

A modernised Cohesion Policy

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
amending Regulations (EU) 2021/1058 and (EU) 2021/1056*

as regards specific measures to address strategic challenges in the context of the mid-term review

DG REGIO – Italy and Malta unit

Agenda

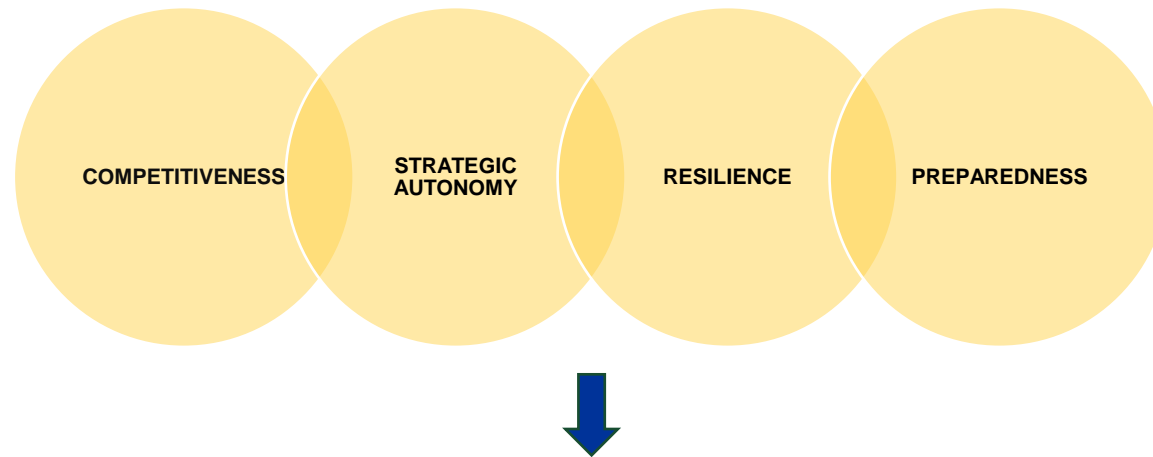
1. Context of the proposal
2. Strategic priorities
3. Conclusion



1. Context of the proposal

Context of the proposal

Commission Political Guidelines 2024-2029 ↔ Evolving economic, societal and geopolitical dynamics



Reinforcing the impact on **economic, social and territorial cohesion**.

The 2025 mid-term review of Cohesion Policy presents an opportunity for:

- ***strengthening*** the contribution to ***EU's strategic political priorities***.
- ***accelerating*** the implementation of ***2021-2027 Programmes***.



2. Strategic priorities

Strategic priorities

COMPETITIVENESS AND DECARBONISATION

STEP

Policy Objective 1

RSO 1.6 “Supporting investments contributing to the objectives of the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) referred to in Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2024/795 of the European Parliament and of the Council”.

Policy Objective 2

RSO 2.9 “Supporting investments contributing to the STEP objective referred to in Article 2(1), point (a)(ii), of Regulation (EU) 2024/795”.

—> Additional **flexibilities** for productive investments in **enterprises other than SMEs**.



Strategic priorities

DEFENCE & SECURITY

Policy Objective 1

RSO 1.7 “Enhancing **industrial capacities** to foster **dual use** as well as **defence capabilities**”.

Policy Objective 3

RSO 3.3 “Developing **resilient defence or dual use infrastructure** to foster military mobility in the Union”.

Non-exhaustive list of possible investments

- **Technological development and production** of defence products and other products for defence purposes, as defined in art. 1 and 2 of the Proposal for Council Regulation SAFE.
(es. drones and related anti-drone systems, critical infrastructure protection etc.).
- **Building resilient infrastructure** with a primary focus on **EU Priority Military Mobility Corridors** (ref. ST 6728/25, Annex II - Military Requirements for Military Mobility within and beyond the EU).



Strategic priorities

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Policy Objective 2

RSO 2.11 “Promoting access to **affordable housing**, and related reforms”*.

Policy Objective 4

RSO 4.7 “Promoting access to **affordable housing**, and related reforms”*.

Policy Objective 5

RSO 5.3 “Fostering **integrated territorial development**, through access to **affordable housing**, and the development of related reforms in all types of territories”*.

Non-exhaustive list of possible investments

- **Energy efficient** renovations of the housing stock, including in compliance with energy efficiency criteria (RDC, Annex I – table 1).
- Interventions on **public housing, social housing, intergenerational housing, student housing**.

Strategic priorities

WATER

Policy Objective 2

RSO 2.5 “Promoting **secure** access to water, sustainable water management and **water resilience**”.

Non-exhaustive list of possible investments

- **Digitisation** of water infrastructure, wastewater treatment and **water reuse**.
- Mitigation of **drought and desertification** impacts, **flooding** and extreme weather events.
- Mitigation of **(cyber)security risks** on **water infrastructure**.
- Restoration of water bodies.
- **Deployment of nature-based solutions** to reduce floods risk and increase the capacity of ecosystems to store water.
- Control of water abstractions and increased **water efficiency (including leakage reduction)**.

Strategic priorities

ENERGY TRANSITION

Policy Objective 2

RSO 2.12 “Promoting **energy interconnectors** and related **transmission infrastructure**, and the deployment of **recharging infrastructure**”.

Non-exhaustive list of possible investments

- **Energy interconnectors** and other network infrastructure necessary to increase interconnections across MS (including cybersecurity, resilience..).
- **Energy storage facilities** can be supported if storage is required to increase energy flows.
- Infrastructure inside TEN-E network can be supported (≠ RSO2.3).
- **Recharging infrastructure**, complementing the Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Facility (Connecting Europe Facility).



3. Conclusion



Conclusion

- The Proposal is a call to Cohesion Policy to **boost its contribution to urgent EU political priorities**, promoting solidarity and cohesion in the EU.
 - It is on a voluntarily basis, considering the needs and potentials of the territories.
- The Proposal is an opportunity to **accelerate the implementation of 2021-2027 investments**.
 - Together with the expected contribution to addressing pressing challenges, it is of outmost importance to examine the **readiness to implementation** of proposed investments as well as their **contribution to territorial development**.



Discussions on the next MFF



Thank you



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