European Parliament
2024-2029

TEXTS ADOPTED

P10_TA(2026)0038

Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: application EGF/2025/006 BE/ Audi - Belgium

European Parliament resolution of 11 February 2026 on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers following an application from Belgium – EGF/2025/006 BE/Audi (COM(2026)0002 – C10-0002/2026 – 2026/0001(BUD))

The European Parliament,

– having regard to the Commission proposal to the European Parliament and the Council (COM(2026)0002 – C10-0002/2026),

– having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/691 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013[1] ("EGF Regulation"),

– having regard to Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021-2027[2] as amended by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/765[3] (“MFF Regulation”), and in particular Article 8 thereof,

– having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a

---

[1] OJ L 153, 3.5.2021, p. 48, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/691/oj.
[2] OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 11, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2020/2093/oj.
[3] Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/765 of 29 February 2024 amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027 (OJ L, 2024/765, 29.2.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/765/oj).

roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources[4], and in particular point 9 thereof,

– having regard to the European Pillar of Social Rights,

– having regard to the letter from the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs,

– having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets (A10-0006/2026),

A. whereas the Union has set up legislative and budgetary instruments to provide additional support to workers who are suffering from the consequences of major structural events and changes in world trade patterns, and to assist their reintegration into the labour market; whereas this assistance is made through a financial support given to workers;

B. whereas Belgium submitted application EGF/2025/006 BE/Audi for a financial contribution from the EGF following 3 414 displacements[5] in the economic sector classified under the NACE Revision 2 division 29 (Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers) in the regions of Bruxelles Capitale (BE10), Provincie Oost-Vlaanderen (BE23) and Provincie Hainaut (BE32) with 3 148 displacements within a reference period from 28 February 2025 to 28 June 2025, comprising 2 580 displaced workers whose activity ceased in Audi S.A./n.V. (Audi) and its subsidiaries, and 568 displaced workers in 5 suppliers and downstream producers, and 266 displacements before or after the reference period;

C. whereas the application is based on the intervention criteria of Article 4(2), point (a), of the EGF Regulation; whereas for the 266 displacements whose activity ceased before or after the four-month reference period, a clear causal link can be established with the event that triggered the cessation of activity for the displaced workers during the reference period as required by Article 6(2) of the EGF Regulation;

D. whereas in the concerned plant of Audi only one model was produced, with production discontinued earlier than planned due to high production costs linked to the plant's location; whereas the plant shut down on 28 February 2025;

E. whereas Belgium is providing the national pre-financing and co-funding of the measures;

---

4 OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 28, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2020/1222/oj.

5 Within the meaning of Article 3 of the EGF Regulation.

F. whereas the requirements laid down in Union and national legislation concerning collective redundancies have been met by the concerned enterprises;

G. whereas financial contributions from the EGF should be primarily directed at active labour market policy measures and personalised services that aim to reintegrate beneficiaries rapidly into decent and sustainable employment offering them skills training to facilitate their access to the labour market, while preparing them for a greener and more digital European economy;

H. whereas the EGF shall not exceed a maximum annual amount of EUR 30 million (in 2018 prices)[6];

1. Agrees with the Commission that the conditions set out in the EGF Regulation and in particular in Article 4(2), point (a) thereof are met and that Belgium is entitled to a financial contribution of EUR 7 527 625 under that Regulation, which represents 85 % of the total cost of EUR 8 856 030, comprising expenditure for personalised services of EUR 8 738 968 and expenditure for preparatory, management, information and publicity, control and reporting activities of EUR 117 062;

2. Notes that the Belgian authorities submitted the application on 18 September 2025, and that, following the receipt of additional information from Belgium, the Commission finalised its assessment on 9 January 2026 and notified it to Parliament on the same day; stresses the importance of shortening the time between the submission of an application for EGF assistance and the financing decision, while fully safeguarding Parliament's rights as one arm of the budgetary authority;

3. Notes that the application relates to workers whose activity ceased in Audi and five suppliers and downstream producers and that they will all be targeted beneficiaries;

4. Takes note that the increment in bankruptcies over the past two years has considerably increased the unemployment rate in some regions in Belgium, particularly in Brussels and Hainaut (Wallonia); emphasises that unemployment risk correlates with education level and one in two individuals with low education and one in three with medium education face higher unemployment risk, with those groups comprising 83 % of displaced workers; regrets that the displacements will further aggravate the situation; calls on Belgian authorities to take measures to reduce bankruptcies to prevent structural and regional decline, while addressing social disparities leading to exclusion of work force, such as gender inequalities and low level of education;

---

6 Article 8 of the MFF Regulation.

5. Notes that the global market for the production and sale of cars, particularly electric cars, is characterised by increasingly aggressive global competition; highlights the growing challenges faced by European car manufacturers in bringing innovative and affordable models to the market in future-oriented segments like battery-electric vehicles; regrets that Audi ceased activities in Belgium despite remaining profitable, and that production will be moved to China and Mexico, resulting in the redundancy of 3 414 workers; notes with concern that challenging production conditions, including insufficient access to and deployment of cheaper clean energy sources, contributed to the relocation of Audi's facilities outside the Union;

6. Emphasises that the closure of the plant after more than 70 years of operation, notwithstanding its production of electric vehicles, demonstrates that the challenges facing European industry are of a structural nature, rather than being solely technological;

7. Stresses the importance of finding a sustainable solution for repurposing the closed factory to create high-quality jobs in the region; urges Belgian authorities to undertake necessary steps to facilitate opening of a new manufacturing site at the former Audi factory;

8. Emphasises that the qualifications and skills of the laid-off workers remain key to a future-proof European economy that accomplishes the green transition while maintaining a strong industrial base; considers therefore that the mobilisation of the EGF needs to be embedded in a larger policy response on all political levels to ensure that the workers affected find adequate opportunities in line with their qualifications and skills;

9. Recalls that, in agreement with trade unions and social partners, personalised services to be provided to the workers consist of the following measures: counselling and information and placement services; training, including IT skills; job day; contribution to business start-up; incentives for participation in job-search activities; emphasises the importance of fostering high-quality, future-oriented jobs to ensure long-term economic and social resilience;

10. Stresses that the Belgian authorities shall ensure the visibility of the Union funding and highlight its added value by providing effective and targeted information to beneficiaries, regional and local authorities, social partners, and the wider public;

11. Calls for thorough final evaluations of the measures implemented, including clear information on how the funds have been used and whether they have actually achieved the objectives for which the EGF was created, including data and timelines on the number of workers successfully reintegrated into employment and the jobs they

have accessed, as well as on those who have completed training and upskilling measures as well as the relevant timelines;

12. Notes that Belgium started providing personalised services to the targeted beneficiaries on 17 February 2025 and that the period of eligibility for a financial contribution from the EGF will therefore be from that date until 24 months after the date of the entry into force of the financing decision;

13. Notes that Belgium started incurring administrative expenditure to implement the EGF on 9 July 2024 and that such expenditure shall therefore be eligible for a financial contribution from the EGF from that date until 31 months after the date of the entry into force of the financing decision;

14. Notes that the Belgian authorities provided assurance that the principles of equality of treatment and non-discrimination will be respected in the access to the proposed actions and their implementation, and that any double financing will be prevented;

15. Reiterates that assistance from the EGF must not replace actions that are the responsibility of companies, by virtue of national law or collective agreements;

16. Recalls that the EGF is an instrument of solidarity and just transition and while it provides support after jobs are lost, it cannot replace a proactive coherent and coordinated Union industrial policy in order to safeguard Europe’s industrial employment base and social security and long term economic and social resilience and to prevent regional structural decline; stresses that the Union’s primary task must be to prevent such closures in the first place by creating the conditions for affordable, clean and reliable energy to keep industrial production competitive, while at the same time investing in skills for both highly qualified workers and industrial workers; moreover, stresses the urgent need for coherent and coordinated Union competitiveness efforts, developed in close partnership with the Member States, in order to safeguard Europe’s industrial employment base and social security and underlines that only a robust and resilient European economy can effectively prevent large-scale redundancies, thereby reducing the need for EGF intervention;

17. Approves the decision annexed to this resolution;

18. Instructs its President to sign the decision with the President of the Council and arrange for its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*;

19. Instructs its President to forward this resolution, including its annex, to the Council and the Commission.

ANNEX

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers following an application from Belgium – EGF/2025/006 BE/Audi

(The text of this annex is not reproduced here since it corresponds to the final act, Decision (EU) 2026/454.)