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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Education Committee
Subject:	Erasmus+ post-2027 – preparing for interinstitutional engagement - Presidency Single Issue Paper 7: European added value

Delegations will find attached an issue paper prepared by the Presidency on the above-mentioned topic with a view to the meeting of the Education Committee on 27 October 2026.

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Erasmus+ Single Issue Paper 7: European added value

As set out in the Presidency's Mapping of Issues (WK 15071/2026) presented to the Education Committee on October 1, the Council Partial General Approach (PGA) (doc. 8265/26) and the draft European Parliament Legislative Resolution take differing approaches to the issue of European added value. The summary table below shows all of the relevant provisions in both approaches.

PGA	**Draft EP Legislative Resolution**
Articles: 15(2), point (c) Recitals: 27	Article: 3a Recitals: 8a, 46a

The Council PGA and the draft EP Legislative Resolution provide different prominence and different uses are attached to the concept of "European added value". In the PGA European added value is foreseen as a criterion for the proposal by the Commission of new actions under direct management. The EP position introduces a dedicated article and recital setting out the concept and the means through which it may be ensured (both strongly inspired by the related provisions in the current Erasmus+ Regulation).

The PGA is the Council's mandate for interinstitutional engagement. To facilitate a focused examination of the differences, the table below sets out the relevant provisions of the Commission proposal, the draft EP Legislative Resolution and the PGA. The differences between the Commission proposal and the PGA are highlighted using **bold** for additions to the Commission proposal and ~~strikethrough~~ for deletions. The EP text in the second column has been copied as presented on the EP website, i.e. with ***bold italics*** used to indicate both replacements and new text as compared to the Commission proposal.

Delegations are invited to react to the differences between the PGA and the draft EP Legislative Resolution.

This discussion is intended to advance the preparations for interinstitutional negotiations.

Single issue paper 7: European added value

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Commission Proposal	Draft EP Legislative Resolution	Council PGA
	Article 3a	
	European added value	
	1. The Programme shall support only those actions and activities which present European added value and which contribute to the achievement of the Programme objectives laid down in Article 3.	
	2. The European added value of the actions and activities of the Programme shall be ensured, for example, through their:	
	(a) transnational character, particularly with regard to learning mobility and cooperation aimed at achieving a sustainable systemic impact;	
	(b) complementarity and synergies with other programmes and policies at national, Union and international level;	
	(c) contribution to the effective use of Union transparency and recognition tools.	
		Article 15(2), point (c)
		2. New actions under direct management shall, for the purposes of their initial inclusion, be adopted by the Commission in a distinct work programme ('the new action work programme'). The new action work programme shall be

		specific and fully separate from the work programme implementing the actions that are not new actions ('the regular work programme'). The new actions shall be proposed on the basis of the following criteria: **(a) alignment to Programme objectives;** **(b) alignment to priorities related to the Programme set out in the relevant Council instruments;** **(c) European added value;** **(d) budgetary impact on the other actions of the Programme.**
	Recital 8a	
	(8a) The Programme should only support actions and activities which present European added value. The notion of European added value is to be understood broadly and can be demonstrated in different ways, such as where actions or activities have a transnational character, particularly with regard to learning mobility and cooperation aimed at achieving a sustainable systemic impact, complement or foster synergies with other programmes and policies at national, Union and international level, or contribute to the effective use of Union transparency and recognition tools.	

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Recital 27	Recital 27	Recital 27
(27) Europe faces a growing challenge in meeting the demand for skilled talent in strategic and evolving sectors like clean and circular technologies, transport, energy, water resilience, healthcare, digital technologies, aerospace and defence. To address this key need, it is essential to develop, attract and retain talented individuals in these fields. In line with the Union of skills, the Programme should among other support EU students to pursue studies in such critical sectors and attract as well top talent to Europe by enhancing the attractiveness of education and training and offering scholarships to students, including through Erasmus Mundus scholarships. This would contribute to address the skills needs for the labour market, including for sectors suffering severe staff shortages.	(27) Europe faces a growing challenge in meeting the demand for skilled talent in strategic and evolving sectors***, such as*** clean and circular technologies, transport, energy, water resilience, healthcare, digital technologies, aerospace and defence. To address this key need, it is essential to develop, attract and retain talented individuals in these fields. In line with the Union of skills ***but without compromising the Programme's core learning mobility objective***, the Programme should among other support EU students to pursue studies in such critical sectors and attract as well top talent to Europe by enhancing the attractiveness of education and training and offering scholarships to students, including through Erasmus Mundus scholarships. This would contribute to address the skills needs for the labour market, including for sectors suffering severe staff shortages. ***Such actions should be supported through synergies with other Union or national instruments and the involvement of the private sector.***	(27) Europe faces a growing challenge in ~~meeting the demand for skilled talent in strategic and evolving sectors like clean and circular technologies, transport, energy, water resilience, healthcare, digital technologies, aerospace and defence. To address this key need, it is essential to develop, attract and retain talented individuals in these fields. In line with the Union of skills, the Programme should among other support EU students to pursue studies in such critical sectors and attract as well top talent to Europe by enhancing the attractiveness of education and training and offering scholarships to students, including through Erasmus Mundus scholarships. This would contribute to address~~**addressing** the skills needs for the labour market, including for sectors suffering severe ~~staff~~ shortages**, and in meeting the demand for skilled talent in strategic sectors, such as, but not limited to, clean and circular technologies, transport, energy, water resilience, agriculture, healthcare, digital technologies, aerospace and defence**. **In line with the Union of Skills, the Programme should support Union learners to pursue studies in strategic sectors with a clear European added value. This could include measures designed to**

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		retain top talent in Europe by providing opportunities for studies in joint study programmes, on European Qualifications Framework levels 5, 6 and 7 in higher education and, where appropriate, in vocational education and training. Such measures should facilitate the participation of learners from diverse backgrounds, in particular those with fewer opportunities, while taking into account geographical balance. Their implementation should remain sufficiently flexible to respond to evolving policy priorities and labour market needs. Talent and excellence development opportunities should not alter the Programme's core focus on learning mobility or have a disproportionate impact on the funding of other Programme actions. Support for such opportunities could be pursued through synergies with other instruments, such as the European Competitiveness Fund, and by leveraging the involvement of business, industry and other relevant stakeholders. In addition to developing and retaining homegrown talent, it is important to attract talented individuals to the Union by offering opportunities such as the Erasmus Mundus scholarships.

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	Recital 46a	
	(46a) Secondary policy choices and priorities, including details of specific new initiatives, should be determined by means of work programmes. When designing new initiatives, lessons should be drawn from past and ongoing pilot initiatives and due account should be taken of European added value. The work programme should also set out the measures needed for their implementation in line with the general and specific objectives of the Programme, the selection and award criteria for grants, as well as all other elements required. The power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission in respect of work programmes and any amendments to them. It is of particular importance that the Commission carry out appropriate regular consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level, relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations and the beneficiaries. Those consultations should be conducted in accordance with the principles laid down in the Inter-institutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making[1a]. In particular, to ensure equal participation in the	

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	preparation of delegated acts, the European Parliament and the Council receive all documents at the same time as Member States' experts, and their experts systematically have access to meetings of Commission expert groups dealing with the preparation of delegated acts. _____ ***[1a] OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2016/512/oj.***	

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