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EU budget and the UK's contribution

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Summary

The UK's contribution to the EU budget

The UK voted to leave the EU on 23 June 2016. The UK will remain a member of the EU until its departure has been negotiated. **The UK will continue to contribute to the EU budget until it formally departs the EU.**

The UK makes its contributions to the EU budget in the same way as all Member States. However, the UK receives a rebate on its net contribution. The rebate was introduced in the mid-1980s to address the issue of the UK making relatively large net contributions to the EU budget.

The UK's contribution to the EU budget, after the rebate was applied, was an estimated £12.9 billion in 2015. The UK received total public sector receipts from the EU budget of £4.4 billion, making an estimated net contribution of £8.5 billion in 2015.

UK Contributions to, and receipts from, the EU budget, £ billion							
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Gross Contributions	14.1	15.2	15.4	15.7	18.1	18.8	17.8
UK rebate	-5.4	-3.0	-3.1	-3.1	-3.7	-4.4	-4.9
Total Contributions	8.7	12.2	12.2	12.6	14.5	14.4	12.9
Total Public Sector Receipts	-4.4	-4.8	-4.1	-4.2	-4.0	-4.6	-4.4
Net Contribution	4.3	7.4	8.1	8.5	10.5	9.8	8.5

Notes: 2015 figures are forecast

Source: HM Treasury, *European Union Finances*, latest edition published December 2015, Cm 9167

The EU's spending

The EU's **spending is organised around a seven year period**, known as the **multiannual financial framework (MFF)**. The MFF sets out the EU's spending priorities and sets spending limits for the seven years.

The current MFF covers the period 2014-20 and allows the EU to commit to spending of €960 billion (2011 prices). This is a real terms reduction on the previous MFF 2007-13.

During 2014-20, the majority of EU spending will be on 'smart and inclusive growth', and 'sustainable growth: Natural resources'. These categories of spending include EU structural funding and common agricultural policy, respectively.

The MFF isn't the annual budget itself: rather, it provides a framework through which annual budgets can be negotiated. The European Commission, the Council and European Parliament negotiate annual budgets based on the MFF spending limits.

The EU's revenues

The EU's spending is largely funded from the EU's so-called own resources. Member States make contributions through four kinds of **own resources**:

- GNI-based contributions
- Customs duties
- Sugar levies
- Contributions based on VAT

Roughly 75% of EU revenues come from GNI-based contributions, while VAT-based resources and the sum of custom duties and sugar levies contribute just over 10% each respectively.

1. The UK and the EU budget

Summary

- The UK voted to leave the European Union on 23 June 2016. The UK will remain a member of the EU until its departure has been negotiated and will continue to contribute to the EU budget until it departs.
- The UK contributes to the EU budget through 'own resources' in the same way as other Member States (see [section 2.3](#)). However, the UK receives a rebate on its net contribution. In 2015 the UK's total contribution, after the rebate, was an estimated £12.9 billion.
- The UK receives public sector receipts from the EU for programmes such as structural funding and common agricultural policy. In 2015 the UK received £4.4 billion of public sector receipts.
- The UK's public sector net contribution in 2015 – the difference between its contribution and receipts received – was an estimated £8.5 billion.
- Some EU receipts bypass the public sector and go directly to private sector and other non-governmental organisations such as Universities. If these receipts are included the UK's average net contribution to the EU budget was £7.1 billion between 2010 and 2014.
- The rebate was introduced in 1985 to address the issue of the UK making relatively large net contributions to the EU budget. The rebate was worth between £3 billion and £5 billion to the UK between 2009 and 2015.

1.1 The UK's contribution and Brexit

On 23 June 2016 the UK voted in favour of leaving the EU. However, the UK will remain a member of the EU until its departure has been negotiated. The UK will continue to contribute to the EU budget until it departs the EU.

Following a negotiated departure, the UK may still make contributions to the EU Budget. Any future contributions will depend on the arrangements agreed for the UK's relationship with the EU after leaving. Members of the European Economic Area (EEA), for example, contribute to the EU Budget, so if the UK joins the EEA, it is likely to pay into the EU Budget. There is more on alternatives to EU membership in section 3 of the Library briefing [EU referendum: UK reform proposals, legal impact and alternatives to membership](#).

1.2 Contributions and receipts

Total and net contribution

In 2015 the UK made an estimated contribution of £12.9 billion to the EU budget, once its rebate was taken into account. The vast majority of the UK's contribution came from its Gross National Income (GNI)-based contribution. Member States' contributions to the EU budget are discussed in [section 2.3](#).

The UK received an estimated £4.4 billion of public sector receipts from the EU. Therefore, the UK's net contribution to the EU budget was £8.5 billion.

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Table 1. UK Contributions to, and public sector receipts, from the EU budget, £ million

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Sugar Levies	200	8	8	10	9	2	10
Customs Duties	1,802	2,146	2,216	2,192	2,171	2,200	2,462
VAT Own Resources	1,733	2,172	2,174	2,279	2,344	2,388	2,487
Fourth Resource Payments (GNI)	10,670	10,689	10,922	11,362	13,497	12,557	12,361
VAT and Fourth Resource Adjustments	-277	181	36	-98	114	1,631	459
Gross Contributions	14,129	15,197	15,357	15,746	18,135	18,777	17,779
<i>UK rebate</i>	<i>-5,392</i>	<i>-3,047</i>	<i>-3,143</i>	<i>-3,110</i>	<i>-3,674</i>	<i>-4,416</i>	<i>-4,861</i>
Total Contributions	8,737	12,150	12,214	12,636	14,461	14,361	12,918
EAGF (Agriculture)	2,910	2,910	2,667	2,753	2,747	2,595	2,544
EAFRD	215	439	419	291	619	567	556
ERDF (Structural Funds)	639	758	605	438	297	1,053	1,032
ESF	609	644	389	585	246	263	217
Other Receipts	28	18	52	102	86	98	96
Total Public Sector Receipts	4,401	4,768	4,132	4,169	3,996	4,576	4,445
Net Contribution	4,336	7,382	8,082	8,467	10,465	9,785	8,473

Notes: 2015 figures are forecast

EAGF - European Agricultural Guarantee Fund; EAFRD - European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development; ERDF - European Regional Development Fund; ESF - European Social Fund

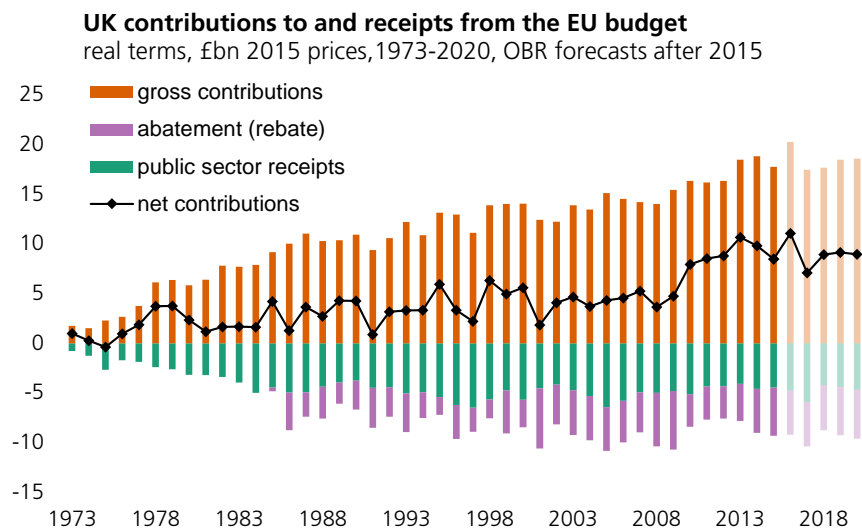
Source: HM Treasury, *European Union Finances*, latest edition published December 2015, Cm 9167

Public sector receipts received from the EU

The UK's public sector received the majority of its EU receipts through the common agricultural policy (CAP). The two pillars of the CAP – the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development – provided the UK with receipts of £2.5 billion and £0.6 billion respectively in 2015.

Much of the rest of the UK's EU receipts came from the European Structural Funds. The Structural Funds – largely made of the European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund – are used to support economic development.

Table 2 and Table 3 below set out the UK's overall contributions to, and receipts from, the EU budget from 1973 to 2015. Forecasts from the Office for Budget Responsibility are shown for 2016 to 2020. These forecasts were made in March 2016, before the UK voted to leave the EU. The chart below sets out the real terms figures – as reported in Table 3 – that adjust for inflation.



Non-public sector receipts

Some receipts go directly from the EU to the private sector and other non-governmental organisations such as Universities. These receipts bypass the UK public sector and therefore aren't included in the figures presented above.

Data on these receipts are less timely, however in recent years they have been around £1 billion - £1.5 billion a year. If these are taken into account, the Treasury estimates that the UK's average net contribution to the EU budget was £7.1 billion between 2010 and 2014.¹

1.3 The UK's rebate

The UK contributes to the EU budget in the same way as all Member States (see [section 2.3](#)). However, since 1985 the UK's contributions are subject to an adjustment or rebate.² Before 1985 the UK received negotiated refunds.

The rebate was worth between £3 billion and £5 billion to the UK between 2009 and 2015 (see Table 1). [Section 2.3](#) discusses how the UK's rebate is calculated, and how it is paid for.

Origins of the rebate

The rebate was introduced to reduce and correct the negative balance between the UK's contribution to the EU budget and the share of spending, or receipts, it receives from the EU budget.

When the UK joined the then-European Economic Community (EEC) in 1973 the UK's net contribution was high. The UK received relatively little from the budget: it had a small agricultural sector, but most EEC spending went on agriculture. At the same time the UK made relatively high contributions to the budget, despite at the time being among the less well-off Member States.

Temporary correction mechanisms to address the imbalance were introduced in 1975 and then 1979. In June 1984 – at a European Council meeting held at Fontainebleau – Member States agreed a specific rebate mechanism, that remains largely similar to that used today.

In 1985 the UK's rebate was included in the regulation that determines how Member States contribute to the EU budget (the own resources decision, see [section 2.3](#)). This has essentially made the rebate permanent, since unanimity of the Member States is required to change it.³ The UK would have to agree for any changes to be made.

¹ Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS). The budget of the European Union: a guide, [page 41](#); and, HM Treasury the long-term economic impact of EU membership and the alternative, [Table 1.B](#)

² As a result of the Fontainebleau Agreement in 1984

³ More on the origins of the rebate is available from House of Lords European Union Committee, Future Financing of the European Union, 2004-05 HL Paper 62, [paras 115-119](#).

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Table 2. UK net contributions to the EU/EC Budget 1973-2020. Forecasts after 2015.

£ million, cash

	Gross contribution	Negotiated refunds	Rebate	Total contribution (after rebate and refunds)	Public sector receipts	Net Contribution <i>(Gross contribution - rebate & refunds - public sector receipts)</i>
1973	181			181	79	102
1974	181			181	150	31
1975	342			342	398	-56
1976	463			463	296	167
1977	737			737	368	369
1978	1,348			1,348	526	822
1979	1,606			1,606	659	947
1980	1,767	98		1,669	963	706
1981	2,174	693		1,481	1,084	397
1982	2,863	1,019		1,844	1,238	606
1983	2,976	807		2,169	1,522	647
1984	3,204	528		2,676	2,020	656
1985	3,940	61	166	3,713	1,905	1,808
1986	4,493		1,701	2,792	2,220	572
1987	5,202		1,153	4,049	2,328	1,721
1988	5,138		1,594	3,544	2,182	1,362
1989	5,585		1,154	4,431	2,116	2,315
1990	6,355		1,697	4,658	2,183	2,475
1991	5,807		2,497	3,309	2,765	544
1992	6,738		1,881	4,857	2,827	2,030
1993	7,985		2,539	5,446	3,291	2,155
1994	7,189		1,726	5,463	3,253	2,211
1995	8,889		1,207	7,682	3,665	4,017
1996	9,133		2,412	6,721	4,373	2,348
1997	7,991		1,733	6,258	4,661	1,597
1998	10,090		1,378	8,712	4,115	4,597
1999	10,287		3,171	7,117	3,479	3,638
2000	10,517		2,085	8,433	4,241	4,192
2001	9,379		4,560	4,819	3,430	1,389
2002	9,439		3,099	6,340	3,201	3,139
2003	10,966		3,559	7,407	3,728	3,679
2004	10,895		3,593	7,302	4,294	3,008
2005	12,567		3,656	8,911	5,329	3,582
2006	12,426		3,569	8,857	4,948	3,909
2007	12,456		3,523	8,933	4,332	4,601
2008	12,653		4,862	7,791	4,497	3,294
2009	14,129		5,392	8,737	4,401	4,336
2010	15,197		3,047	12,150	4,768	7,382
2011	15,357		3,143	12,214	4,132	8,082
2012	15,746		3,110	12,636	4,169	8,467
2013	18,135		3,674	14,461	3,996	10,465
2014	18,777		4,416	14,361	4,576	9,785
2015 ^e	17,779		4,861	12,918	4,445	8,473
2016 ^f	20,500		4,800	15,700	4,500	11,200
2017 ^f	18,000		6,100	11,900	4,600	7,300
2018 ^f	18,600		4,400	14,100	4,800	9,400
2019 ^f	19,800		4,700	15,000	5,200	9,800
2020 ^f	20,300		5,100	15,200	5,400	9,800

Note:

^e2015 are estimates, ^f figures for 2016 - 2020 are forecasts rounded to the nearest £100 million

Sources:

HM Treasury, *European Union Finances*, latest edition published December 2015, Cm 9167

HM Treasury, *European Union Finances*, previous editions

OBR, Economic and fiscal outlook - March 2016, supplementary fiscal table 2.26

OBR, Economic and fiscal outlook - March 2016, supplementary economy table 1.9

Table 3. UK net contributions to the EU/EC Budget 1973-2020. Forecasts after 2015.*£ million, real (2015) prices*

	Gross contribution	Negotiated refunds	Rebate	Total contribution (after rebate and refunds)	Public sector receipts	Net Contribution <i>(Gross contribution - rebate & refunds - public sector receipts)</i>
1973	1,771			1,771	773	998
1974	1,526			1,526	1,265	261
1975	2,286			2,286	2,660	-374
1976	2,681			2,681	1,714	967
1977	3,749			3,749	1,872	1,877
1978	6,137			6,137	2,395	3,742
1979	6,387			6,387	2,621	3,766
1980	5,844	324		5,520	3,185	2,335
1981	6,409	2,043		4,366	3,195	1,170
1982	7,825	2,785		5,040	3,384	1,656
1983	7,709	2,090		5,618	3,942	1,676
1984	7,893	1,301		6,592	4,976	1,616
1985	9,191	142	387	8,661	4,444	4,218
1986	10,034		3,799	6,235	4,958	1,277
1987	11,035		2,446	8,589	4,938	3,651
1988	10,295		3,194	7,101	4,372	2,729
1989	10,389		2,147	8,242	3,936	4,306
1990	10,946		2,923	8,023	3,760	4,263
1991	9,392		4,039	5,352	4,472	880
1992	10,583		2,955	7,628	4,441	3,188
1993	12,229		3,889	8,341	5,041	3,300
1994	10,883		2,612	8,271	4,924	3,347
1995	13,142		1,784	11,358	5,419	5,939
1996	12,974		3,427	9,548	6,212	3,336
1997	11,134		2,415	8,719	6,494	2,225
1998	13,893		1,897	11,996	5,666	6,330
1999	14,043		4,328	9,715	4,749	4,966
2000	14,073		2,790	11,284	5,675	5,609
2001	12,435		6,046	6,389	4,548	1,841
2002	12,246		4,020	8,226	4,154	4,073
2003	13,894		4,509	9,384	4,723	4,661
2004	13,475		4,444	9,031	5,311	3,720
2005	15,141		4,405	10,736	6,420	4,316
2006	14,541		4,177	10,365	5,790	4,574
2007	14,215		4,020	10,194	4,944	5,251
2008	14,040		5,395	8,645	4,990	3,655
2009	15,444		5,894	9,550	4,811	4,740
2010	16,359		3,280	13,079	5,133	7,947
2011	16,206		3,317	12,889	4,360	8,529
2012	16,365		3,232	13,132	4,333	8,800
2013	18,495		3,747	14,748	4,075	10,673
2014	18,840		4,431	14,409	4,591	9,818
2015 ^e	17,779		4,861	12,918	4,445	8,473
2016 ^f	20,300		4,700	15,500	4,500	11,100
2017 ^f	17,500		5,900	11,600	4,500	7,100
2018 ^f	17,700		4,200	13,400	4,600	8,900
2019 ^f	18,500		4,400	14,000	4,900	9,200
2020 ^f	18,600		4,700	13,900	4,900	9,000

Note:

^e2015 are estimates, ^f figures for 2016 - 2020 are forecasts rounded to the nearest £100 million

figures may not sum due to rounding

Sources:

HM Treasury, *European Union Finances*, latest edition published December 2015, Cm 9167HM Treasury, *European Union Finances*, previous editions

OBR, Economic and fiscal outlook - March 2016, supplementary fiscal table 2.26

OBR, Economic and fiscal outlook - March 2016, supplementary economy table 1.9

ONS. GDP deflator June 2016

2. The EU budget

Summary

Planning spending

- The EU's spending is organised around a seven year period, known as the multiannual financial framework (MFF). The EU institutions (see Box 1) negotiate the MFF.
- The MFF sets out the EU's spending priorities and sets spending limits for the seven years.
- The current MFF covers the period 2014-20 and allows the EU to commit to spending of €960 billion (2011 prices). This is a real terms reduction on the previous MFF 2007-13.
- During 2014-20, the majority of EU spending will be on 'smart and inclusive growth', and 'sustainable growth: Natural resources'. These categories of spending include EU structural funding – used to support economic development – and common agricultural policy, respectively.

Annual budgets

- The MFF isn't the annual budget itself: rather, it provides a framework through which annual budgets can be negotiated.
- Annual budgets are negotiated by the European Commission, the Council and European Parliament based on the spending limits set out in the MFF.

Revenue

- The EU institutions (see Box 1) negotiate how revenue will be raised at the same time as they negotiate the MFF.
- Member States contribute revenues to the EU budget through four elements of 'own resources' that are set out in the provisions of the 'Own Resources Decision'. The resource categories are:
 - Customs duties, including those on agricultural products
 - Sugar levies
 - Contributions based on VAT
 - GNI-based contributions

Roughly 75% of EU revenues come from GNI-based contributions, while VAT-based resources and the sum of custom duties and sugar levies contribute just over 10% each respectively.

2.1 Planning the EU's spending: the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)

The EU's spending is organised around a seven-year Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) that sets out what the EU's spending priorities and sets spending limits.

EU multi-year financial planning was introduced in 1988 in an attempt to put an end to disagreements between the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union which were a persistent feature of annual budget negotiations.

The Lisbon Treaty, which entered into force on 1 December 2009, formalised MFF planning and established the MFF as a Council Regulation covering a period of at least five years.⁴ The Treaty change

⁴ Article 312 [TFEU](#)

made the MFF a legally binding act:⁵ previously the MFF had been part of an interinstitutional agreement.

MFF 2014-20 was negotiated between the EU institutions over two and a half years, from June 2011 to December 2013.

Box 1: The EU institutions

European Council

The European Council is the highest-level decision-making forum in the EU, consisting of the heads of state or government of the Member States, together with the Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission. The European Council gives the EU its ultimate political direction, which it does by adopting 'conclusions' at the end of its meetings. The European Council has no powers to pass laws. It adopts conclusions on the Multiannual Financial Framework.

European Commission (the Commission)

The European Commission is the executive of the EU: it proposes legislation and implements policy within the competences laid down by the EU Treaties. It produces drafts of the MFF and annual budget. There are 28 members, known as Commissioners — one from each Member State. The Commission has the following general functions: policy-making; Treaty guardianship; policy implementation and delegated powers; management of EU funds; representation in trade negotiations and other agreements with third countries.

The Council of the European Union (the Council)

The Council is made up of ministers of the governments of Member States. It is one of the two principal legislative and decision-making bodies of the EU, along with the European Parliament. It also shares responsibility with the Parliament for setting the EU's annual budget. It is headed by a rotation of Member States which act as its President, otherwise known as the Presidency of the Council of the EU. The composition of the Council varies according to the business under discussion. For example the Economic and Affairs (Ecofin) Council gathers finance ministers to discuss economic policy.

European Parliament

The European Parliament is the assembly of elected representatives of EU citizens. The representatives are known as Members of the European Parliament (MEPs). The European Parliament debates and passes law; scrutinises other EU institutions; and debates and adopts the EU's budget.

Box 2: Commitment and payment appropriations definitions

The MFF sets limits for both commitment appropriations and payment appropriations.

Commitment appropriations: cover the cost of legal obligations, such as contracts or grants, which the EU may sign in a financial year of the MFF. They are the amounts the EU promises in a given year to spend but which may be spent in that same year or over several years.

Payment appropriations: cover expenditure that is spent in a given year of the MFF. This is expenditure arising from commitments made in the same year or in previous years.

MFF 2014-20: spending

On 2 December 2013 the Council adopted the regulation laying down the MFF 2014-20.⁶

MFF 2014-20 allows the European Union to spend up to €960 billion (1.0% of EU Gross National Income, GNI) in commitment appropriations

⁵ Further information on previous MFFs is available from the European Parliament's Fact Sheet on the [Multiannual Financial Framework](#)

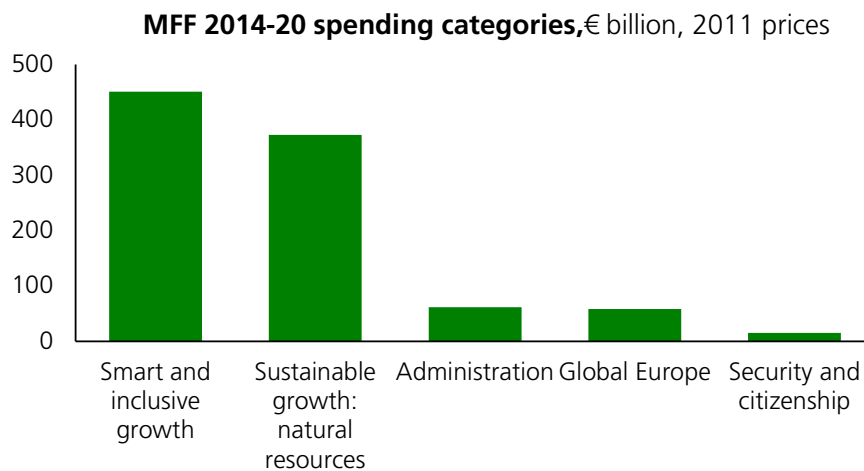
⁶ Council Regulation 1311/2013 of 2 December 2013 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020 [2013] [OJ L 347](#)

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(commitments) and €908 billion (0.95% of EU GNI) in payment appropriations (payments). In real terms these are 3.5% and 3.7% less, respectively, than under the previous MFF.^{7,8}

MFF 2014-20 divides the EU's spending into five broad categories:⁹

- **Smart and inclusive growth (47% of total commitments)** largely covers cohesion policy, including structural funds. Around three quarters of the category's spending is dedicated to these programmes. Other spending areas include research and innovation, infrastructure, education and training and enterprise development.
- **Sustainable growth: natural resources (39%)** is the main budget line for funding the common agricultural policy (CAP) and fisheries policy.
- **Security and citizenship (2%)** includes asylum, migration, public health, consumer protection, culture and youth.
- **Global Europe (6%)** includes support to the EU's foreign policies and international development.
- **Administration (6%)** includes expenditure on the salaries, allowances and pension costs for staff and members.



source: European Commission

⁷ Council of the European Union News Release PRESSE 439, [Council adopts the multiannual framework 2014-2020](#), 2 December 2013

⁸ Figures are in 2011 prices

⁹ A sixth category, compensations, relates to the latest enlargement of the EU, with €27 million for Croatia, who joined the EU in July 2013

MFF 2014-20: negotiations

When the Council adopted the MFF regulation on 2 December 2013 it brought to an end negotiations between the EU institutions which began two and a half years prior.¹⁰

Negotiations began with the Commission putting forward an initial draft proposal. Spending commitments in the adopted MFF regulation were 7.1% lower than in the Commission's draft proposal.

European Commission

The Commission proposed a draft [MFF Regulation](#) in June 2011.¹¹ The proposal froze spending limits at their 2013 level. [Amendments](#) were made in July 2012 to take into account Croatia's accession (scheduled for mid-2013), the Commission's new macroeconomic forecasts and new regional and national economic data.¹² The amended draft proposed commitments of €1,033 billion and payments of €988 billion.

European Council

At a European Council meeting on 7-8 February 2013 political agreement was reached on the MFF regulation, as detailed in the meeting's [conclusions](#).^{13,14}

The agreement set the spending limit for commitments at just under €960 billion. This is a real terms reduction of 3.5% compared with MFF 2007-13 and 7.1% below the Commission's proposals.¹⁵ The agreement set a payments limit of €908 billion, 8.4% below the Commission's proposals.

Political agreement reached

June 2013 saw the Presidents of the Commission, the European Parliament and the Council reach political agreement on an MFF package that confirmed the limits proposed by the European Council, and also included more flexibility for payments and commitments.^{16,17}

¹⁰ The Council of the European Union [COUNCIL REGULATION laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020](#), 25 November 2013

¹¹ [COM\(2011\) 398 final, 29 June 2011](#)

¹² [COM\(2012\) 388 final](#), 6 July 2012

¹³ European Council. [7/8 February 2013. Conclusions \(Multiannual Financial Framework\)](#), 8 February 2013

¹⁴ A [previous meeting](#), held on 22- 23 November 2012, failed to reach agreement.

¹⁵ Council of the European Union website, [Summary of the European Council agreement](#), accessed 4 Mar 2013

¹⁶ European Commission Press Release, [Political Agreement on EU's Future Budget 2014 -2020](#), 27 June 2013

¹⁷ Further details of these flexibilities are available from the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/budget/mff/introduction/index_en.cfm

European Parliament and adoption

On 19 November 2013, the European Parliament gave its consent to the MFF regulation¹⁸ paving the way for the Council to adopt the regulation on 2 December 2013.

The European Parliament gave its consent once conditions that it was concerned with, and had raised after the June 2013 political agreement, were met. The major conditions were for all outstanding bills for 2013 to be settled and a high-level group on own resources to be set up (see [section 1.3](#)).¹⁹

MFF 2014-20: mid-term review

The deal negotiated on the MFF included the promise of a review of MFF 2014-20 in 2016 at the latest. The Commission must present the review before the end of 2016.

