



TEXTS ADOPTED

P10_TA(2026)0202

European political parties and foundations - 2026 report on the application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 2025/2445 and on the activities funded

European Parliament resolution of 16 June 2026 European political parties and foundations - 2026 report on the application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 2025/2445 and on the activities funded (2026/2013(INI))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Articles 2 and 10(4) of the Treaty on European Union and Article 12(2) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,
- having regard to Articles 224 and 325 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 November 2025 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations¹ (hereinafter ‘the Regulation’),
- having regard to 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 Union² (the Financial Regulation),
- having regard to its resolution of 11 November 2021 on the application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations³,

¹ OJ L, 2025/2445, 8.12.2025, ELI:
<http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/2445/oj>.

² OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024, ELI:
<http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>.

³ OJ C 205, 20.5.2022, p. 37.

- having regard to consultations with the Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations (hereinafter ‘the Authority’) and to its annual activity reports,
 - having regard to the exchange of views with European political foundations and institutional stakeholders of 18 March 2026 held by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs,
 - having regard to Rule 55 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs (A10-0145/2026),
- A. whereas strong political parties and foundations at EU level are essential for the development of a truly European public sphere;
 - B. whereas European political parties and European political foundations should play a more central role in the European election process and contribute to forming EU political awareness and expressing the will of EU citizens; whereas political diversity is essential for public discourse and for expressing citizens’ choices;
 - C. whereas European political parties and foundations should cooperate with their national member parties and partners to support them in bringing the EU and its policies closer to citizens and to enhance democratic legitimacy;
 - D. whereas in 2025, two more foundations were registered with the Authority, meaning that as of 31 December 2025, 12 European political parties and 12 affiliated European political foundations were funded by the EU budget;
 - E. whereas the recast Regulation entered into force on 28 December 2025 and introduced a number of important innovations, including clearer rules on joint European political activities, enhanced transparency and reporting obligations, strengthened due-diligence requirements for donations, and the explicit recognition of self-generated resources as a category of revenue;
 - F. whereas the Regulation has only been in force for a short time; whereas, accordingly, data on and experience with implementing the Regulation is as yet limited; whereas a comprehensive assessment of the Regulation’s implementation and impact requires sufficient time and evidence; whereas, nevertheless, unforeseen policy challenges have emerged in the immediate aftermath of the Regulation’s entry into force, notably regarding the funding of political foundations, requiring urgent action;
 - G. whereas in accordance with the recast Regulation, Parliament is due to publish a report by 29 June 2026 on the application of the

Regulation and on the activities funded; whereas following the publication of Parliament's report, the Commission will have one year to present a report on the application of the Regulation, accompanied, if appropriate, by a proposal to amend it;

- H. whereas the Commission's report should pay particular attention to the Regulation's implications for the position of small European political parties and European political foundations, and for the rules governing the financing of European political foundations;
- I. whereas European political foundations constitute an integral part of the EU's democratic architecture by supporting political debate, policy development, research, training and civic engagement at EU and national levels;
- J. whereas the mandate of the European political foundations includes raising political awareness of and contributing to the debate on EU policy issues and the process of European integration, and providing services that are not exclusively directed at the members or voters of a particular party, but are open to everyone on equal terms;
- K. whereas the implementation of the Regulation is taking place in a context of profound geopolitical instability, characterised by increased strategic competition, hybrid threats, disinformation, technological disruption, climate change and long-term socio-economic transformations;
- L. whereas these developments require the EU to reinforce its capacity for strategic foresight, anticipatory governance and long-term policy planning, in order to prepare effectively for the challenges in the period up to 2040 and beyond;
- M. whereas European political foundations are uniquely positioned to contribute to this effort through long-term research, comparative analysis, transnational dialogue, political education and capacity building;
- N. whereas the current level and structure of EU funding available to European political foundations is no longer commensurate with the scope, strategic relevance and increasing complexity of their tasks;
- O. whereas political foundations have reported a disproportionate regulatory burden and have called for the simplification of regulatory requirements, notably with regard to reporting and transparency obligations, as well as for the possibility of reinstatement of the corrective measures necessary to ensure the proper functioning of the funding process;

General assessment of the recast Regulation

1. Welcomes the adoption of the recast Regulation as an important step towards modernising the legal framework for European political parties and foundations and strengthening democratic integrity at EU level;
2. Notes that the Regulation has improved legal clarity in several areas, notably with regard to joint European political activities, transparency requirements and safeguards against foreign interference;
3. Emphasises, however, that to date experience and data on the implementation of the recast Regulation remains limited and that a more in-depth and horizontal evaluation can only be conducted at a later stage; points out that the unforeseen policy challenges that emerged in the immediate aftermath of the Regulation's entry into force, notably regarding the funding of political foundations, nevertheless require urgent action;
4. Notes with concern the reports by foundations of a disproportionate regulatory burden and undertakes to further investigate and follow up on this matter in its upcoming systematic evaluation; emphasises, in this context, the importance of effective and proportionate corrective measures as a tool to ensure compliance with the Regulation and undertakes to review the use of these measures in recent practice;
5. Notes the legal uncertainty and operational constraints still faced by European political foundations, particularly as regards the classification of eligible costs, and considers that these issues require timely clarification;

Role of European political foundations

6. Reiterates that European political foundations perform a distinct institutional role under the Treaties by fostering European political awareness, supporting evidence-based policymaking and strengthening democratic culture and civic engagement across the EU;
7. Draws attention to the fact that the geopolitical and technological environment has become increasingly volatile since the publication of the Commission's 2021 proposal to recast Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014⁴, and is marked by heightened security tensions, foreign interference in democratic processes and accelerated socio-economic transformation; underlines that these developments increase the importance of long-term policy planning,

⁴ Commission proposal of 25 November 2021 for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations (recast), (COM(2021)0734).

democratic education and cross-border dialogue, to which European political foundations make a special contribution;

8. Notes that, in view of their expanding responsibilities, European political foundations require the necessary financial tools and appropriate and stable resources to fully assume their institutional role, building on the improvements introduced by the Regulation;

Proposals for improvement

9. Underlines the need to ensure that European political foundations are provided with a sound legal framework and financial security; commits itself to working with the foundations to provide this security to the extent possible within the existing framework, notably through a revision of the way in which foundations are financially supported by their member organisations; points out that the Regulation does not prohibit a flexible and participation-based membership fee model through which member organisations contribute on the basis of their level of involvement in joint activities; underlines that joint activities themselves should remain budget-neutral and should not generate income for foundations that exceeds the actual costs incurred;
10. Encourages European political foundations to maximise financial possibilities under the existing framework; highlights that the financing of European political foundations via the own resources of the European political parties is currently permitted under Article 2(10) of the current Regulation; calls both on European political parties and on foundations to conclude cooperation arrangements through which foundations are compensated by parties for their contribution to any joint work, taking into account their distinct respective roles under the Treaties;
11. Underlines, furthermore, that the Regulation does not prohibit national foundations, other than political foundations, from becoming members of and paying a membership contribution to European political foundations;
12. Considers that Article 25 of the current Regulation could be clarified to confirm explicitly that participation fees can be charged to member organisations for their involvement in activities organised by a European political foundation;
13. Notes that a strict application of the definition of membership contributions, the financial and administrative pressure to complement grants from the EU budget with self-generated resources, the rules applicable to joint European political activities with member foundations and the overall level of EU funding limit the financial autonomy and sustainability of European political foundations, especially in view of their growing responsibilities, and

underlines that a sustainable funding framework is essential to preserve their independence and prevent undue private influence;

14. Stresses that as part of the diversification of own resources, European political foundations are allowed to receive donations from natural or legal persons of up to a value of EUR 18 000 per year and per donor; believes that the cap on these donations could be increased to give European political foundations greater flexibility;
15. Encourages the Authority, in cooperation with the Commission, to continue and further develop its dialogue with national competent authorities, with a view to raising awareness of the impact of national funding frameworks on the functioning of European political foundations and identifying practical solutions aimed at avoiding unintended constraints on their financial sustainability;
16. Proposes the establishment of a single online reporting and disclosure system for EU funding, donations and contributions to European political foundations in order to ensure adequate transparency for citizens, improve compliance monitoring and reduce reporting entities' administrative and compliance burden;
17. Recognises the efforts of European political foundations to diversify and stabilise their sources of funding within the existing regulatory framework and encourages the continued balanced and transparent use of available own-resource mechanisms;

Final considerations

18. Calls on the Commission to carry out a targeted review of the funding provisions applicable to European political foundations under the Regulation, drawing on the findings of this report and on the experience gained since the recast Regulation's entry into force;
19. Calls on the Commission to review whether any national regulatory or policy framework prohibits or hinders the payment of contributions by national entities, including political foundations, to European political foundations and to follow up with the necessary action;
20. Calls on the Commission to present a recast legislative proposal revising the funding rules for European political foundations, including an amendment of Article 22(4) of the Regulation to increase the cap on financial contributions or grants from the EU's general budget to 100 % of the eligible costs incurred by a European political foundation; furthermore, calls on the Commission to include in this proposal an amendment of Article 25 to increase the cap on donations for European political foundations, therefore ensuring greater flexibility and diversification of funding sources;

21. Commits to increasing the overall level of EU funding for political foundations under the forthcoming multiannual financial framework for 2028-2034, to take account of the absence of budgetary indexation in recent years and the rising inflation and increasing operational costs, with a view to ensuring appropriate, stable and predictable financial resources, enabling foundations to engage in long-term strategic foresight and capacity-building activities, maintain high standards of transparency, accountability and independence, and ensuring proportionality between compliance obligations and available funding;
22. Concludes that providing European political foundations with appropriate funding constitutes a strategic investment in the EU's democratic resilience and long-term governance capacity;
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23. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission.