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## PROPOSAL

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From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director
date of receipt:	14 April 2016
To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2016) 210 final
Subject:	Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (application from Greece – EGF/2015/011 GR/Supermarket Larissa)

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Delegations will find attached document COM(2016) 210 final.

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Encl.: COM(2016) 210 final



Brussels, 14.4.2016  
COM(2016) 210 final

Proposal for a

**DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**

**on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund  
(application from Greece – EGF/2015/011 GR/Supermarket Larissa)**

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

### CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL

1. The rules applicable to financial contributions from the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) are laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (2014-2020) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006<sup>1</sup> (the ‘EGF Regulation’).
2. On 26 November 2015, Greece submitted an application EGF/2015/011 GR/Supermarket Larissa for a financial contribution from the EGF, following redundancies<sup>2</sup> in Supermarket Larissa ABEE in Greece.
3. Following its assessment of this application, the Commission has concluded, in accordance with all applicable provisions of the EGF Regulation, that the conditions for awarding a financial contribution from the EGF are met.

### SUMMARY OF THE APPLICATION

EGF application	EGF/2015/011 GR/Supermarket Larissa
Member State	Greece
Region(s) concerned (NUTS <sup>3</sup> level 2)	Central Macedonia (Κεντρική Μακεδονία) (EL12) Thessalia (Θεσσαλία) (EL14)
Date of submission of the application	26 November 2015
Date of acknowledgement of receipt of the application	1 December 2015
Date of request for additional information	10 December 2015
Deadline for provision of the additional information	21 January 2016
Deadline for the completion of the assessment	14 April 2016
Intervention criterion	Article 4(1)(a) of the EGF Regulation
Primary enterprise	Supermarket Larissa ABEE
Number of enterprises concerned	1
Sector of economic activity (NACE Revision 2 Division) <sup>4</sup>	Division 47 (Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles)

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 855.

<sup>2</sup> Within the meaning of Article 3 of the EGF Regulation.

<sup>3</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 1046/2012 of 8 November 2012 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) as regards the transmission of the time series for the new regional breakdown (OJ L 310, 9.11.2012, p. 34).

Number of subsidiaries, suppliers and downstream producers	0
Reference period (four months):	3 May 2015 – 3 September 2015
Number of redundancies during the reference period (a)	557
Number of redundancies before or after the reference period (b)	0
Total number of redundancies (a + b)	557
Total number of eligible beneficiaries	557
Total number of targeted beneficiaries	557
Number of targeted young persons not in employment, education or training (NEETs)	543
Budget for personalised services (EUR)	10 530 000
Budget for implementing EGF <sup>5</sup> (EUR)	250 000
Total budget (EUR)	10 780 000
EGF contribution (60 %) (EUR)	6 468 000

## ASSESSMENT OF THE APPLICATION

### Procedure

- Greece submitted application EGF/2015/011 GR/Supermarket Larissa within 12 weeks of the date on which the intervention criteria set out in Article 4 of the EGF Regulation were met, on 26 November 2015. The Commission acknowledged receipt of the application on 1 December 2015, and requested additional information from Greece, within two weeks of the date of submission of the application, on 10 December 2015. Such additional information was provided within six weeks of the request. The deadline of 12 weeks of the receipt of the complete application within which the Commission should finalise its assessment of the application's compliance with the conditions for providing a financial contribution expires on 14 April 2016.

### Eligibility of the application

#### *Enterprises and beneficiaries concerned*

- The application relates to 557 workers<sup>6</sup> made redundant in Supermarket Larissa ABEE. This enterprise operates in the economic sector classified under the NACE Revision 2 Division 47 (Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles). The redundancies made by Supermarket Larissa are located in the NUTS level 2 regions of Central Macedonia (Κεντρική Μακεδονία) (EL12) and Thessalia (Θεσσαλία) (EL14).

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 393, 30.12.2006, p. 1.

<sup>5</sup> In accordance with the fourth paragraph of Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013.

<sup>6</sup> 422 employees and 135 worker-owners

### *Intervention criteria*

6. Greece submitted the application under the intervention criteria of Article 4(1)(a) of the EGF Regulation, which requires at least 500 workers being made redundant over a reference period of four months in an enterprise in a Member State, including workers made redundant by suppliers and downstream producers and / or self-employed persons whose activity has ceased.
7. The reference period of four months for the application runs from 3 May 2015 to 3 September 2015. During the reference period 557 workers were made redundant in Supermarket Larissa ABEE.

### *Calculation of redundancies and of cessation of activity*

8. The redundancies during the reference period have been calculated from the date of the de facto termination of the contract of employment or its expiry.

### *Eligible beneficiaries*

9. The total number of eligible beneficiaries is 557.

### *Link between the redundancies and the global financial and economic crisis addressed in Regulation (EC) No 546/2009*

10. In order to establish the link between the redundancies and the global financial and economic crisis addressed in Regulation (EC) No 546/2009, Greece argues that the Greek economy was in deep recession for six consecutive years (from 2008 to 2013). According to ELSTAT, the Greek Statistical Authority, since 2008 the Greek GDP has decreased by 25,7 percentage points, public consumption by 21 percentage points and private consumption by 32,3 percentage points whilst unemployment increased about 19 percentage points.
11. Moreover the decline in GDP has widened the gap between the Greek per capita GDP and the per capita GDP of the EU, cancelling the progress towards economic convergence made by Greece in the 1995-2007 period.
12. Furthermore, to deal with foreign debt repayments, since 2008 the Greek government has been taking unpopular measures such as increasing tax rates, streamlining public expenditure and decreasing public employees' salaries. Wages in the private sector have also been decreasing in an attempt to increase the competitiveness of the Greek economy.
13. Since 2008, thousands of enterprises have stopped their activities and closed down, making their staff redundant and thousands of self-employed persons have ceased their activities, contributing to the sharp increase in unemployment already mentioned.
14. An immediate effect of the reduced income has been a decrease in consumption. In 2009, the drop of household consumption in Greece followed the same negative trend as in the EU-27. In 2010, 2011 and 2013 there was a recovery in household consumption at EU-27 level. Household consumption in Greece has been declining

since the beginning of the financial and economic crisis and the figures have been worsening every year over the period 2008-2013.

**Household consumption**  
(% change compared with the previous year)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
EU-27	0,9	-0,6	1,0	0,2	-0,5	0,1
Greece	2,9	-0,3	-6,8	-7,2	-8,9	-5,6

Source: Eurostat<sup>7</sup>

15. According to a study by INE-GSEE<sup>8</sup>, published in July 2014, three out of four workers or employees stated that his/her income level has declined in 2014 compared with the previous year due to salary cuts. Moreover, 38 % of respondents, believing that their salaries will be cut again in the next quarter, had reduced their expenses accordingly.
16. Over the period 2009-2015, the consumer confidence indicator (weighted percentage of positive and negative answers) has been negative. The indicator deteriorated greatly during the first three years (-46 (2009) -63 (2010) -74 (2011)), reaching its worst result in 2012 (-75). Consumers have been regaining confidence since then and the indicator is almost back to the values of 2009: (-49 for the period 2014-2015).
17. According to the ELSTAT report on household income and living conditions, 23 % of Greeks were below the poverty threshold<sup>9</sup> in 2012.
18. To date, the retail sector has been the subject of another five EGF applications<sup>10</sup>, all of which based on the global financial and economic crisis.

*Events giving rise to the redundancies and cessation of activity*

19. According to the Greek authorities, the events giving rise to these redundancies were the bankruptcy and closure of the company. The reasons leading the company to bankrupt were mainly two: (1) the decrease of available household income — due to the increase in the tax burden, decreasing salaries (of both private and public employees) and rising unemployment — resulting in a huge drop of purchasing power; (2) the drastic reduction of loans to enterprises and individuals due to the lack of cash in the Greek banks. According to the Bank of Greece, the annual growth rate for loans granted to households and enterprises (excluding financial undertakings) has been negative since 2010 due to a cash shortfall in the Greek banks.

<sup>7</sup> Code: nama\_fcs\_k

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.inegsee.gr/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Symperasmata.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> In Greece, the poverty line is EUR 5 708 per year per person (for individuals) and EUR 11 986 for households comprising two adults and two children up to 14 years old.

<sup>10</sup> EGF/2010/010 CZ Unilever, COM(2011) 61  
EGF/2010/016 ES Aragón retail, COM(2010) 615  
EGF/2011/004 GR ALDI Hellas, COM(2011) 580  
EGF/2014/009 GR Sprider Stores, COM(2014) 620  
EGF/2014/013 GR Odyssefs Fokas, COM(2014) 702

20. In 1986 a group of small grocery stores in the prefecture of Larissa set up a cooperative (Supermarket Larissa). The cooperative grew rapidly and opened new stores integrating new worker-owners to the co-op. Eventually the enterprise had 42 shops and 600 workers between employees and worker-owners. The successful development of the cooperative was cut short by the economic and financial crisis.
21. Due to the drop of purchasing power of Greek households following the decline of the Greek economy since the beginning of the economic and financial crisis, demand for products, even basic staples, declined. In 2015, after declining for five consecutive years, volumes of retail trade of food, beverages and tobacco were more than 30 % lower than the early-crisis volumes of 2008.

**Volumes of retail trade of food, beverages and tobacco in Greece  
(annual percentage changes)**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014-2015 <sup>11</sup>
Food-beverages-tobacco <sup>12</sup>	-6.1	-5.5	-6.0	-9.0	-9.1	0.4

*Source: ELSTAT*

22. The sales of Supermarket Larissa followed the same downturn as the Greek economy and in 2013 sales were 24 % lower than in 2009.

<sup>11</sup> Period covers from Jan. 2014-Nov. 2015

<sup>12</sup> Comprising big food stores and specialised food-beverage-tobacco stores.

**Supermarket Larissa ABEE**  
(sales - million euro)

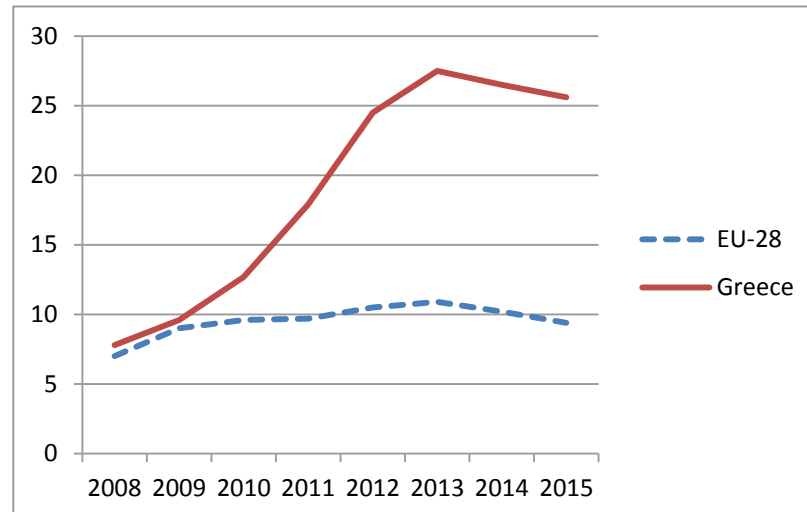
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
67,6	66,9	64,5	58,6	51,6

23. In order to adjust to the market situation, the enterprise applied some austerity measures such as wage cuts (-30%), renegotiation of the leases, putting off the maturity date of bills, proposing cheaper products, reducing operation cost (e.g. by reducing the lighting hours in the stores), etc. However the enterprise could not overcome its losses and eventually had to close the shops one after another during Q2 2014. The closure of the enterprise and subsequent layoffs eventually happened one year later (Q2 2015), when the court ruled on the bankruptcy request filled by a supplier of Supermarket Larissa.

*Expected impact of the redundancies as regards the local, regional or national economy and employment*

24. The Greek authorities argue that the redundancies in Supermarket Larissa will further aggravate the unemployment situation, which already deteriorated as a result of the economic and financial crisis and seems to be particularly fragile. Greece has the highest unemployment rates amongst EU Member states and the fifth highest worldwide<sup>13</sup>.

**Unemployment rate**



Source: Eurostat<sup>14</sup> and ELSTAT

25. In addition, Supermarket Larissa's debts to third parties are estimated at about EUR 33,5 million. This is believed to affect particularly the supermarket's suppliers, resulting in cascading bankruptcies and additional redundancies.

<sup>13</sup> Source: ILO.  
[http://www.ilo.org/global/research/global-reports/global-employment-trends/2014/WCMS\\_233936/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/research/global-reports/global-employment-trends/2014/WCMS_233936/lang--en/index.htm)

<sup>14</sup> Eurostat Code tsdec450.



26. Most of the redundancies (97,5 %) are concentrated in Thessalia, in the NUTS level 3 territory of Larissa (EL142). The employment situation in Thessaly which seemed to be slightly better than the national average (51,8 % vs 50,8 % in 2012 and 49,6 % vs 48,8 % in 2013) was slightly worse in 2014 (49 % vs 49,4 %)<sup>15</sup>. Furthermore, there is a lack of job offers in the region if compared with the high number of job seekers. As a result, 73,5 % of the unemployed persons have been unemployed for more than 12 months in Thessalia<sup>16</sup>.

## Targeted beneficiaries and proposed actions

### Targeted beneficiaries

27. All the redundant workers are expected to participate in the measures. The breakdown of these workers by sex, citizenship and age group is as follows:

Category		Number of targeted beneficiaries	
Sex:	Men:	194	(34,8 %)
	Women:	363	(65,2 %)
Citizenship:	EU citizens:	556	(99,8 %)
	non-EU citizens:	1	(0,2 %)
Age group:	15-24 years:	0	(0,0 %)
	25-29 years:	50	(9,0 %)
	30-54 years:	479	(86,0 %)
	55-64 years:	28	(5,0 %)
	over 64 years:	0	(0,0 %)

28. Additionally, Greece will provide personalised services co-financed by the EGF up to 543 young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs) under the age of 30 on the date of submission of the application, given that the redundancies referred to in paragraph 5 occurred in the NUTS level 2 regions of Thessalia (Θεσσαλία) (EL14) and Central Macedonia (Κεντρική Μακεδονία) (EL12), which are eligible under the Youth Employment Initiative.
29. The total estimated number of targeted beneficiaries expected to participate in the measures, including NEETs, is therefore 1 100.

### Eligibility of the proposed actions

30. The personalised services to be provided to redundant workers and NEETs consist of the following actions:
- Occupational guidance: This accompanying measure, which will be offered to all participants, covers the following stages:

<sup>15</sup> Source: Eurostat [codes (lfst\_r\_lfe2emprr) and (lfsi\_emp\_a)]

<sup>16</sup> Source: Eurostat code [lfst\_r\_lfu2ltu]

**1 Information addressed to NEETs.** Unlike the targeted workers, who are already identified (Supermarket Larissa former employees and owner-workers), the group of targeted NEETs is still to be defined. Among other criteria for selecting the targeted NEETs, the Greek authorities will use criteria aligned with the criteria included in the Greek Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan (i.e. young people at risk of exclusion, level of household income, education level, duration of unemployment, etc.), as well as expressions of interest. For this purpose they intend to launch information campaigns aimed specifically at the NEETs.

**2 Intake and registration.** The first measure provided to all participants (workers and NEETs) includes information on available services and training programmes and on skills and training requirements.

**3 Personal and occupational paper.** This is intended to help workers and NEETs to identify their own strengths, weaknesses and the opportunities related to their own interests, to establish a realistic career plan. Following these assessments, a personal and occupational paper is put together, setting out an individual project and an action plan.

**4 Job-search support and career guidance.** This includes: (1) training in horizontal issues such as development of social skills, adjustment to new situations, decision making; (2) job-search assistance including information on available jobs, active research of the local and regional employment opportunities, job-search techniques and training on drafting of CVs and cover letters and how to prepare a job interview; (3) career guidance : the counsellors will provide vocational guidance to the dismissed workers and NEETs and will steer them towards specific job offers.

**5 Guidance towards employment.** The counsellors will also accompany the workers and NEETs during the implementation of their training pathways and individual plans of reintegration into employment. The participants interested in setting up a business will receive general support and counselling towards entrepreneurship in the framework of this occupational guidance measure.

**6 Monitoring.** This provides a follow up of the participants during the six months that follow the end of the implementation of the measures. This activity will be carried out at Member State expense.

- Training, retraining and vocational training. This measure consists in providing vocational training courses to workers and NEETs which correspond to their needs, as identified during the occupational consultancy activity, and in areas and sectors with good developments prospects and that correspond to recognised needs in the labour market. The training courses might also be complemented with internships.
- Contribution to business start-up. The workers or NEETs who set up their own businesses will receive up to EUR 15 000 as a contribution to cover setting-up costs. In Greece, one of the major difficulties that entrepreneurs face when starting up a business is access to funding. Banks, due to the shortage of cash, turn down the majority of loan requests. This measure aims to promote

entrepreneurship through this financial support. The contribution will be paid in instalments after reaching certain milestones such as drawing up a business plan, registering the enterprise, etc. Given the background as co-op members/worker-owners of a significant number of beneficiaries, the Greek authorities consider it highly likely that some of the new businesses will take the form of social cooperatives and thus be eligible for assistance under the Greek law on the social economy and social entrepreneurship<sup>17</sup>.