The review will allow the next European Parliament and Commission to reassess the MFF's priorities, and may lead to revision of the MFF 2014-20 regulation.²⁰

MFF 2014-20: revision

The late adoption of the MFF 2014-20 meant that some of the funds allocated for 2014 were not able to be used in that year. The MFF has been revised, and [adopted](#), to ensure that the programmes could be fully implemented in 2015.²¹

The programmes affected include: the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, and the Internal Security Fund (ISF).

¹⁸ European Parliament, [European Parliament legislative resolution of 19 November 2013 on the draft Council regulation laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014–](#)

¹⁹ European Parliament, [Long-term EU budget negotiations: EP sets out its stance](#), News Release ref: 20130312IPR06440, 13 March 2013

²⁰ Further information is available in the European Parliament Research Service's briefings: [Mid-term review/revision of the MFF Key issues at the outset of the debate](#) (January 2016) & [Mid-term review/revision of the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework](#) (July 2016)

²¹ For further detail see: Council of the European Union press release, EU budget: [Council preserves funds for promoting growth and jobs](#), 21 April 2015; and, European Parliament Research Service, [Revision of the Multiannual Financial \(Article 19, MFF Regulation\)](#) 23 March 2015

2.2 The annual budget

The MFF provides the long term basis for the EU budget. An annual process involving the European Commission, the Council and European Parliament sets the annual budget based on the limits laid out in the MFF.

Appendix 1 describes the process for the 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014 budgets.

The annual budget process

Commission's draft budget

The annual budget cycle begins with the Commission proposing a draft budget based on MFF spending limits. The current MFF was set at 2011 prices and an adjustment is made at the beginning of each year to take account of changes in Gross National Income (GNI) forecasts, price changes and other 'technical' changes.²²

The Commission must submit its draft budget to the Council and European Parliament by 1 September of the preceding year. In practice, the Commission endeavours to present the draft budget in April/May.

The Council's and European Parliament's reading

The Council adopts its position on the draft budget and passes it to the European Parliament before 1 October. The budget is then adopted if, within 42 days, the European Parliament either approves the Council's position or does not take a decision. If the European Parliament does make amendments and these are accepted by the Council within 10 days then the budget can also be adopted.

Conciliation Committee

If agreement cannot be reached between the Council and the European Parliament a [Conciliation Committee](#) is set up, composed of the members of the Council or their representatives and an equal number of members representing the European Parliament. The Committee is tasked with reaching agreement on a joint text within a period of 21 days.²³ If this fails then the Commission has to produce a new draft budget.

Once a joint text is agreed by the Conciliation Committee in early November, the Council and the European Parliament have 14 days to approve or reject it. The European Parliament may adopt the budget even if the Council rejects the joint text. If the Council and the European Parliament both reject the joint draft or fail to decide,

Annual budget timeline

- **April/May**
Commission produces draft budget
- **Before Oct 1** the Council adopts its position
- Parliament has **42 days** to adopt amendments on Council's position
- Council may accept amendments **within 10 days** and adopt draft.

If Council does not accept Parliament's amendments, then:

- Conciliation Committee is set up to reach joint text **within 21 days**.
- Council and Parliament have **14 days** to approve or reject the joint text
- If Parliament rejects the text the Commission submits a new draft

If a draft budget is not adopted at the beginning of the year the previous year's budget is rolled over

²² The European Commission has produced technical adjustments for 2014 and 2015. Both are available from the [European Commission's website](#).

²³ Further details of the Conciliation process are available in [Codecision and Conciliation](#) from the European Parliament.

the budget is rejected and the Commission has to submit a new draft budget.

Failure to adopt a budget

If, at the beginning of the year, the budget has not yet been definitively adopted, the system of 'provisional twelfths' kicks in, essentially rolling over 1/12 of the previous year's budget each month.

The annual budget: amending budgets

The Commission may during the year propose the adopted budget be amended; it does this by submitting draft amending budgets. Similarly the Commission may present a letter of amendment to the draft budget in the light of information which was not available when the draft was established.

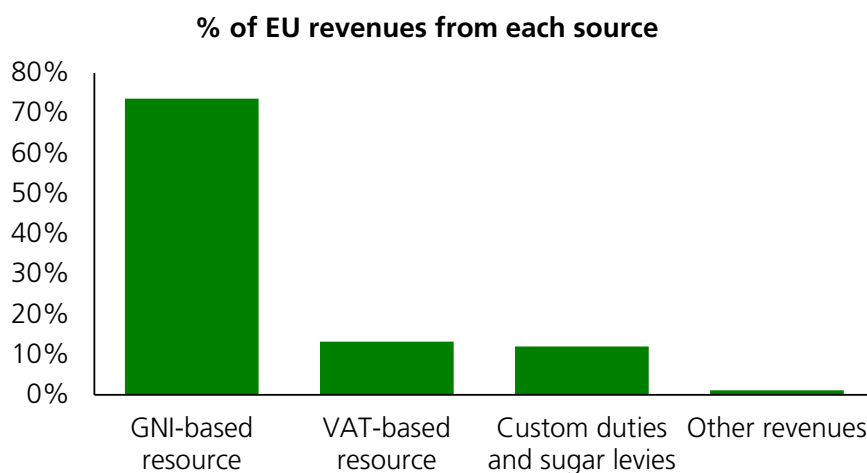
2.3 The EU's revenue: 'own resources'

Nearly all of the EU's revenues come from Member States' 'own resource' contributions. The EU is not allowed to borrow, so its revenues must cover its spending.²⁴

Member States contribute revenues to the EU budget through four elements of 'own resources'. The resource categories are:

- Customs duties, including those on agricultural products
- Sugar levies
- Contributions based on VAT
- GNI-based contributions

Roughly 75% of EU revenues come from GNI-based contributions, while VAT-based resources and the sum of custom duties and sugar levies contribute just over 10% each respectively.



source: European Commission.

Details of the resources and how these are raised are laid out in the provisions of the [Own Resources Decision \(ORD\)](#).²⁵ The ORD is negotiated alongside the MFF, but each is laid out in separate regulations.

A [new ORD](#) was adopted by the Council on 26 May 2014.²⁶ This will apply retrospectively as of 1 January 2014 once it has been agreed by each Member State. The [European Union \(Finance\) Act 2015](#) provides the UK Parliament's approval.²⁷

Since 1985 the UK has received an abatement (rebate) on its net contributions. [Section 1.2](#) provides further detail.

²⁴ As stipulated in [Article 311 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union](#)

²⁵ Council of the European Union, [Council Decision of 7 June 2007 on the system of the European Communities' own resources](#), OJ L 163, 23.6.2007

²⁶ Council of the European Union, [Council decision on the system of own resources of the European Union 2011/0183 \(CNS\)](#), 12 February 2014

²⁷ The Library produced a [briefing](#) for second reading of the European Union (Finance) Bill 2015-16.

EU revenue: sources

Below are details of how revenues are raised from the four main sources:²⁸

- **Customs duties, including those on agricultural products (12% of EU revenues).** These are paid on a range of commodities imported from non-Member countries. Following the agreement on agriculture during the Uruguay GATT round of world trade talks, most duties are now fixed. However, for some key commodities, they continue to vary in line with changes in world prices.
- **Sugar levies (<1%).** These are charged on the production of sugar in order to recover part of the cost of subsidising the export of surplus EU sugar onto the world market.
- **Contributions based on VAT (13%).** Essentially, the VAT base is the amount yielded by applying a notional rate of 1% to an identical range of goods and services in each Member State. Each Member State's VAT base is currently subject to a cap of 50% of its GNI (Gross National Income). A call-up rate²⁹ (set at a maximum of 0.3%) is then applied to the capped VAT base.
- **GNI-based contributions (74%).** The amount due is calculated by taking the same proportion of each Member State's Gross National Income (GNI). Because the Community is not allowed to borrow, revenue must equal expenditure. The GNI resource is the budget-balancing item; it covers the difference between total expenditure in the budget and the revenue from the other three resources, subject to the overall own resources ceiling.

The first two resources are known as the 'traditional own resources'. These are considered as coming naturally from the functioning of the customs union and internal market. The VAT and GNI-based elements are sometimes referred to as the 'third' and 'fourth' own resources respectively.³⁰

Member States currently retain 25% of the customs and sugar duties as collection costs, although this will fall to 20% once the new ORD is ratified.

The EU also receives a small proportion of its revenues outside of own resources. These other revenues, which contributed around 1% of EU revenues in 2014, include taxes on EU staff salaries, contributions from non-EU countries to certain programmes, interest on late payments, and fines on companies breaching competition law etc.

²⁸ This information is taken from HM Treasury, *European Finances 2014: statement on the 2013 EU Budget and measures to counter fraud and financial mismanagement*, November 2013, Cm 8974, see Glossary p30. Note the information on the VAT element has been shortened.

²⁹ Percentage of the proceeds of nationally collected VAT to go to the EU budget. Some Member States benefits from a "reduced call rate"

³⁰ A [history of the own-resources system](#) is available from the European Parliament.

EU revenue: the 2014 Own Resources Decision

On 26 May 2014, the Council adopted a legislative package, including a new [ORD](#), introducing some changes to the own resources system from 2014.

The new ORD will apply retroactively from 1 January 2014 once it has been approved by all Member States. Until this time the ORD agreed in June 2007 applies.³¹ Most Member States require the ORD to be approved by their national parliament. The [European Union \(Finance\) Act 2015](#) provides the UK Parliament's approval.³²

The main changes to the ORD are:

- Collection costs for traditional own resources will be lowered to 20%.
- Denmark (€130 million), the Netherlands (€695 million), and Sweden (€185 million) will benefit from gross reductions in their annual GNI contribution. Austria will benefit from reductions up to 2016 of €30 million in 2014, €20 million in 2015, and €10 million in 2016.
- Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden are to benefit from reduced call rates for the own resource based on value added tax (VAT) for the period 2014-20 only. Over the period their rate of call shall be 0.15% compared to 0.3% for all other Member States.

EU's revenue: review of the own resources system

As part of the agreement reached on the MFF 2014-20, the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Council have set up a group to review the own resources system.³³

The group produced its [first assessment](#) in December 2014.³⁴ This looked at key features of the system and recent attempts at reform. A European Parliament Research Service [briefing](#) summarises the first assessment, and reports an intermediate and tentative conclusion that:

“the financing system of the EU has not experienced any major modifications over the last 25 years, proving difficult to change.”³⁵

The group will present its final analysis in 2016, which national parliaments will assess at an inter-parliamentary conference. The conference's outcomes will determine whether the Commission will propose changes to the own resources system.

³¹ 2007/436/EC, Euratom: [Council Decision of 7 June 2007 on the system of the European Communities' own resources](#).

³² The Library produced a [briefing](#) for second reading of the European Union (Finance) Bill 2015-16.

³³ European Commission, Memo [Q&A: The EU's high-level group on own resources](#), 25 February 2014

³⁴ The European Communities (Finance) Act 2008 gave effect in UK law to the 2007 ORD. The Library's Research Paper [The European Communities \(Finance\) Bill](#) discussed the Bill prior to its second reading.

³⁵ European Parliament Research Service. ['Monti' Group's first assessment](#) of EU own resources, February 2015

Calculating the UK's rebate

The rebate is calculated by taking the difference between the UK's percentage share of the VAT contributions and UK's percentage share of expenditure, multiplying this figure by 0.66 and then multiplying it by total expenditure. This calculation is subject to the following points and exclusions:

- the rebate applies only in respect of allocated expenditure within the Union. Expenditure outside the Union (mainly EU overseas aid, which is relatively small) is excluded;
- non-agricultural expenditure in the Member States that have acceded to the EU after April 2004 is excluded;
- the UK's contribution is calculated as if the budget were entirely financed by VAT;
- windfall gains in the rebate calculation caused by the introduction of VAT capping, and the GNI resource, and gains made from increased collection costs are excluded;
- the rebate is deducted from the UK's VAT contribution a year in arrears.

The Commission calculates the rebate on the basis of its estimates of the likely outturn for payments from the budget in-year and its estimates of Member States' contributions to the budget. These are then corrected in light of actual outturn figures. Corrections may be made up to three years after the year to which the rebate relates, after which a final reckoning is made in the fourth year.

The ORD agreed on 26 May 2014 made no substantive changes to the rebate calculation, but deleted some time-limited transitional provisions from the regulations which expired at the end of 2013.³⁶

Cost of the rebate

The cost of the rebate is borne by all other Member States. The cost of the rebate is based on the GNI resource, but Germany, the Netherlands, Austria and Sweden only pay one quarter of their amount due.

³⁶ One phased in the exclusion of non-agricultural expenditure in the Member States that have acceded to the EU after April 2004. The UK's contribution to this was capped at €10.5 billion. The other time-limited provision made an adjustment for non-abatable pre-accession expenditure.

3. Member State contributions to the EU budget

On a per head basis the UK made the third largest net contribution to the EU budget in 2015. The UK's net contribution was €14.0 billion, or €215 per capita in 2015.

Table 5 below shows EU budget contributions and expenditure by Member State over the 2013-15 period. The table includes the total net contribution by Member State and the same figure on a per head basis for 2015. These figures are based on data published by the European Commission and show the budgetary balance excluding the relatively small amounts of non-EU related funding. An example of non-EU related funding is EU overseas development aid.

The eagle eyed will notice that the Commission's figures do not tally with those of the Treasury reported in [section 1](#) of this note. In addition to the figures being in different currencies, there are differences in the way the figures are prepared, the main ones being that: ³⁷ ³⁸

- the Commission includes receipts from the EU to the private sector, which are not included by the Treasury;
- the Treasury look at cash flow in the year, whilst the Commission match transactions to a particular EU Budget

The Treasury produces data for the UK only. The European Commission figures are the best available for comparing Member States.

The Commission's figures include administration expenditure which can have a significant effect on the contributions of some Member States, such as Belgium and Luxembourg, where in 2015 the EU spent €4,522 million and €1,381 million respectively on administration.

³⁷ Further reasons include: the Treasury not including figures from amending budgets adopted late; the two agencies differing on other factor such as exchange rates.

³⁸ HM Treasury. [European Union Finances 2015](#), December 2015, Cm 9167, Annex B

Table 5. EU Budgetary Balances by Member State 2013-15

€ million, includes administrative expenditure

	Expenditure			Contributions			Net Contributions			Net contribution per head (in €), 2015
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	
Netherlands	2,264	2,014	2,359	6,552	8,373	7,947	4,288	6,358	5,588	331
Sweden	1,661	1,691	1,468	4,211	4,294	4,019	2,550	2,603	2,552	262
UK	6,308	6,985	7,458	17,068	14,072	21,409	10,760	7,088	13,952	215
Germany	13,056	11,484	11,013	29,376	29,143	28,125	16,320	17,659	17,112	211
Denmark	1,435	1,512	1,529	2,899	2,508	2,521	1,465	996	993	175
Austria	1,862	1,573	1,787	3,191	2,870	2,726	1,329	1,297	939	109
Finland	1,497	1,062	1,330	2,159	1,904	1,854	662	842	524	96
France	14,239	13,479	14,468	23,292	20,968	20,606	9,052	7,489	6,138	92
Italy	12,554	10,695	12,338	17,168	15,889	15,920	4,614	5,193	3,582	59
Cyprus	227	273	203	185	161	230	-42	-112	27	32
Ireland	1,874	1,563	2,009	1,731	1,651	1,839	-143	87	-169	-37
Croatia	290	584	605	238	430	397	-52	-155	-207	-49
Malta	174	255	134	86	76	104	-87	-179	-30	-70
Spain	13,752	11,539	13,696	11,369	11,111	10,089	-2,383	-428	-3,606	-78
Portugal	6,163	4,943	2,595	1,793	1,748	1,646	-4,370	-3,195	-949	-91
Belgium	7,209	7,044	6,952	5,291	5,233	5,471	-1,919	-1,812	-1,481	-132
Lithuania	1,881	1,886	877	405	385	390	-1,476	-1,501	-488	-167
Estonia	973	668	443	212	200	210	-761	-467	-233	-177
Poland	16,179	17,436	13,358	4,214	3,955	4,236	-11,965	-13,481	-9,121	-240
Romania	5,561	5,944	6,538	1,474	1,459	1,446	-4,086	-4,485	-5,092	-256
Slovenia	814	1,142	940	426	385	403	-388	-758	-537	-260
Bulgaria	1,977	2,255	2,730	478	461	484	-1,499	-1,795	-2,246	-312
Latvia	1,063	1,062	982	269	270	236	-794	-792	-746	-376
Greece	7,215	7,095	6,210	1,906	1,950	1,343	-5,308	-5,145	-4,867	-448
Hungary	5,910	6,620	5,629	1,011	996	1,074	-4,899	-5,624	-4,556	-462
Czech Republic	4,893	4,377	7,075	1,617	1,507	1,542	-3,276	-2,871	-5,532	-525
Slovakia	2,026	1,669	3,735	799	720	697	-1,227	-949	-3,038	-560
Luxembourg	1,598	1,714	1,649	322	246	367	-1,276	-1,468	-1,283	-2,278
Total	126,349	134,656	128,565	129,430	139,744	132,961				

Notes: Negative net contribution indicates Member State is a net recipient
 Figures include administrative expenditure (significant effect on expenditure in Belgium and Luxembourg)

Sources: European Commission, *interactive graph on EU expenditure and revenue*, available at:
http://ec.europa.eu/budget/figures/interactive/index_en.cfm
 Eurostat (population data) downloaded 11 August 2016

Appendix: annual budget negotiations

The 2017 budget

European Commission's draft

The Commission presented the 2017 draft budget on 30 June 2016.³⁹ The Commission proposals amounted to commitments of €157.7 billion and payments of €134.9 billion. These figures represent a 1.7% increase in commitments and a 6.2% decrease in payments in cash terms compared with the 2016 budget.⁴⁰

Council's position

The Council adopted its position on the 2017 draft budget on 12 September 2016. The Council's position is for commitments of €156.4 billion and payments of €133.8 billion. These figures – which are lower than Commission's proposals – represent a 0.9% increase in commitments and a 7.0% decrease in payments in cash terms compared with 2016.⁴¹

Parliament's position

The Parliament adopted its position on 26 October 2016, calling for higher commitments (€162.4 billion) and payments (€138.0 billion) than in the Commission's draft.^{42,43}

Conciliation Committee

The Council informed the Parliament that it cannot accept all its amendments for the 2017 budget. This triggered a three-week conciliation period beginning on 28 October and ending on 17 November.

If no deal is found by the end of the conciliation period on 17 November the Commission has to present a new draft budget for 2017.

2017 budget negotiations

Commission draft budget proposed commitments of €157.7bn and payments of €134.9bn.

The Council proposed commitments of €156.4bn and payments of €133.8bn.

The Parliament proposed commitments of €162.4bn and payments of €138.0bn.

A Conciliation Committee will meet to try to reach agreement. If no deal is found by the end of the conciliation period on 17 November the Commission has to present a new draft budget for 2017.

³⁹ European Commission, [Draft General Budget 2017](#), June 2016

⁴⁰ European Commission Press Release, [Draft EU Budget 2017: Commission proposes a budget focused on priorities - growth, jobs and a solid response to the refugee crisis](#), 30 June 2016 & House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee, Eight Report of Session 2016/17, HC71-vi, [Chapter 2](#), 19 July 2016

⁴¹ European Council Press Release, [EU budget for 2017: Council sets out its position](#), 12 September 2016

⁴² European Council Press Release, [EU 2017 budget: Council cannot accept EP amendments](#), 26 October 2016.

⁴³ Figures include appropriations for special instruments

The 2016 budget

On 14 November 2015, the Council and the European Parliament reached an agreement on the 2016 EU budget. Meeting in the Conciliation Committee they agreed to set commitments at €155.0 billion and payments at €143.9 billion.

European Commission's draft

The Commission presented the 2016 draft budget on 27 May 2015.⁴⁴ The Commission proposals amounted to commitments of €153.5 billion and payments of €143.5 billion; these figures represent a 5.2% decrease in commitments and a 1.6% rise in payments in cash terms compared with the 2015 budget.

The Council's and European Parliament's positions

The Council's position, adopted on 4 September, called for the draft budget to be reduced to €153.3 billion in commitments and €142.1 billion in payments.

On the other hand, the European Parliament called for increases to the draft budget. The Parliament's position, adopted on 28 October 2015, called for an increase of total commitments to €157.4 billion and total payments to €146.5 billion. The Parliament's positions were above the ceilings of the multiannual financial framework.⁴⁵

Conciliation Committee

With the Council and European Parliament unable to agree, a Conciliation Committee was established on 29 October 2015. On 14 November 2015 an agreement was reached which sets commitments at €155.0 billion and payments at €143.9 billion.

On 24 November the Council approved the agreement. The budget for 2016 was adopted on 25 November, when the European Parliament confirmed the agreement.

2016 budget negotiations

Commission draft budget proposed commitments of €153.5bn and payments of €143.5bn

The Council proposed commitments of €153.3bn and payments of €142.1bn

Parliament proposed commitments and payments of €157.4bn and payments of €146.5 billion

Agreement was reached in conciliation committee with commitments of €155.0bn and payments of €143.9bn

⁴⁴ European Commission, [Draft General Budget 2016](#), May 2015

⁴⁵ Council of the European Union Press release, [Conciliation to start on 2016 EU budget](#), 28 October 2015

The 2015 budget

The 2015 annual budget was agreed in December 2014 following difficult negotiations between the European Parliament and the Council. Commitments are €145.3 billion and payments €141.2 billion;⁴⁶ these figures represent a 1.8% increase in commitments and a 0.6% rise in payments in cash terms compared with the 2014 budget.

A major stumbling block for negotiations was a growing backlog in payments that have affected the EU budget in recent years. The Council wanted to cut the Commission's estimates of the resources needed. The European Parliament supported stepping up efforts to tackle the payments backlog, to reduce its negative consequences on beneficiaries of EU funds.

European Commission's draft

The Commission presented the draft EU budget for 2015 in June 2014. The Commission proposed €145.6 billion in commitments, and payments of €142.1 billion.⁴⁷ In cash terms these figures represent a 2.1% increase in commitments and a 1.4% rise in payments compared with budget 2014.

The Council's and European Parliament's positions

The Council agreed amendments to this draft budget in September 2014, proposing to reduce the Commission's proposal for commitments to €145.1 billion and payments to €140.0 billion.⁴⁸

In October 2014, the European Parliament provided its position,⁴⁹ which would have set both commitments and payments to €146.4 billion.

Conciliation Committee and a new draft

With the Council and European Parliament unable to agree, a Conciliation Committee was established. On 17 November 2014 negotiations failed. The Commission presented a new draft budget for 2015 on 27 November 2014, trying to strike a balance between the positions adopted by the Council and the European Parliament. The new draft proposed commitments of €145.2 billion and payments of €141.3 billion. In cash terms these figures represent a 1.8% increase in

2015 budget negotiations

Commission draft budget proposed commitments of €145.6bn and payments of €142.1bn

The Council proposed commitments of €145.1bn and payments of €140.0bn

Parliament proposed commitments and payments of €146.4bn

Conciliation Committee failed to reach agreement.

Commission proposed a new draft with commitments of €145.2bn and payments of €141.3bn

Agreement reached with commitments of €145.3bn and payments of €141.2bn

⁴⁶ Council of the European Union [website:](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/eu-annual-budget/eu-budget-2015/)

⁴⁷ EC news release, [2015 EU draft budget to help Europe's economic growth despite financial constraints](#), 11 June 2014; EC, [Draft General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015](#), 24 June 2014; and, European Scrutiny Committee, [Fifth Report of Session 2014-15](#), 9 July 2014, HC 219-v 2014/15

⁴⁸ Council news release, [Council adopts position on 2015 EU budget](#), 2 September 2014

⁴⁹ European Parliament, [European Parliament resolution of 22 October 2014 on the Council position on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015](#)

commitments and a 0.7% rise in payments compared with budget 2014.⁵⁰

Agreement

On 8 December 2014 negotiators from the European Parliament and the Council reached an agreement on the 2015 budget. The compromise saw commitments of €145.3 billion and payments of €141.2 billion. The deal reached also included some measures to address the payment backlog.⁵¹

⁵⁰ EC press release, [Budget 2015: Commission makes new proposal to Parliament and Council](#), 28 November 2014; EC [Budget Online](#); European Scrutiny Committee, [Twenty-Sixth Report of Session 2014-15](#), 10 December 2014, HC 219-xxv 2014/15

⁵¹ For further information see: European Parliament Research Service, [The bumpy road to the 2015 EU budget](#), 11 December 2014.

The 2014 budget⁵²

The 2014 annual budget was the first executed under the 2014-20 MFF. It was agreed in November 2013 following a Conciliation Committee. Commitments are €142.6 billion and payments €135.5 billion; both figures are 6.2% lower compared to the 2013 budget.

European Commission's draft

The Commission presented the draft EU budget for 2014 in June 2013. The Commission proposed €142.0 billion in commitments and payments of €135.9 billion;⁵³ both figures were 5.8% lower compared to the 2013 budget.

The Council's and European Parliament's positions

The Council agreed amendments to the draft budget in September 2013, proposing to reduce the Commission's proposal for commitments to €141.7 billion and payments to €134.8 billion.⁵⁴

In October 2013, the European Parliament provided its position,⁵⁵ which would have set commitments to €142.6 billion and payments to €136.1 billion.

Agreement through Conciliation Committee

Agreement was reached through a Conciliation Committee in November 2013. The adopted 2014 EU budget provides for commitments of €142.6 billion and payments of €135.5 billion.⁵⁶

2014 budget negotiations

Commission draft

budget proposed commitments of €142.0bn and payments of €135.9bn

The Council

proposed commitments of €141.7bn and payments of €134.8bn

Parliament

proposed commitments of €142.6bn and payments of €136.1bn

Agreement was reached

through Conciliation Committee with commitments of €142.6bn and payments of €135.5bn.

⁵² Further details are available in EC. [Financial Year 2014. Report on budgetary and financial management](#)

⁵³ EC news release, [Commission tables proposal in tune with today's Europe](#), 26 June 2013, and [EC website](#)

⁵⁴ Council news release, [Council adopts position on 2014 EU budget](#), 2 September 2013

⁵⁵ European Parliament, [European Parliament resolution of 23 October 2013 on the Council position on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2014](#)

⁵⁶ 2014/67/EU, Euratom: [Definitive adoption of the European Union's general budget for the financial year 2014](#)

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