



Council of the  
European Union

**Brussels, 11 November 2014  
(OR. en)**

**15409/14**

**FIN 844  
SOC 773**

**PROPOSAL**

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From: Secretary-General of the European Commission,  
signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director

date of receipt: 11 November 2014

To: Mr Uwe CORSEPIUS, Secretary-General of the Council of the European  
Union

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No. Cion doc.: COM(2014) 702 final

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Subject: Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on  
the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in  
accordance with 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 (application EGF/2014/013 EL/Odyssefs Fokas)

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Delegations will find attached document COM(2014) 702 final.

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Encl.: COM(2014) 702 final



Brussels, 11.11.2014  
COM(2014) 702 final

Proposal for a

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

**on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with 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  
(application EGF/2014/013 EL/Odysefs Fokas)**

## 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. The Greek authorities submitted application EGF/2014/013 EL/Odyssefs Fokas for a financial contribution from the EGF, following redundancies in Odyssefs Fokas S.A. 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/2014/013 EL/Odyssefs Fokas
Member State	Greece
Region(s) concerned (NUTS level 2)	Κεντρική Μακεδονία (Central Macedonia) (EL12), Θεσσαλία (Thessaly) (EL14), Αττική (Attica) (EL30)
Date of submission of the application	29.7.2014
Date of acknowledgement of receipt of the application	4.8.2014
Date of request for additional information	12.8.2014
Deadline for provision of the additional information	23.9.2014
Deadline for the completion of the assessment	16.12.2014
Intervention criterion	Article 4(1)(a) of the EGF Regulation
Primary enterprise	Odyssefs Fokas S.A.
Sector(s) of economic activity (NACE Rev. 2 division) <sup>2</sup>	Division 47 ('Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles')
Number of subsidiaries, suppliers and downstream producers	0
Reference period (four months)	3 February 2014 – 3 June 2014
Number of redundancies or cessations of activity during the reference period ( <i>a</i> )	551

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

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1893/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 establishing the statistical classification of economic activities NACE Revision 2 and amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 3037/90 as well as certain EC regulations on specific statistical domains (OJ L 393, 30.12.2006, p. 1).

Number of redundancies or cessations of activity before or after the reference period ( <i>b</i> )	49
Total number of redundancies ( <i>a + b</i> )	600
Total estimated number of targeted beneficiaries	600
Number of targeted young persons not in employment, education or training (NEETs)	500
Budget for personalised services (EUR)	10 530 000
Budget for implementing EGF <sup>3</sup> (EUR)	210 000
Total budget (EUR)	10 740 000
EGF contribution (60 %) (EUR)	6 444 000

## ASSESSMENT OF THE APPLICATION

### Procedure

4. The Greek authorities submitted application EGF/2014/013 EL/Odyssefs Fokas within 12 weeks of the date on which the intervention criteria set out in Art. 4 of the EGF Regulation were met, on 29 July 2014. The Commission acknowledged receipt of the application within two weeks of the date of submission of the application, on 4 August 2014 and requested additional information from the Greek authorities on 12 August 2014. Such additional information was provided within six weeks of the date 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 16 December 2014.

### Eligibility of the application

#### *Enterprises and beneficiaries concerned*

5. The application relates to 600 workers made redundant in Odyssefs Fokas S.A., an enterprise which operated in the economic sector classified under NACE Rev. 2 division 47 ('Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles'). The redundancies are mainly located in the NUTS<sup>4</sup> level 2 regions of Κεντρική Μακεδονία (Central Macedonia) (EL12), Αττική (Attica) (EL30) and Θεσσαλία (Thessaly) (EL14).

#### *Intervention criteria*

6. The Greek authorities 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 or self-employed persons' activity ceasing, over a reference period of four months in an enterprise in a Member State, including workers made redundant and self-employed persons' activity ceasing in its suppliers and downstream producers.

<sup>3</sup> In accordance with the fourth paragraph of Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013.

<sup>4</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).

7. The reference period of four months runs from 3 February 2014 to 3 June 2014.
8. The application relates to 551 workers made redundant<sup>5</sup> in Odyssefs Fokas during the reference period of four months.

Calculation of redundancies and of cessation of activity

9. All the redundancies have been calculated from the date of the de facto termination of the contract of employment or its expiry.

Eligible beneficiaries

10. In addition to the workers already referred to in paragraph 8, the eligible beneficiaries include 49 workers made redundant before the reference period of four months indicated in paragraph 7. As required by Art.6, these workers were all made redundant after the general announcement of the projected redundancies<sup>6</sup> on 29 November 2012 and a clear causal link can be established with the event which triggered the redundancies during the reference period.
11. The total number of eligible beneficiaries is therefore 600.

Link between the redundancies and major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation/ the global financial and economic crisis addressed in Regulation (EC) No 546/2009

12. 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 is for the sixth consecutive year (2008-2013) in deep recession. 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 by 20,6 percentage points.
13. 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.
14. Furthermore, to deal with foreign debt payments, in 2008 the Greek government took unpopular measures such as increasing tax revenues, 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. 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 of unemployment. An immediate effect of the reduced income has been a decrease in consumption.
15. In 2009, the drop of household consumption in Greece followed the same negative trend as in the EU-27. In 2010 and 2011, there was a recovery in household

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<sup>5</sup> Within the meaning of Article 3(a) of the EGF Regulation.

<sup>6</sup> On 29 November 2012 FOKAS filed an application under Article 99 of the Bankruptcy Code seeking protection from its creditors.

consumption at EU-27 level followed by a drop in 2012. Household consumption in Greece has been declining since the beginning of the financial and economic crisis and the figures have been worsening every year.

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

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
EU-27	0,44	-1,67	1,04	0,26	-0,74
Greece	4,67	-1,91	-6,39	-7,91	-9,07

*Source: Eurostat.*

16. According to the ELSTAT report on household income and living conditions, 23 % of Greeks were below the poverty threshold<sup>7</sup> in 2012.
17. According to a recent 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 believe that their salaries will be cut again in the next quarter. A majority of respondents have reduced their expenses accordingly, in particular the budget for non-essential items such as clothing and footwear.
18. To date, the retail sector has been the subject of another three EGF applications<sup>9</sup> also 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 the redundancies 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 cash shortfall in the Greek banks.
20. In the 80's Odyssefs Fokas, which already owned the third largest department store in Greece with total area of 7.500 m<sup>2</sup>, entered dynamically the wholesale business by undertaking the representation in the domestic market of well-known foreign apparel firms and the first shops-in-shop make their appearance in Greece through the Fokas department stores. In the next decade the group Fokas had an exponential growth. The enterprise increased its exclusivity agreements with international apparel firms and opened franchise stores of various international brands<sup>10</sup> in Athens and Thessaloniki. Over the years 1999-2008 the expansion of Fokas continued. Two

<sup>7</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>8</sup> <http://www.inegsee.gr/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Symperasmata.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> EGF/2010/016 ES Aragón retail. COM(2010) 615

EGF/2011/004 EL ALDI Hellas. COM(2011) 580

EGF/2014/009 EL Sprider Stores, currently being assessed

<sup>10</sup> The Original Levi's stores (1994), Active (1996) and Gruppo T (also in 1996).

department stores, with total gross space of 3.500 m<sup>2</sup> and 8.500 m<sup>2</sup> respectively, were opened in the most important shopping areas of Athens along with various showrooms, franchise shops and point-of-sales in agreement with various international brands<sup>11</sup>. The success came to an abrupt end with the outburst of the economic and financial crisis in 2008.

21. Due to the drop of purchasing power of the Greek households following the decline of the Greek economy since the beginning of the economic and financial crisis, demand for products other than basic staples plummeted and the turnover of Odyssefs Fokas started declining accordingly.

**Odyssefs Fokas turnover (2008-2012)**  
**Million euro**

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
100	87	69	49	30

*Source: Odyssefs Fokas' balance sheets, published in Gazette 2008-2012*

22. Another consequence of the recession of the Greek economy was the cash flow shortage. To remedy it Odyssefs Fokas sought financial help from banks, unsuccessfully.
23. The reduction in turnover which resulted from the drop in consumption together with the tightening of credit made unworkable the attempts of Odyssefs Fokas to find a solution. In November 2013, twelve months after filing an application seeking protection from its creditors and after various evictions, the enterprise filed for bankruptcy resulting in the redundancies covered by this application.

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

24. The Greek authorities argue that the redundancies in Odyssefs Fokas will further aggravate the unemployment situation, which already deteriorated as a result of the economic and financial crisis and seems to be particularly fragile. During the period 2008-2013 the number of unemployed people increased four-fold (from 361 482 job seekers in June 2008 to 1 403 698 in June 2013)<sup>12</sup>. Greece has the highest unemployment rates amongst EU Member states and the fifth highest worldwide<sup>13</sup>

