR 4 000 000 000 of the Cohesion Fund should be transferred to the CEF for this purpose.
Proposal for a Regulation Article 104, paragraph 4, subparagraph 1	AM 340 (-)
The amount of support from the Cohesion Fund to be transferred to the CEF shall be EUR 10 000 000 000 . It shall be spent for transport infrastructure projects by	The amount of support from the Cohesion Fund to be transferred to the CEF shall be EUR 4 000 000 000 in 2018 prices . It shall be spent for transport infrastructure

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<p>launching specific calls in accordance with Regulation (EU) [number of new CEF Regulation] exclusively in Member States eligible for funding from the Cohesion Fund.</p>	<p>projects, taking into account the investment infrastructure needs of Member States and regions, by launching specific calls in accordance with Regulation (EU) [number of new CEF Regulation] exclusively in Member States eligible for funding from the Cohesion Fund.</p>
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Justification:
Indeed, the experience under the 2014-2020 programming period has been successful: 100% of the envelope has been used during the first three years of the period, with accompanying measures put in place by the European Commission and which allowed each Cohesion country to benefit from it. Most projects supported in this framework are sustainable infrastructure projects with a high EU added-value (TEN-T, cross-border projects). Last but not least, this centralised management under the European Commission also allowed greater visibility on on-going projects in the concerned Cohesion countries, based on transparent calls.

<p>Proposal for a Regulation Article 10, paragraph 1</p>	<p>AM 102 (-)</p>
<p>1. Member States may allocate, in the Partnership Agreement or in the request for an amendment of a programme, the amount of ERDF, the ESF+, the Cohesion Fund and the EMFF to be contributed to InvestEU and delivered through budgetary guarantees. The amount to be contributed to InvestEU shall not exceed 5 % of the total allocation of each Fund, except in duly justified cases. Such contributions shall not constitute transfers of resources under Article 21.</p>	<p>1. As of 1 January 2023, Member States, with the agreement of the managing authorities concerned, may allocate, in the request for an amendment of a programme, up to 1% of ERDF, the ESF+, the Cohesion Fund and the EMFF to be contributed to InvestEU and delivered through budgetary guarantees. Up to 2,5% of the total allocation of each fund may be further allocated to InvestEU under the mid-term review. Such contributions shall be available for investments in line with cohesion policy objectives and in the same category of regions targeted by the Funds of origin. Whenever an amount of ERDF, ESF+, Cohesion Fund is contributed to Invest EU, the enabling conditions as described in Article 11 and in the annexes III and IV of this regulation shall apply. Only resources of future calendar years may be allocated.</p>

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<p>Justification: FIEC supports a higher contribution to InvestEU as it represents a useful complementary instrument aimed at attracting private finance into important projects with EU added-value, where EU grants and national public resources are too scarce</p>	

VOTE FOR

<p>Proposal for a Regulation Recital 20a (new)</p>	<p>AM 20 (+)</p>
	<p><i>(20 a) Member States could make in duly justified cases a request for flexibility within the current framework of the Stability and Growth Pact for the public or equivalent structural expenditure, supported by the public administration by way of co-financing of investments activated as part of European Structural and Investment Funds ('ESI Funds'). The Commission should carefully assess the respective request, when defining the fiscal adjustment under either the preventive or the corrective arm of the Stability and Growth Pact.</i></p>
<p>Justification: It is important to make a clear distinction between pure public expenses and investment for growth in important EU economic assets promoted by EU policies. The latter should be made possible.</p>	

<p>Proposal for a Regulation Article 103, paragraph 1, subparagraph 1</p>	<p>AM 329 (+)</p>
<p>The resources for economic, social and territorial cohesion available for budgetary commitment for the period 2021-2027 shall be EUR 330 624 388 630 in 2018 prices.</p>	<p>The resources for economic, social and territorial cohesion available for budgetary commitment for the period 2021-2027 shall be EUR 378 097 000 000 in 2018 prices.</p>
<p>Justification: Considering the needs and the importance of the Cohesion Policy as a whole for Europe's growth and jobs, its dedicated budget should be safeguarded.</p>	

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<p>Proposal for a Regulation Article 106, paragraph 3, subparagraph 1, points a, b and c</p>	<p>AMs 347, 348 and 349 (+)</p>
<p>⇒ Higher co-financing rates for less developed regions, transition regions and more developed regions</p>	
<p>Justification: FIEC supports that all types of regions can benefit from higher co-financing rates.</p>	

The European construction industry has more than 3 million enterprises, mainly SMEs, a total direct workforce of 18 million people, and a contribution of around 9% to the GDP of the European Union.