



Brussels, 29.11.2024
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 29.11.2024

**on the financing of the multiannual action plan for EU foreign policy needs on support
to international cultural relations for 2024-2025**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009², and in particular Article 23(1) and (2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the EU foreign policy needs on support to international cultural relations for 2024-2025, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2024-2025, in accordance with Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 ('the Financial Regulation').
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union³.
- (3) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (4) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action plan, it is appropriate to determine the changes, which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (5) The objectives pursued by the multiannual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 are to enable the EU to foster the role of culture in EU external relations, building trust and enhancing mutual understanding through intercultural dialogue, promotion of shared values and co-creation collaborations.

¹ OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/947/oj>.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy, the OJ prevails.

- (6) The action plan aims to implement a rapid response action, pursuant to Article 23(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 and is justified by the imperative foreign policy interest for the EU to respond quickly to emerging foreign policy needs.
- (7) The action entitled ‘Support to international cultural relations’ aims to build trust and mutual understanding to support the achievement of the EU’s foreign policy priorities, by strengthening the EU's ability to engage meaningfully in international cultural relations with different audiences, stakeholders and potential partners.
- (8) The action plan provided for in this Decision does not fall within the categories of action plans for which the prior opinion of the Committee is required. The European Parliament and Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 should be informed of this Decision within one month following its adoption.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The action plan

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual action plan for EU foreign policy needs on support to international cultural relations for 2024-2025, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following action: ‘Support to international cultural relations’ as set out in the Annex.

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2024-2025 is set at EUR 10 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line 14 02 03 30 (Foreign Policy Needs) of the general budget of the Union.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2025 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

Article 3

Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 and not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, considering each financial year separately, or cumulated changes⁴ to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

⁴ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 29.11.2024

For the Commission
Josep BORRELL FONTELLES
High Representative / Vice-President