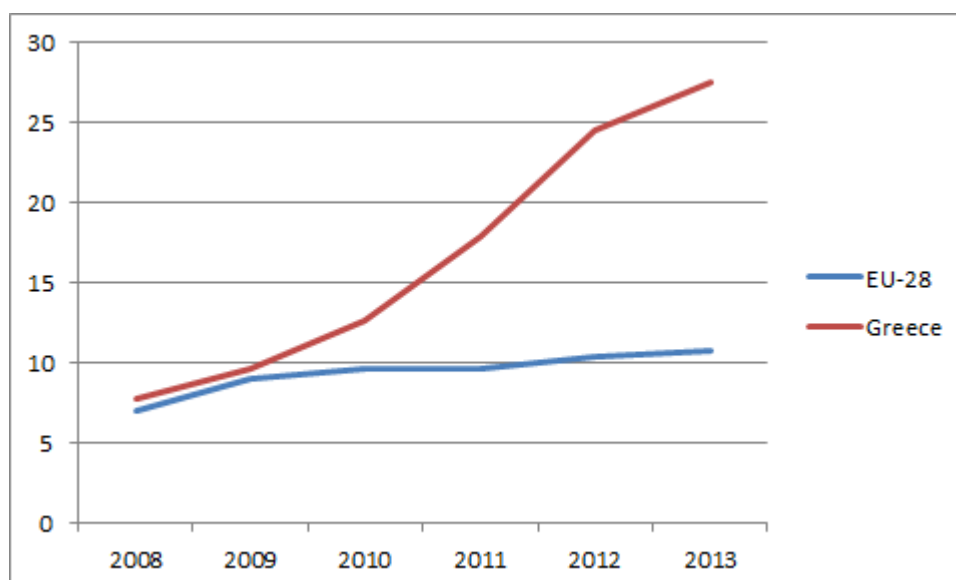
**Unemployment rate**

<sup>11</sup> Espirit, Mango, Façonable and Gerry Weber

<sup>12</sup> [www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr)

<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)



Source: Eurostat<sup>14</sup>

25. Most of the redundancies (90 %) are concentrated in Attica and Central Macedonia whilst about 10 % of the redundancies occurred in the region of Thessaly. In Q4 2013, the unemployment rate in Attica and Central Macedonia was above the national average (27,5 %). In Attica it was 28,2 % and in Central Macedonia it was 30,3 %<sup>15</sup>. The employment situation in Thessaly is slightly better than the national average, nevertheless the unemployment rate is 26 %.
26. Furthermore, there is a lack of job offers in all three regions if compared with the high number of job seekers. As a result, more than 70 % of the unemployed persons have been unemployed for more than 12 months. In Central Macedonia the situation of young job-seekers is particularly dramatic, since the youth unemployment rate is 60,4 %. Moreover, Attica accounts for 43 % of the Greek GDP; therefore the impact of the closure of businesses based in this region reaches the whole Greek economy.

## Targeted beneficiaries and proposed actions

### Targeted beneficiaries

27. The estimated number of targeted workers expected to participate in the measures is 600. The breakdown of these workers by sex, citizenship and age group is as follows:

Category		Number of targeted beneficiaries	
Sex:	Men:	65	(10,83 %)
	Women:	535	(89,17 %)
Citizenship:	EU citizens:	592	(98,67 %)
	non-EU citizens:	8	(1,33 %)
Age group:	15-24 years:	6	(1,00 %)

<sup>14</sup> Code tsdec450

<sup>15</sup> Source: ELSTAT. Q4 2013 Labour Force Survey



25-29 years:	45	(7,50 %)
30-54 years:	509	(84,83 %)
55-64 years:	39	(6,50 %)
over 64 years:	1	(0,17 %)

28. Additionally, the Greek authorities will provide personalised services co-financed by the EGF to up to 500 young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs) under the age of 30 on the date of submission of the application, given that all of the redundancies referred to in paragraph 8 occur in the NUTS level 2 regions of Κεντρική Μακεδονία (Central Macedonia) (EL12), Θεσσαλία (Thessaly) (EL14) and Αττική (Attica) (EL30), 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:

**1 Information addressed to NEETs.** Unlike what happens with the 600 targeted workers, who are already identified (Odyssefs Fokas former 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 Skills assessment and personal and occupational paper.** This is intended to help workers and NEETs to identify their own skills and the opportunities related to their own interests and to establish a realistic career plan. The skills assessment involves intensive and personalised counselling, structured as a pathway consisting of various stages in which the worker and the counsellor work on an issue (e.g. opportunities, interests, analysis of the motivations and expectations, barriers, etc.). Following these assessments, a personal and occupational paper is put together, setting out a summary of the participant's skills, his/her 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 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.

- 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 could also be complemented with internship.
  - 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.
  - Job-search 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. Those 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. The Greek authorities have 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 10 740 000, comprising expenditure for personalised services of EUR 10 530 000 and expenditure for preparatory,

management, information and publicity, control and reporting activities of EUR 210 000.

34. The total financial contribution requested from the EGF is EUR 6 444 000 (60 % of total costs).

Actions	Estimated number of participants	Estimated cost per participant (EUR) (*)	Estimated total costs (EUR) (**)
<b>Personalised services (Actions under Article 7(1)(a) and (c) of the EGF Regulation)</b>			
Occupational guidance	1 100	1 250	1 375 000
Training, retraining and vocational training	1 100	2 691	2 960 000
Contribution to business start-up	200	15 000	3 000 000
Sub-total (a):	–		7 335 000; (69,66 %)
<b>Allowances and incentives (Actions under Article 7(1)(b) of the EGF Regulation)</b>			
Job-search allowance	1 100	1 250	1 375 000
Training allowance	900	1 800	1 620 000
Mobility allowance.	100	2 000	200 000
Sub-total(b):	–		3 195 000; (30,34 %)
<b>Actions under Article 7(4) of the EGF Regulation</b>			
1. Preparatory activities	–		40 000
2. Management	–		40 000
3. Information and publicity	–		100 000
4. Control and reporting	–		30 000
Sub-total (c):	–		210 000; (1,96 %)
Total costs (a + b + c):	–		10 740 000
EGF contribution (60 % of total costs)	–		6 444 000

(\*) *To avoid decimals, the estimated costs per worker have been rounded. However the rounding has no impact on the total cost of each measure which remains as in the application submitted by Greece.*

(\*\*) *Totals do not tally due to rounding.*

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. The Greek authorities confirmed that these actions are conditional on the active participation of the targeted beneficiaries in job-search or training activities.
36. The Greek authorities 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. The Greek authorities started providing the personalised services to the targeted beneficiaries on 20 October 2014. The expenditure on the actions referred to in point 30 shall therefore be eligible for a financial contribution from the EGF from 20 October 2014 to 20 October 2016.
38. The Greek authorities started incurring the administrative expenditure to implement the EGF on 1 September 2014. The expenditure for preparatory, management, information and publicity, control and reporting activities shall therefore be eligible for a financial contribution from the EGF from 1 September 2014 to 20 April 2017.

#### Complementarity with actions funded by national or Union funds

39. The source of national pre-financing or co-funding is the Public Investment Programme of the Ministry of Development.
40. The Greek authorities have confirmed that the measures described above receiving a financial contribution from the EGF will not also receive financial contribution 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. The Greek authorities have indicated that the co-ordinated package of personalised services has been drawn up in consultation with the representatives of the targeted beneficiaries (former Fokas employees and lawyers of the employees) and the Federation of private employees in Greece. There was a first contact meeting on February 2014 to check on the eligibility of a case in support of the former Fokas workers. After various contacts between EYSEKT<sup>16</sup> and the workers representatives, on 8 July 2014 the proposed application and the contents of the integrated package of measures was discussed.

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<sup>16</sup> ESF Actions Coordination and Monitoring Authority (EYSEKT) is the managing authority of the EGF in Greece.

## **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. ESF Actions Coordination and Monitoring Authority (EYSEKT) will act as managing authority, the EDEL (Fiscal Audit Committee) as control authority and the Special Paying Authority Service as certification authority.

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

43. The Greek authorities have 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>17</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 6 444 000, 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

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<sup>17</sup> OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 884.

the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management<sup>18</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 6 444 000.
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.

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<sup>18</sup>

OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

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

**on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with 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 (application EGF/2014/013 EL/Odyssefs Fokas)**

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>19</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>20</sup>, and in particular point 13 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) was established 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 addressed in Regulation (EC) No 546/2009<sup>21</sup>, 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 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.
- (3) Greece submitted an application to mobilise the EGF, in respect of redundancies<sup>22</sup> in Odyssefs Fokas S.A. in Greece, on 29 July 2014 and supplemented it by additional information as provided by Article 8.3 of Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013. This 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.

<sup>19</sup> OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 855.

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

<sup>21</sup> OJ L 167, 29.6.2009, p.26.

<sup>22</sup> Within the meaning of Article 3(a) of the EGF Regulation.

- (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 young persons not in employment, education or training (NEETs).
- (5) The EGF should, therefore, be mobilised in order to provide a financial contribution of an amount of EUR 6 444 000 for the application submitted by Greece,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

For the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2014, the EGF shall be mobilised to provide the sum of EUR 6 444 000 in commitment and payment appropriations.

*Article 2*

This decision shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels,

*For the European Parliament*  
*The President*

*For the Council*  
*The President*