



European
Commission

#EUBudget

HIGH-LEVEL
CONFERENCE

SHAPING OUR FUTURE

Designing the Next Multiannual
Financial Framework

08-09/01
2018

Charlemagne Building,
Rue de la Loi 170, Brussels

PROGRAMME

European **Political**
Strategy Centre



In his State of the Union speech on 13 September 2017, the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, laid out his roadmap towards the European Summit in May 2019. He underlined that the European Union needs a budget that matches its ambitions and meets future challenges. The Reflection Paper on the Future of EU Finances has fostered a debate on the EU's budgetary needs to sustain Europe's prosperity and security. The task is now to look into policy options and to prepare decisions. The European Political Strategy Centre, the European Commission's in-house think tank, is convening this conference to feed into the preparation of the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). The sessions are interactive and participatory. Participation in the event is by invitation only.

MONDAY 8 JANUARY

14h00-15h00

Registration and Welcome Coffee

15h00-15h05

Welcoming Remarks

Ann Mettler, Head, European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission

15h05-15h20

Opening Address

Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission

15h20-15h40

A Budget Matching our Ambitions

Günther H. Oettinger, Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources, European Commission

15h40-15h55

Opening Address

Sigmar Gabriel, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Germany

16h00-17h15

A Budget for the EU27

What should be the principles for deciding on the nature and volume of spending from the EU budget? How should the revenue side of the budget be catered for?

Scene-setter:

Jean Pisani-Ferry, Professor of Political Sciences, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin

- **Mário Centeno**, Minister of Finance, Portugal, future Eurogroup President
- **Pier Carlo Padoan**, Minister for Economy and Finance, Italy
- **Nathalie Loiseau**, Minister for European Affairs, France
- **Gernot Blümel**, Federal Minister for the EU, Arts, Culture and Media, Austria
- **Jyrki Katainen**, Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness, European Commission

Moderator:

Ann Mettler, Head, European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission

17h15-18h30

Squaring the Circle – How Does the Post 2020-MFF Need to Differ?

What are the new parameters for the forthcoming MFF negotiations? What are the principal differences on the revenues and the expenditure side of the budget as compared to the current MFF?

Scene-setter and Moderator:

Lars P. Feld, Professor of Economic Policy, University of Freiburg, Germany

- **Lilyana Pavlova**, Minister for the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council, Bulgaria
- **János Lázár**, Minister of Prime Minister's Office, Hungary
- **Jean Arthuis**, MEP, Chair, Committee on Budget, European Parliament
- **Konrad Szymański**, Secretary of State for European Affairs, Poland
- **Mario Monti**, Chair, High-Level Group on Own Resources and former Prime Minister of Italy

18h30-18h45

Closing Remarks – Structural Policy under the New MFF

Corina Crețu, Commissioner for Regional Policy, European Commission

19h00-20h00

Networking Cocktail

in the presence of Commissioners Günther H. Oettinger and Corina Crețu
Berlaymont - Piazza

TUESDAY 9 JANUARY

08h30-09h00

Welcome Coffee

09h00-09h15

EU Added Value

How to define the underlying principle of EU funding

Presentation of a study by **Friedrich Heinemann**, Professor of Economics, Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW) Mannheim, Germany

Introduction:

Nadia Calviño, Director-General, Directorate-General for Budget, European Commission

09h30-12h15

Breakout Sessions

Session A - Balancing Traditional Policies and New Challenges (De Gasperi Room)

Moderator:

Marc Lemaître, Director-General, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

09h30-10h45

Panel 1 – More Efficient Use of Scarce Financial Resources

An efficient common agriculture policy and focussed structural funds

Key-note statement:

Alan Matthews, Professor Emeritus of European Agricultural Policy, Ireland

- **Karl-Heinz Lambertz**, President, European Committee of the Regions
- **Dana Reizniece-Ozola**, Minister of Finance, Latvia
- **Siim Kallas**, Chair, High-Level-Group on Simplification for the Post-2020 Cohesion Policy

11h00-12h15

Panel 2 – Higher Budgetary Flexibility to Tackle New Challenges

How much flexibility is needed to ensure that the EU can react swiftly?

Key-note statement:

Maria Demertzis, Deputy Director, Bruegel, Belgium

- **Victor Negrescu**, Minister for European Affairs, Romania
- **Reimer Böge**, MEP, Committee on Budget, European Parliament
- **Iskra Mihaylova**, MEP, Chair, Committee on Regional Development, European Parliament

Session B - A Toolbox for a Future-Proof EU Budget (Jenkins Room)

Moderator:

Nadia Calviño, Director-General, Directorate-General for Budget, European Commission

09h30-10h45

Panel 1– A Sufficient Budget for New Priorities

Security and defence – Stepping up to meet expectations

Key-note statement:

Camille Grand, Assistant Secretary-General for Defence Investment, NATO

- **Martin Stropnický**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic
- **Max Elger**, Secretary of State for Finance, Sweden
- **Fabrice Leggeri**, Executive Director, FRONTEX
- **Rob Wainwright**, Executive Director, EUROPOL

11h00-12h15

Panel 2 – High Economic Impact with a Limited Budget

Grants, subsidies and innovative financial instruments

Key-note statement:

Jorge Núñez Ferrer, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for European Studies, Belgium

- **Mateja Vraničar Erman**, Minister of Finance, Slovenia
- **Miglė Tuskienė**, Vice-Minister of Finance, Lithuania
- **Alexander Stubb**, Vice-President, European Investment Bank
- **Jan Gregor**, Member of the European Court of Auditors



Session C - A Budget to Shape Our European Future (Mansholt Room)

Moderator:

Maarten Verwey, Director-General, Structural Reform Support Service, European Commission

09h30-10h45

Panel 1 – Enabling Europe to Invest Into Jobs and Growth

How the EU can support competitiveness and growth

Key-note statement:

Giacomo Benedetto, Jean Monnet Chair, Department of Politics and International Relations at Royal Holloway, University of London

- **Szabolcs Takács**, Minister of State for European Affairs, Hungary
- **Alberto Nadal Belda**, State Secretary for the Budget and Expenditure, Spain
- **Karel Luyben**, Rector Delft University of Technology, Netherlands

11h00-12h15

Panel 2 – An Instrument to Support Structural Reform and Euro Area Accession

Giving a new impetus to completion of the euro area

Key-note statement:

Fabian Zuleeg, Chief Executive and Chief Economist, European Policy Centre

- **Edward Scicluna**, Minister of Finance, Malta
- **Pervenche Berès**, MEP, Committee on Economic Affairs, European Parliament
- **Markus Ferber**, MEP, Committee on Economic Affairs, European Parliament
- **Eleodor Mandreş**, State Secretary for Public Finances, Romania
- **Risto Artjoki**, Secretary of State for Finance, Finland

12h30-13h00

The Next Steps Towards the Commission Proposal

Günther H. Oettinger, Commissioner Responsible for Budget and Human Resources, European Commission

Moderator:

Ann Mettler, Head, European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission



