

PRESS RELEASE

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Structural reforms in the member states: Presidency and EP agree on support programme

On 8 February 2017, the presidency reached provisional agreement with representatives of the European Parliament on a programme to **help member states implement structural reforms**.

The programme will be established for the period running from its entry into force until **31 December 2020** with a financial envelope of **€142.8 million**.

"This is a programme that will support governments in improving their economic and governance structures. It is another step forward to better equip member states in implementing important reforms which ultimately will be beneficial to European citizens."

Ian Borg, Maltese parliamentary secretary for the EU presidency 2017 and EU funds

The agreement will be submitted to the Permanent Representatives Committee in the coming days for approval. The Parliament and the Council will then be called on to adopt the proposed regulation at first reading.

Objectives

The programme will contribute to **institutional, administrative and structural reforms** aimed at enhancing competitiveness, productivity, growth, jobs, cohesion, and investment.

It will operate in support of the EU's economic governance processes, including through assistance for the efficient and effective use of EU funds. The programme will finance actions and activities of **European added value**.

Financing

Under the agreement, member states wishing to receive support can submit a request for financial support by 31 October of each calendar year. The programme's financial resources will be **redirected from other technical assistance programmes** under the EU's structural and rural development funds.

Monitoring and implementation

The Commission will implement the programme, building on best practices developed with technical assistance to Cyprus and Greece under their economic adjustment programmes. The Commission will also monitor implementation of actions financed by the programme.

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