- Participation allowance and training allowance. To cover the expenses incurred when participating in the occupational guidance measure, the beneficiaries will receive EUR 50 per day of participation. While in training the allowance will be EUR 6 per hour.
  - Mobility allowance. The workers or NEETs who accept a job involving a change of residence will receive a lump sum of EUR 2 000 to cover the necessary expenditure.
31. The proposed actions, here described, constitute active labour market measures within the eligible actions set out in Article 7 of the EGF Regulation. These actions do not substitute passive social protection measures.
32. Greece has provided the required information on actions that are mandatory for the enterprise concerned by virtue of national law or pursuant to collective agreements. They have confirmed that a financial contribution from the EGF will not replace such actions.

#### *Estimated budget*

33. The estimated total costs are EUR 10 780 000, comprising expenditure for personalised services of EUR 10 530 000 and expenditure for preparatory, management, information and publicity, control and reporting activities of EUR 250 000.
34. The total financial contribution requested from the EGF is EUR 6 468 000 (60 % of total costs).

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<sup>17</sup> Law 4019/2011.

Actions	Estimated number of participants	Estimated cost per participant (EUR)	Estimated total costs (EUR)
Personalised services (Actions under Article 7(1)(a) and (c) of the EGF Regulation)			
Occupational guidance	1 100	1 250	1 375 000
Training, retraining and vocational training	1 100	2 690	2 960 000
Contribution to business start-up	200	15 000	3 000 000
Sub-total (a):			7 335 000
Percentage of the package of personalised services		–	(69,66 %)
Allowances and incentives (Actions under Article 7(1)(b) of the EGF Regulation)			
Participation allowance	1 100	1 250	1 375 000
Training allowance	900	1 800	1 620 000
Mobility allowance and contribution to commuting expenses	100	2 000	200 000
Sub-total (b):			3 195 000
Percentage of the package of personalised services:		–	(30,34 %)
Actions under Article 7(4) of the EGF Regulation			
1. Preparatory activities		–	40 000
2. Management		–	110 000
3. Information and publicity		–	50 000
4. Control and reporting		–	50 000
Sub-total (c):			250 000
Percentage of the total costs			(2,32 %)
Total costs (a + b + c):		–	10 780 000
EGF contribution (60 % of total costs)		–	6 468 000

35. The costs of the actions identified in the table above as actions under Article 7(1)(b) of the EGF Regulation do not exceed 35 % of the total costs for the coordinated package of personalised services. Greece confirmed that these actions are conditional on the active participation of the targeted beneficiaries in job-search or training activities.

36. Greece confirmed that the costs of investments for self-employment, business start-ups and employee take-overs will not exceed EUR 15 000 per beneficiary.

*Period of eligibility of expenditure*

37. Greece started providing the personalised services to the targeted workers and NEETs on 26 February 2016. The expenditure on the actions for workers will therefore be eligible for a financial contribution from the EGF from 26 February 2016 to 26 February 2018 whilst the expenditure on the actions for NEETs will be eligible for a financial contribution from the EGF from 26 February 2016 to 31 December 2017.
38. Greece started incurring the administrative expenditure to implement the EGF on 26 February 2016. The expenditure for preparatory, management, information and publicity, control and reporting activities shall therefore be eligible for a financial contribution from the EGF from 26 February 2016 to 26 August 2018.

*Complementarity with actions funded by national or Union funds*

39. The source of national pre-financing or co-funding is the National Public Investment Programme.
40. Greece has confirmed that the measures described above receiving a financial contribution from the EGF will not also receive financial contributions from other Union financial instruments.

*Procedures for consulting the targeted beneficiaries or their representatives or the social partners as well as local and regional authorities*

41. Greece has indicated that the co-ordinated package of personalised services has been drawn up in consultation with the representatives of the targeted beneficiaries, the Labour Institute of the Greek General Confederation (GSEE) and the Manpower Employment Organisation (OAED)<sup>18</sup>. There was a first contact meeting in March 2015 to check the eligibility of a case in support of the former workers of supermarket Larissa. After various contacts between the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Social Solidarity and the workers' representatives, the proposed application and the content of the integrated package of measures were agreed in July 2015.

**Management and control systems**

42. The application contains a description of the management and control system which specifies the responsibilities of the bodies involved. Greece has notified the Commission that the financial contribution will be managed and controlled by the same bodies that manage and control the European Social Fund (ESF) funding in Greece. The ESF Actions Implementation Authority (EYE-EKT) will act as managing authority, the Financial Control Committee of the General Secretariat of Fiscal Policy of the Ministry of Finances as audit authority and the Special Service

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<sup>18</sup> O.A.E.D. is the main instrument for implementation of Government Policy on Employment. It is a Legal Entity of Public Law and directly accountable to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

for Certification and Verification of Co-financed Programs of the Ministry of Economy, Infrastructure, Shipping and Tourism as certification authority.

### **Commitments provided by the Member State concerned**

43. Greece has provided all necessary assurances regarding the following:
- the principles of equality of treatment and non-discrimination will be respected in the access to the proposed actions and their implementation,
  - the requirements laid down in national and EU legislation concerning collective redundancies have been complied with,
  - the proposed actions will not receive financial support from other Union funds or financial instruments and any double financing will be prevented,
  - the proposed actions will be complementary with actions funded by the Structural Funds,
  - the financial contribution from the EGF will comply with the procedural and material Union rules on State aid.

## **BUDGETARY IMPLICATION**

### **Budgetary proposal**

44. The EGF shall not exceed a maximum annual amount of EUR 150 million (2011 prices), as laid down in Article 12 of Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013 of 2 December 2013 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020<sup>19</sup>.
45. Having examined the application in respect of the conditions set out in Article 13(1) of the EGF Regulation, and having taken into account the number of targeted beneficiaries, the proposed actions and the estimated costs, the Commission proposes to mobilise the EGF for the amount of EUR 6 468 000, representing 60 % of the total costs of the proposed actions, in order to provide a financial contribution for the application.
46. The proposed decision to mobilise the EGF will be taken jointly by the European Parliament and the Council, as laid down in point 13 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>20</sup>.

### **Related acts**

47. At the same time as it presents this proposal for a decision to mobilise the EGF, the Commission will present to the European Parliament and to the Council a proposal for a transfer to the relevant budgetary line for the amount of EUR 6 468 000.

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<sup>19</sup> OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 884.

<sup>20</sup> OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

48. At the same time as it adopts this proposal for a decision to mobilise the EGF, the Commission will adopt a decision on a financial contribution, by means of an implementing act, which will enter into force on the date at which the European Parliament and the Council adopt the proposed decision to mobilise the EGF.

Proposal for a

**DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**

**on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund  
(application from Greece – EGF/2015/011 GR/Supermarket Larissa)**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (2014-2020) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006<sup>21</sup>, and in particular Article 15(4) thereof,

Having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>22</sup>, and in particular point 13 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) aims to provide support for workers made redundant and self-employed persons whose activity has ceased as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation, as a result of a continuation of the global financial and economic crisis, or as a result of a new global financial and economic crisis, and to assist them with their reintegration into the labour market.
- (2) The EGF is not to exceed a maximum annual amount of EUR 150 million (2011 prices), as laid down in Article 12 of Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013<sup>23</sup>.
- (3) On 26 November 2015, Greece submitted an application EGF/2015/011 GR/Supermarket Larissa for a financial contribution from the EGF, following redundancies in Supermarket Larissa ABEE in Greece. It was supplemented by additional information provided in accordance with Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013. That application complies with the requirements for determining a financial contribution from the EGF as laid down in Article 13 of Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013.

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<sup>21</sup> OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 855.

<sup>22</sup> OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

<sup>23</sup> Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 884).



- (4) In accordance with Article 6(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013, Greece has decided to provide personalised services co-financed by the EGF also to 543 young persons not in employment, education or training (NEETs).
- (5) The EGF should, therefore, be mobilised in order to provide a financial contribution of EUR 6 468 000 in respect of the application submitted by Greece.
- (6) In order to minimise the time taken to mobilise the EGF, this decision should apply from the date of its adoption,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

For the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016, the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund shall be mobilised to provide the sum of EUR 6 468 000 in commitment and payment appropriations.

*Article 2*

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union. It shall apply from *[the date of its adoption]*\*.

Done at Brussels,

*For the European Parliament*  
*The President*

*For the Council*  
*The President*

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\* *Date to be inserted by the Parliament before the publication in OJ.*