

To the European Parliament, the European Commission, the Council of the EU

Brussels, 6th August 2020

Honourable Presidents of the European Parliament, European Council, European Commission  
Honorable Commissioner on Budget  
Honorable Members of the European Parliament MFF negotiating team  
Honorable Permanent Representatives to the EU

**Re: EU institutions negotiations on the next MFF and the Recovery Plan and implications for citizens**

We would like to express our views as the negotiations among institutions on the next Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027 and the recovery package are starting.

We welcome the fact that the European Council has reached an agreement on a common position of Member States. However, we believe that such an agreement does not respond to all concerns of civil society and the people we represent.

In particular, we would like to call on you to:

- Launch a consultation ahead of the drafting of the national implementations plans for the recovery fund that would allow civil society and people to express their views.
- Involve civil society organisations in the governance of the Recovery and Resilience Facility of the Recovery Plan, and be able to evaluate the national implementation plans and provide direct input to the Commission, as well as monitor their implementation.
- Increase funding for Europe's flagship programmes, which support key priorities for citizens and in sectors that have been among the most highly impacted by the pandemic, such as protection of the environment, social inclusion, democracy and fundamental rights, equality between women and men, culture, education, health, and in particular: Erasmus +, Creative Europe, the Justice, Rights and Values Programmes, Life, EU4Health Programme. The amounts proposed in the European Council agreement do not respond to current needs.
- Agree on a strong rule of law conditionality regulation which is a factor that will make or break the EU's credibility and accountability, and ensure that in case of significant rule of law and fundamental rights breaches, those who need funding are not penalised, and that it is made available to beneficiaries through direct management by the European Commission.
- Reach an ambitious agreement on the extension of EU own resources so as to be able to meet EU needs on a long term basis.

We are ready to work with you on these critical matters and remain at your disposal for a follow up meeting.

Yours sincerely,





And supported by:



EUROPEAN PUBLIC SERVICE UNION **The European Federation of Public Service Trade Unions representing workers in public and social services, the social economy and many civil society organisations**