



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 12 October 2020  
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**COVER NOTE**

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From:	Mr Johannes HAHN, Member of the European Commission
date of receipt:	12 October 2020
To:	Ms Bettina HAGEDORN, President of the Council of the European Union

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Subject:	Proposal for transfer of appropriations No DEC 18/2020 within Section III - Commission - of the general budget for 2020
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Delegations will find attached Commission document DEC 18/2020.

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Encl.: DEC 18/2020



BRUSSELS, 09/10/2020

GENERAL BUDGET - 2020  
SECTION III - COMMISSION TITLE: 19

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS N° **DEC 18/2020**

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**FROM**

**CHAPTER** - 1904 Election observation missions (EU EOMs)

ARTICLE - 19 04 01 Improving the reliability of electoral processes, in particular by means of election observation missions	Commitments	-15 000 000,00
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**TO**

**CHAPTER** - 1902 Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) -- Crisis response, conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness

ARTICLE - 19 02 01 Response to crisis and emerging crisis	Commitments	15 000 000,00
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The transfer request concerns the reinforcement of the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) crisis response pillar in order to ensure adequate EU reaction to current and arising crises.

The Commission proposes the re-allocation of EUR 15 million from the budget line 19 04 01 - improving the reliability of electoral processes, in particular by means of election observation missions - under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) to the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) budget line 19 02 01 to respond to ongoing crises in conflict-affected regions across the world.

## **I. DECREASE**

### **I.1**

#### **a) Heading**

**19 04 01 - Improving the reliability of electoral processes, in particular by means of election observation missions**

#### **b) Figures at 28/09/2020**

	<b>Commitments</b>
1 Appropriations in budget (Initial Budget + AB)	43 442 462,00
2 Transfers	-5 000 000,00
3 Total appropriations for the year (1+2)	38 442 462,00
4 Appropriations already used	18 942 462,00
<b>5 Appropriations available (3-4)</b>	<b>19 500 000,00</b>
<b>6 Decrease proposed</b>	<b>15 000 000,00</b>
<b>7 Total appropriations up to year end (5-6)</b>	<b>4 500 000,00</b>
8 Decrease as percentage of appropriations in budget (6/1)	34,53 %
9 Decrease, as a percentage of the final appropriations for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 30(1)(b) of the Financial Regulation	n/a

#### **c) Receipts arising from recovery (carried over from previous year)**

	<b>Commitments</b>
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	757 251,94
2 Appropriations available on 28/09/2020	0,00
3 Implementation rate [(1-2)/1]	100,00 %

#### **d) Detailed grounds for the decrease**

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, many missions were cancelled, delayed and changed, leaving a surplus of EUR 19,5 million in commitment appropriations on the budget line for Election Observation Missions under EIDHR:

- Elections were postponed (e.g. Ethiopia, Haiti);
- Election observation missions were cancelled and or replaced by desk review or election expert missions (e.g. Myanmar, Cote d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Bolivia, Sri Lanka);
- Election follow-up missions were cancelled (e.g. Kosovo, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Liberia, Madagascar, and Lebanon).

The Commission therefore proposes EUR 15 million to be transferred to the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) to support to ongoing crises. Another EUR 4,5 million are available to cover other purposes.

## **II. INCREASE**

### **II.1**

#### **a) Heading**

**19 02 01 - Response to crisis and emerging crisis**

#### **b) Figures at 28/09/2020**

	<b>Commitments</b>
1 Appropriations in budget (Initial Budget + AB)	266 073 177,00
2 Transfers	0,00
3 Total appropriations for the year (1+2)	266 073 177,00
4 Appropriations already used	232 504 383,41
<b>5 Appropriations available (3-4)</b>	<b>33 568 793,59</b>
<b>6 Increase requested</b>	<b>15 000 000,00</b>
<b>7 Total appropriations up to year end (5+6)</b>	<b>48 568 793,59</b>
8 Increase as percentage of appropriations in budget (6/1)	5,64 %
9 Increase, as a percentage of the final appropriations for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 30(1)(b) of the Financial Regulation	n/a

#### **c) Receipts arising from recovery (carried over from previous year)**

	<b>Commitments</b>
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	237 070,36
2 Appropriations available on 28/09/2020	228 829,65
3 Implementation rate $[(1-2)/1]$	3,48 %

#### **d) Detailed grounds for the increase**

In 2020, 20% of the IcSP budget allocated to this budget line was spent on unexpected Covid-19 related actions specifically focussing on disinformation and conflict-affected communities. Combined with the fact that 2020 is the last year of the current Multiannual Financial Framework, this has depleted the ability to provide the rapid response actions for conflict prevention, mediation and crisis response that the IcSP is called upon to provide.

The developments in Ukraine, Syria, Libya, Somalia, and the Central African Republic continue to generate important needs, while new or rapidly evolving crises in Sudan, Nicaragua and Côte d'Ivoire require new timely engagements. In addition, previous engagements on on-going peace processes and reform efforts are being consolidated, and targeted initiatives were launched to prevent conflicts from escalation.

The reinforcement of EUR 15 million will be used for the following actions:

- to support the implementation of the ceasefire in Libya through additional demining, mediation and ceasefire monitoring measures ( EUR 7,4 million);

- to cover needs in Latin America for additional support to health and conflict prevention measures in areas where many Venezuelan refugees are present (EUR 1,6 million); and
- to provide urgent support in Mozambique, where, for the first time, the government acknowledges that it requires EU help to address instability in the Cabo Delgado region (EUR 5 million).
- Discussions are ongoing on support to Belarus (strengthening independent media/civil society), Sudan and Mali (support to transition), which will require a reinforcement of EUR 1 million.