

Brussels, 26 May 2026  
(OR. en)

8819/26

**ECOFIN 557**  
**UEM 156**  
**FIN 617**  
***EIB***  
***ECB***

## **LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS**

---

Subject: COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION amending the Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Bulgaria

---

## COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of ...

### **amending the Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Bulgaria**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 February 2021 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 20(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 57, 18.2.2021, p. 17, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/241/oj>.

Whereas:

- (1) Following the submission of the national recovery and resilience plan ('RRP') by Bulgaria on 15 October 2021, the Commission proposed its positive assessment to the Council. On 4 May 2022, the Council approved the positive assessment by means of an implementing decision (the 'Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022')<sup>2</sup>. The Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 was amended by the Council Implementing Decisions of 8 December 2023<sup>3</sup>, 18 July 2025<sup>4</sup> and 27 November 2025<sup>5</sup>.
- (2) On 24 April 2026, Bulgaria made a reasoned request to the Commission to make a proposal to amend the Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 in accordance with Article 21(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 on the grounds that the RRP is partially no longer achievable because of objective circumstances. On that basis, Bulgaria has submitted an amended RRP.

***Amendments based on Article 21 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241***

- (3) The amendments to the RRP submitted by Bulgaria because of objective circumstances concern nine measures.

---

<sup>2</sup> See documents ST 8091/22 and ST 8091/22 ADD 1 at <http://register.consilium.europa.eu>.

<sup>3</sup> See documents ST 15837/23 and ST 15837/23 ADD 1 at <http://register.consilium.europa.eu>.

<sup>4</sup> See documents ST 11242/25 and ST 11242/25 ADD 1 at <http://register.consilium.europa.eu>.

<sup>5</sup> See documents ST 15108/25 and ST 15108/25 ADD 1 at <http://register.consilium.europa.eu>.

- (4) Bulgaria has explained that one measure is partially no longer achievable within the timeline set out in the Annex to the Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022, because of unexpected delays in the legislative process caused by early parliamentary elections. This concerns measure C10.R2 (Anti-corruption). On this basis, Bulgaria has requested that that measure be amended. The Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 should be amended accordingly.
- (5) Bulgaria has explained that eight measures have been amended to implement better alternatives that allow the administrative burden to be reduced and simplify the implementation of the Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022, while still achieving the objectives of those measures. This concerns measures C1.R1 (Reform in preschool and school education and vocational education and training), C3.I2 (Economic Transformation Programme), C4.I2 (Support for renewable energy for households), C4.I7 (Increasing the use of renewable energy from geothermal sources), C6.I2 (Digitalisation of processes from farm to fork), C8.R1 (Strategic transport framework), C8.R4 (Integrated public transport) and C8.R5 (Electric mobility). On this basis, Bulgaria has requested that those measures be amended. The Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 should be amended accordingly.

### ***Distribution of milestones and targets***

- (6) The distribution of milestones and targets in instalments should be amended to take into account the amendments to the RRP and the indicative timeline presented by Bulgaria.

### ***Corrections of clerical errors***

- (7) One clerical error has been identified in the text of the Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022, affecting Component 9 (Local Development). The Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 should be amended to correct that clerical error, which does not reflect the content of the RRP submitted to the Commission on 16 April 2025, as agreed between the Commission and Bulgaria. That clerical error relates to the description of that Component and the correction does not affect the assessment or the implementation of the RRP.

### ***Commission's assessment***

- (8) The Commission has assessed the amended RRP against the assessment criteria laid down in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.
- (9) The Commission considers that the amendments put forward by Bulgaria do not affect the positive assessment of the RRP set out in the Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 regarding the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the RRP against the assessment criteria laid down in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.

### ***Positive assessment***

- (10) Following the positive assessment by the Commission of the amended RRP, with the finding that the RRP satisfactorily complies with the criteria for assessment set out in Regulation (EU) 2021/241, in accordance with Article 20(2) of and Annex V to that Regulation, the reforms and investment projects necessary for the implementation of the amended RRP, the relevant milestones, targets and indicators, and the amount made available from the Union for the implementation of the amended RRP should be set out.

### ***Financial contribution***

- (11) The estimated total cost of Bulgaria's amended RRP is EUR 6 174 106 145. As the amount of the estimated total cost of the amended RRP is equal to the updated maximum financial contribution available for Bulgaria, the financial contribution determined in accordance with Article 4a of Regulation (EU) 2021/1755 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>6</sup> and with Article 20(4) and Article 21a(6) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 that is allocated for Bulgaria's amended RRP should be equal to EUR 6 174 106 145. Therefore, the financial contribution made available to Bulgaria remains unchanged.

---

<sup>6</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/1755 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 October 2021 establishing the Brexit Adjustment Reserve (OJ L 357, 8.10.2021, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1755/oj>).

- (12) The Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 should therefore be amended accordingly. For the sake of clarity, the Annex to the Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 should be replaced entirely.
- (13) This Decision is without prejudice to the outcome of any procedures relating to the award of Union funds under any Union programme other than the Recovery and Resilience Facility or to procedures relating to distortions of the operation of the internal market that may be undertaken, in particular under Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty. It does not override the requirement for Member States to notify instances of potential State aid to the Commission under Article 108 of the Treaty,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

*Approval of the assessment of the amended recovery and resilience plan*

The assessment of the amended recovery and resilience plan for Bulgaria on the basis of the criteria provided for in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 is approved.

*Article 2*

*Amendments*

The Annex to the Council Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Bulgaria is replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Decision.

*Article 3*

*Addressee*

This Decision is addressed to the Republic of Bulgaria.

Done at ..., ...

*For the Council*

*The President*

---