

**Amendment 96**

**Alexandr Vondra, Elżbieta Kruk, Joanna Kopcińska, Valdemar Tomaševski, Jadwiga Wiśniewska, Carlo Fidanza, Sergio Berlato, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Zdzisław Krasnodebski, Veronika Vrecionová, Beata Szydło, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Anna Zalewska**  
on behalf of the ECR Group

**Report**

**A9-0135/2020**

**Manolis Kefalogiannis**

Establishing the Just Transition Fund  
(2020/0006(COD))

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Recital 5 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(5 a) The size of the JTF should be commensurate to the needs of a just climate and environmental transition. Funding should be provided to all Member States to support their transition with a particular focus on coal mining territories, where coal is still harvested and also on territories where important structural changes take place as a consequence of phasing out mining activities.***

Or. en

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A9-0135/2020

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Establishing the Just Transition Fund  
(2020/0006(COD))

**Proposal for a regulation****Recital 10***Text proposed by the Commission*

(10) This Regulation identifies types of investments for which expenditure may be supported by the JTF. All supported activities should be pursued in full respect of the climate **and** environmental priorities of the Union. The list of investments should include those that support local economies and are sustainable in the long-term, taking into account all the objectives of the Green Deal. The projects financed should contribute to a transition to a climate-neutral and circular economy. For declining sectors, such as energy production based on coal, lignite, peat and oil shale or extraction activities for these solid fossil fuels, support should be linked to the phasing out of the activity and the corresponding reduction in the employment level. As regards transforming sectors with high greenhouse gas emission levels, support should promote new activities through the deployment of new technologies, new processes or products, leading to significant emission reduction, in line with the EU 2030 climate objectives and EU climate neutrality by 2050<sup>13</sup> while maintaining and enhancing employment and avoiding environmental degradation. Particular attention should also be given to activities enhancing innovation and research in advanced and sustainable technologies, as well as in the fields of

*Amendment*

(10) This Regulation identifies types of investments for which expenditure may be supported by the JTF. All supported activities should be pursued in full respect of the climate, environmental **and social commitments and** priorities of the Union. The list of investments should include those that support **people, communities and** local economies and are sustainable in the long-term, taking into account all the objectives of the **European Green Deal and the European Pillar of Social Rights**. The projects financed should contribute to a **gradual and full** transition to a **sustainable, climate-neutral, pollution-free** and circular economy. **Investments in transitional energy sources, such as natural gas, should be eligible for support if such investments lead to a substantial reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and allow for the use of renewable gas as a sustainable alternative. Moreover, they should be consistent with Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council <sup>12a</sup>, unless a Member State justifies in the territorial just transition plan the need to support them and their consistency with the objective of EU climate neutrality.** For declining sectors, such as energy production based on coal, lignite, peat and oil shale or extraction activities for these solid fossil fuels,

digitalisation **and** connectivity, provided that such measures help mitigate the negative side effects of a transition towards, and contribute to, a climate-neutral and circular economy.

support should be linked to the phasing out of the activity and the corresponding reduction in the employment level. As regards transforming sectors with high greenhouse gas emission levels, support should promote new activities through the deployment of new technologies, new processes or products, leading to significant emission reduction, in line with the EU 2030 climate objectives and EU climate neutrality by 2050<sup>13</sup> while maintaining and enhancing **skilled** employment and avoiding environmental degradation. Particular attention should also be given to activities enhancing innovation and research in advanced and sustainable technologies, as well as in the fields of digitalisation, connectivity **and smart and sustainable mobility**, provided that such measures help mitigate the negative side effects of a transition towards, and contribute to, a climate-neutral and circular economy, **taking into account the economic, social and energy characteristics of each Member State. The importance of culture, education and community building for the transition process should also be met by supporting activities that address the mining heritage.**

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<sup>13</sup> As set out in “A Clean Planet for all European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy”, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the European Investment Bank - COM(2018) 773 final.

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<sup>12a</sup> **Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 (OJ L 198, 22.6.2020, p.13).**

<sup>13</sup> As set out in “A Clean Planet for all European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy”, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the European Investment Bank - COM(2018) 773 final.



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**Report****A9-0135/2020****Manolis Kefalogiannis**

Establishing the Just Transition Fund  
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**Proposal for a regulation****Recital 12***Text proposed by the Commission*

(12) In order to enhance the economic diversification of territories impacted by the transition, the JTF should provide support to productive investment in SMEs. Productive investment should be understood as investment in fixed capital or immaterial assets of enterprises in view of producing goods and services thereby contributing to gross-capital formation and employment. For enterprises other than SMEs, productive investments should **only** be supported if they are necessary for mitigating job losses resulting from the transition, by creating or protecting a significant number of jobs and they do not lead to or result from relocation. Investments in existing industrial facilities, including those covered by the Union Emissions Trading System, should be allowed if they contribute to the transition to a climate-neutral economy by 2050 and go substantially below the relevant benchmarks established for free allocation under Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>14</sup> and if they result in the protection of a significant number of jobs. Any such investment should be justified accordingly in the relevant territorial just transition plan. In order to protect the integrity of the internal market and cohesion policy, support to undertakings should comply with Union State aid rules as set out in

*Amendment*

(12) In order to enhance the economic diversification of territories impacted by the transition, the JTF should provide support to productive **investment, with a particular focus on** investment in SMEs. Productive investment should be understood as investment in fixed capital or immaterial assets of enterprises in view of producing goods and services thereby contributing to gross-capital formation and employment. For enterprises other than SMEs, productive investments should be supported if they are necessary for mitigating job losses resulting from the transition, by creating or protecting a significant number of jobs and they do not lead to or result from relocation. Investments in existing industrial facilities, including those covered by the Union Emissions Trading System, should be allowed if they contribute to the transition to a climate-neutral economy by 2050 and go substantially below the relevant benchmarks established for free allocation under Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>14</sup> and if they result in the protection of a significant number of jobs. Any such investment should be justified accordingly in the relevant territorial just transition plan. In order to protect the integrity of the internal market and cohesion policy, support to undertakings should comply

Articles 107 and 108 TFEU *and, in particular, support to productive investments by enterprises other than SMEs should be limited to enterprises located in areas designated as assisted areas for the purposes of points (a) and (c) of Article 107(3) TFEU.*

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<sup>14</sup> Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 establishing a scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Community and amending Council Directive 96/61/EC (OJ L 275, 25.10.2003, p. 32).

with Union State aid rules as set out in Articles 107 and 108 TFEU.

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<sup>14</sup> Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 establishing a scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Community and amending Council Directive 96/61/EC (OJ L 275, 25.10.2003, p. 32).

Or. en

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**Article 4 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(a) productive investments in SMEs, ***including*** start-ups, leading to economic diversification and reconversion;

(a) productive ***and sustainable*** investments in ***enterprises, particularly microenterprises***, SMEs ***and*** start-ups, leading to ***job creation, modernisation***, economic diversification and reconversion;

Or. en