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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Fund for economic, social and territorial cohesion, agriculture and rural, fisheries and maritime, prosperity and security for the period 2028-2034 and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 and Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 ('NRPP Regulation') - Partial general approach

I. BACKGROUND

1. On 16 July 2025, the Commission submitted to the Council and the European Parliament a proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Fund for economic, social and territorial cohesion, agriculture and rural, fisheries and maritime, prosperity and security for the period 2028-2034 and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 and Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 ('NRPP Regulation').

2. The proposal aims to set out the rules for programming, implementation, governance and monitoring, as well as the financial framework for interventions in the area of Cohesion Policy, Common Agriculture Policy (CAP), Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and Home Affairs under the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for the years 2028-2034.

3. The draft Regulation is based on Article 42, Article 43(3), Article 46, point (d), Article 91(1), point (d), Article 149, Article 153 (2), point (a), and Articles 164, 175, 177 and 178, Article 192(1), Article 194(2), Article 209(1), Article 212(2), Article 322(1), point (a), and Article 349, of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) (ordinary legislative procedure).

4. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 22 January 2026[1]. The European Court of Auditors delivered its opinion on 24 February 2026[2]. The European Committee of the Regions delivered its opinion on 18 May 2026[3].

5. In the European Parliament, the Committees on Budgets (BUDG), Regional Development (REGI) and Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) have the joint responsibility. Karlo Ressler (EPP), Andrey Novakov (EPP) and Elsi Katainen (Renew) were appointed rapporteurs.

II. KEY ISSUES

6. The Ad Hoc Working Party on the Multiannual Financial Framework - National and Regional Partnerships (AHWP NRP) discussed the proposal extensively between September 2025 and May 2026[4].

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1 Doc. 6002/26.
2 Doc. 6710/26.
3 Doc. 9422/26.
4 For more details, please consult doc. 16312/25 and doc. 9750/26.

7. The Permanent Representatives Committee considered the proposal on 6 May and 3 June 2026 to prepare for a partial general approach, excluding the elements between square brackets and most of the recitals. On 3 June, a number of elements emerged that many delegations considered as key to be able to support a partial general approach on the draft NRPP Regulation. The Presidency has addressed these elements as follows:

- Amendment of the measures suspended under the Charter conditionality: the possibility to amend measures affected by suspensions to contribute to changes in the priorities of the Union has been removed.

- Governance: firstly, it has been clarified that the coordinating function does not add an extra layer for the assurance package. Secondly, it has been clarified that regional authorities may negotiate directly with the Commission on regional chapters if the Member State concerned has decided to implement regional chapters. Thirdly, the possibility for the Commission, during the assessment of the NRP Plans, to suggest the modification of measures proposed by the Member State has been removed. Finally, the frequency of the publication of the information set out in Article 63(1) [Data collection and recording] has been extended to once a year and the obligation to collect data on sub-contractors has been removed.

- Financial rules: firstly, it has been clarified that Member States only need to confirm by 15 February 2037 that total payments from the Commission do not exceed payments to beneficiaries. Secondly, the rules on pay-out values and financial corrections have been clarified further. Thirdly, the use of simplified cost options and financing not linked to costs at the level of beneficiaries has been made fully optional. Finally, it was added that the managing and the audit authorities shall not be required to verify the concordance between the estimated underlying costs and actual costs of the operations.

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- Durability: the durability requirement has been limited to 4 years, and home affairs interventions (in addition to social investments) have been excluded from its application.

- EU Facility: in Annex XV, it has been clarified that security-related incidents and crises, including as a result of hostile acts, which have or may have a significant adverse impact on the safety of people, or which affect or may affect critical entities or critical infrastructure in one or more Member States, can be addressed as part of the Home Affairs actions supported by the EU Facility.

- Eastern border regions: special attention was given to the regions bordering Russia, Belarus or Ukraine, and their specific needs emerging from geopolitical challenges have been highlighted, in line with the relevant Commission Communication[5].

- Cohesion Policy: the visibility of the Cohesion Policy and of the outermost regions have been enhanced within the requirements of the NRP Plan.

- Outermost regions: special attention was given to the structural social and economic constraints of outermost regions in line with Article 349 TFEU by adding a relevant reference in the general objectives. Furthermore, the latest compromise proposal adds a reference to a possibility to increase the technical assistance rate for NRP Plan measures supporting outermost regions.

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[5] Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: Communication on the EU's eastern regions bordering Russia, Belarus and Ukraine - Strong regions for a safe Europe (COM/2026/82 final).

- Common Agricultural Policy and Common Fisheries Policy: firstly, the definition of farmer has been replaced with a cross-reference to the related article in the CAP Regulation. Secondly, the CAP interventions have been expanded to investments for undertakings which process and market agricultural products, as well as to other beneficiaries for non-productive green investments. Thirdly, the school scheme has been added to the CAP interventions eligible for a decision on the partial adoption for the year 2028. Fourthly, the transition provisions have been extended to wine and apiculture and to the agri-environmental interventions. The definition of rural areas has been aligned with the definition that is currently applicable. And finally, the deadline of 30 June for payments to beneficiaries has been extended to all CAP interventions, while providing for a tolerance level of 5% regarding payments within the deadline for IACS measures.

- The relevant provision on the Unity Safety Net in Annex XV (1) (j) and the entire Article 20 on the national contribution to estimated costs have been bracketed.

- Article 35c on Fisheries, aquaculture and ocean-related interventions and financial support provisions has been deleted, as the relevant provisions are now reflected in the Negotiating Box.

8. The Presidency is of the view that with the latest changes the compromise text set out in doc. 9808/26 strikes a delicate balance between Member States' views, and addresses the concerns raised. Any further modifications may result in the reduction of the existing level of support from Member States.

9. The Schengen Associated Countries (SACs) will continue to have the opportunity to discuss the Schengen relevant provisions in the NRP Regulation in the appropriate fora, including targeted adjustments to take into account the specific situation of SACs.

II. CONCLUSION

6. Against this background, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to agree on the compromise text set out in doc. 9808/26, and recommend that the Council reach a general approach on the draft Regulation.

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