

Research for REGI, CONT and BUDG Committees - Cohesion Policy Calendar (2021-2027 and 2014-2020 Programming Periods) January 2024 update

The implementation timetable for cohesion policy is defined largely by its legislative framework. In order to be able to plan parliamentary work and exercise systematic scrutiny of policy implementation and of the Commission's work, it is essential to have an overview of the timing of different steps in policy implementation in the coming years. This type of briefing was first published (and subsequently updated) in 2014 covering the 2014-2020 programming period. This version includes the policy actions of the 2021-27 period, while still indicating the last steps of the 2014-20 period. It includes a detailed (but non-exhaustive) timetable of policy actions in 2024, together with an overview of major actions for the remainder of the programming period, from 2025. Given its contribution to cohesion in the European Union, policy actions under the Recovery and Resilience Facility are now included in the calendar. **Policy actions related to budgetary and budgetary control aspects are coloured green (for the year 2024).**

(For ease of reading, please refer to the List of abbreviations on page 9.)

Annual Overview

2024	Policy actions	Sources
January	Starting date for resources transferred to the CEF and not committed to a transport infrastructure project to be made available to all MS eligible for funding from the Cohesion Fund, to finance transport infrastructure projects in accordance with the CEF Regulation - 1 January	CPR21-27 Art. 110(3)
	Presidency event on A European urban policy fit for the future - 24 January	BE PRES planning
February	Informal meeting of ministers responsible for cohesion policy - 5-6 February	BE PRES planning
	ECA to publish review on Traineeships for young people in the EU - 6 February	ECA planning
	Commission to provide the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions with an independent evaluation report of the RRF - 20 February	RRF Art. 32(1)
	ECA to publish special report on Rule of law in the EU - 22 February	ECA planning
March	ECA to publish review on The Commission's rule of law reporting - 28 February	ECA planning
	Conference on Performance-informed Budgeting in Europe: recipes for Success in Flanders - 4 March European Conference of Housing Ministers - 4-5 March	BE PRES planning BE PRES planning



2024	Policy actions	Sources
	<p>10th European Summit of Regions and Cities - 18-19 March</p> <p>Seminar: Urban Archaeology and the Cities of Tomorrow - 20-23 March</p> <p>Deadline for MS to complete mid-term evaluation for the AMIF, the ISF and the BMVI - 31 March</p> <p>Deadline for external cross-border Interreg programmes to be submitted to the Commission, in the absence of which, the contribution from the ERDF for the remaining years up to 2027, is to be re-allocated to internal cross-border Interreg programmes - 31 March</p> <p>ECA to publish special report on Road safety - unspecified date in March</p>	<p>BE PRES plannig/CoR</p> <p>BE PRES planning</p> <p>CPR21-27 Art. 44(5)</p> <p>Interreg21-27 Art. 12(2)</p> <p>ECA planning</p>
April	<p>Leaders Meeting: "Fit for the Future: Global Challenges, Regional Solutions" - 18 April</p> <p>Conference of Mayors on "Local Government Approaches to Diversity" - 19 April</p> <p>Presidency event: Transition: the successful reconversion and sustainable transformation of a former mining region - 19 April</p> <p>Lab focusing on the Urban Agenda for the EU - 24 April</p> <p>Meeting of the Network of Territorial Cohesion Contact Points (NTCCP) - 26 April</p>	<p>BE PRES planning</p>
June	<p>ESPON seminar - 5-6 June</p> <p>Meeting of the Directors General on Territorial Cohesion (DGTC) - 25 June</p> <p>Meeting of the Directors General on Urban Matters (DGUM) - 26 June</p> <p>End of the final accounting year of 2014-20 period - 30 June</p> <p>End of the application period of a co-financing rate of up to 100 % to expenditure declared in payment applications (in the case of a separate priority to support the socioeconomic integration of third country national) - 30 June</p> <p>Deadline for the Commission to review the co-financing rate (in the context of a separate priority to support the socioeconomic integration of third country national) - 30 June</p> <p>Deadline for the Commission to inform the European Parliament and the Council on the state of play of the implementation process of the BAR regulation - unspecified date in June</p>	<p>BE PRES planning</p> <p>BE PRES planning</p> <p>BE PRES planning</p> <p>CPR14-20 Art. 2(29)</p> <p>CPR21-27 Art. 112 (7) (FAST CARE measure)</p> <p>Art. 112 (7) (FAST CARE measure)</p> <p>BAR Art. 17 (1)</p>
September	<p>Deadline for Member States to submit an application for a financial contribution from the BAR - 30 September</p>	<p>BAR Art. 10</p>
October	<p>The European Week of Regions and Cities - 7-11 October</p>	<p>CoR</p>
December	<p>Deadline to complete 2014-20 ex post evaluations - 31 December</p> <p>Deadline for MS to ensure that at least one evaluation on the use of the REACT-EU is carried out - 31 December</p> <p>Cut off date for insufficient progress towards climate contribution target at national level to be taken into account in MS mid-term review - 31 December</p> <p>Deadline to achieve milestones for output indicators - 31 December</p>	<p>CPR14-20 Art. 57(2)</p> <p>REACT-EU Art. 1 - CPR14-20 Art. 92b(12)</p> <p>CPR21-27 Art. 6(4)</p>

2024	Policy actions	Sources
	<p>Deadline for Commission to carry out a mid-term evaluation to examine the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and Union added value of each Fund - 31 December</p> <p>End of period during which 70 % of 70 % of the amount of money that MS (whose GNI per capita is less than 60 % of the EU-27 average) have transferred to the CEF, is guaranteed - 31 December</p> <p>Cut off date for different distribution methods of increased JTF resources among MS, under Green Rewarding Mechanism - 31 December</p> <p>Deadline for the Commission to carry out a mid-term evaluation of the EaSI strand - 31 December</p> <p>Deadline for Commission to carry out a review and prepare a report, accompanied where necessary accompanied by a legislative proposal of the application of Article 10 of RRF - 31 December</p>	<p>CPR21-27 Art. 16 (1)(b)</p> <p>CPR21-27 Art. 45(1)</p> <p>CPR21-27 Art. 110(3)</p> <p>JTF Art. 5(1) and (2)</p> <p>ESF+ Art. 34(2)</p> <p>RRF Art. 10(8)</p>
Unspecified	<p><u>ECA to publish Special reports on:</u></p> <p>Hydrogen - industrial policy - unspecified date in the second quarter of 2024</p> <p>RRF Absorption - unspecified date in the second quarter of 2024</p> <p>Recovering EU funds - unspecified date in the second quarter of 2024</p> <p>Member State RRF control systems - unspecified date in the third quarter of 2024</p> <p>Climate adaptation - unspecified date in the third quarter of 2024</p> <p>Double funding- unspecified date in the third quarter of 2024</p> <p>Green transition - unspecified date in the third quarter of 2024</p> <p>Digital transformation - unspecified date in the third quarter of 2024</p> <p>State aid in times of crisis- unspecified date in the third quarter of 2024</p> <p>Cohesion Action for Refugees in Europe (CARE)- unspecified date in the fourth quarter of 2024</p> <p>Urban pollution - unspecified date in the fourth quarter of 2024</p> <p><u>ECA to publish Reviews on:</u></p> <p>Regularity of Cohesion spending during the 2014-2020 period - unspecified date in the second quarter of 2024</p>	<p>ECA planning</p> <p>ECA planning</p>

CPR14-20:

Commission to provide summary of progress on financial instruments and send it to the European Parliament and Council - 30 November / 31 December (each year from 2016, within 6 months of deadline for submission of annual implementation reports, policy action ends in 2025) (Art. 46(4))

Commission to transmit summary report based on annual implementation reports and available evaluations to the European Parliament, Council, EESC, CoR - each year from 2016 (policy action ends in 2025) (Art. 53(1))

Update of audit strategy 2014-20 - Unspecified date, (policy action ends in 2024) (Art. 127(4))

CPR21-27:

MS to send to the Commission information on the amounts that can be deducted from the amount concerned by decommitment, for the amount to be declared by 31 December of the preceding year - 31 January (Art. 106(2))

Deadlines for Member State or the managing authority to electronically transmit to the Commission cumulative data for each programme - 31 January, 30 April, 31 July, 30 September and 30 November (Art. 42(1) and Interreg21-27 Art. 32(1))

Biannual deadlines for MS or managing authorities to provide forecasts of the amount for payment applications to be submitted for the current and subsequent calendar year - 31 January and 31 July (Art. 69(10))

MS to submit to the Commission the assurance package (that covers the preceding accounting year) for each accounting year for which payment applications have been submitted - 15 February (Art. 98(1))

Deadline of for the Commission to satisfy itself that the accounts are complete, accurate and true - 31 May (of the year following the end of the accounting year unless Article 102 of CPR21-27 applies) (Art. 99)

MS to submit to the Commission an amended financing plan reflecting, for the calendar year concerned, the reduced amount of support, (decommitment procedure) - 30 June (Art. 107(3))

Deadline for the pre-financing for each Fund to be paid in yearly instalments - 1 July (2021-2026) (Art. 90 (2))

Deadline for the Commission to amend decision approving the programme, (decommitment procedure) - 31 October (Art. 107(4))

Commission to consult organisations which represent partners at Union level on the implementation of programmes, and to report to the European Parliament and Council on the outcome - *At least once a year* (Art. 8(5))

Monitoring committee to meet - *At least once a year* (Art. 38(3) and Interreg21-27 Art. 28(3))

Commission and the audit authorities to meet to examine the audit strategy, the annual control report and the audit opinion, to coordinate their audit plans and methods, and to exchange views on the improvement of management and control systems - *At least once a year* (Art. 77(6))

Review meetings to be organised between the Commission and each MS to examine the performance of each programme - *Once a year* (Art. 41(1))

Audit authority to draw up and submit to the Commission an annual audit opinion and an annual control report - *unspecified date* (Art. 77(3))

JTF - Deadline for budgetary commitments for the preceding year which relate to non-programmed allocations to be decommitted in their entirety in the following year in the absence of the MS' commitment to implement the objective of achieving a climate-neutral Union by 2050 - 31 December of any given year starting from 2022 (Art. 7(4))

ERDF+CF - The Commission to submit a report to the European Parliament and to the Council on developments in connection with the European Urban Initiative - *every two years starting in 2023 (date of publication is unspecified)* (Art. 12(2))

Interreg21-27:

Interreg audit authority to draw up and submit to the Commission, an annual audit opinion and an annual control report - 15 February following the end of the accounting year (Art. 48(5) and (6))

Deadline for Commission to pay a pre-financing based on the total support from each Interreg fund, (policy action ends in 2026) - 1 July (Art. 51(2))

Audit authorities of the Interreg programmes concerned of the common sample selected to carry out the audits of operations - 1 September following the end of each accounting year (Art. 49(4))

RRF:

Member States to submit to the Commission a request for payment of the financial contribution (of the loan) - twice a year, ending in 2026 (RRF Art. 24(2))

The competent committee of the European Parliament to invite the Commission to discuss RRF under the recovery and resilience dialogue process - every two months (RRF Art. 26(1))

Member States to report in the context of the European Semester on the progress made in the achievement of the recovery and resilience plan - twice a year (RRF Art. 27.)

Commission to update the Recovery and resilience Scoreboard - twice a year (RRF Art. 30(4))

Commission to provide an annual report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the RRF - annually (RRF Art. 31(1))

Member States to update data on the public portal created for this purpose on 100 **final recipients receiving the highest amount of funding under the Facility** - twice a year (RRF Article 25a(1) - REPowerEU)

Multiannual Overview 2025-2031

	2025	2026	2028
February	<p>CPR14-20 Art. 138</p> <p>Final year for MS to submit documents on 2014-20 accounts, management declaration, annual summary, audit opinion and control report - 15 February</p>		
March	<p>REACT-EU Art. 2</p> <p>Deadline for the Commission to provide the European Parliament and the Council with an evaluation of REACT-EU - 31 March</p> <p>CPR21-27: Art. 13(1)</p> <p>Deadline for MS to submit to the Commission an amended Partnership Agreement, taking into account the outcome of the mid-term review - 31 March</p> <p>Art. 18(2)</p> <p>Deadline for MS to submit an assessment for each programme on the outcome of the mid-term review, including a proposal for the definitive allocation of the flexibility amount - 31 March</p>		
June	<p>JTF Art. 14</p> <p>Deadline for the Commission to review the implementation of the JTF - 30 June</p> <p>ESF+ Art. 23(3)</p> <p>Deadline for Managing Authorities to report the first time to the Commission the results of a structured survey of the end recipients regarding the support received from the ESF+ and also focusing on their living conditions and the nature of their material deprivation, carried out during the previous year - 30 June</p>		<p>ESF+ Art. 23(3)</p> <p>Deadline for Managing Authorities to report the second time to the Commission the results of a structured survey of the end recipients regarding the support received from the ESF+ and also focusing on their living conditions and the nature of their material deprivation, carried out during the previous year - 30 June</p> <p>BAR Art. 17 (3)</p> <p>Deadline for the Commission to submit to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the European Economic and Social Committee and to the Committee of the Regions a report on the implementation of the BAR - 30 June (deadline set for the Commission to carry out an evaluation to examine the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and Union added value of the BAR is 30 June 2027).</p>

	2025	2026	2028
August		RRF Art. 18(4) Deadline for investments under RRF to be completed - 31 August	
December	<p>CPR14-20 Art. 57(4) Deadline for Commission to prepare a synthesis report on the basis of 2014-20 ex-post evaluations - 31 December</p> <p>CPR21-27 Art. 19(15) Deadline for Commission to carry out a review and prepare a report, accompanied where necessary accompanied by a legislative proposal of the application of Article 19 of CPR21-27 - 31 December</p> <p>ERDF+CF Art. 7(4) Deadline for the managing authority to select operations supported by the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund, that are exceptions to exclusion from the scope of support - 31 December</p>	<p>CPR21-27: Art. 18(6) Deadline for Commission to prepare a report about the outcome of the mid-term review and submit it to the European Parliament and to the Council - 31 December</p> <p>Art. 19(2) End of period when Commission may request a MS to review and propose amendments of relevant programmes, where this is necessary to support the implementation of relevant Council Recommendations - 31 December</p> <p>RRF Art. 24(1) Cut-off date for payments of financial contributions and, where applicable, of the loan to the Member State under RRF - 31 December</p>	RRF Art. 32(1) Commission to provide the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions with an independent ex post evaluation report of the RRF - 31 December
Unspecified	<p>EC planning 9th report on economic, social and territorial cohesion - unspecified date at the end of 2024 (or early 2025)</p> <p>EC planning Public Sector Loan Facility (JTF) – interim evaluation - unspecified date in the second quarter of 2025</p> <p>EC planning Ex-post evaluation of European Regional Development Fund & Cohesion Fund 2014-2020 - unspecified date in the third quarter of 2025</p>		

	2029	2030	2031
January		<p>CPR21-27 Art. 42(1) and Interreg21-27 Art. 32(1) Deadline for last transmission of data, electronically by MS (and by Interreg managing authority) to Commission - 31 January</p>	
February			<p>CPR21-27 Art. 43(1) and Interreg21-27 Art. 33(1) Deadline for managing authorities to submit final performance report of programmes supported by the ERDF, the ESF+, the Cohesion Fund, the JTF and the EMFAF to the Commission - 15 February</p>
June	<p>CPR21-27 Art. 44(2) and Interreg21-27 Art. 35(2) Deadline for MS to carry out an evaluation for each programme to assess its impact - 30 June</p>		
December	<p>CPR21-27: Art. 16 (1)(c) Deadline to achieve targets for output and result indicators - 1 December</p> <p>Art. 63(2) Cut-off date for (1) expenditure to be eligible for a contribution from the Funds if it has been incurred by a beneficiary or the private partner of a PPP operation and paid in implementing operations and for (2) actions to be carried out that constitute the basis for reimbursement of costs - 31 December</p> <p>Art. 91(5) Final deadline for advances paid to the beneficiary, in the case of State aid, to be covered by expenditure paid by beneficiaries in implementing the operation and supported by receipted invoices or accounting documents of equivalent probative value - 31 December</p> <p>Art. 105(2) Cut off date for the part of commitments still open to be decommitted if the assurance package and the final performance report for programmes supported by the ERDF, the ESF+, the Cohesion Fund, the JTF and the EMFAF have not been submitted to the Commission by the time limit set out in Article 43(1) of CPR21-27 - 31 December</p>	<p>CPR21-27 Art. 57(3) Deadline for MS to reuse resources paid back by the beneficiary of grants under conditions - 31 December</p>	<p>CPR21-27 Art. 45(2) Deadline for Commission to carry out a retrospective evaluation to examine the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and Union added value of each Fund - 31 December</p> <p>ESF+ Art. 34(3) Deadline for the Commission to carry out a final evaluation of the EaSI strand - 31 December</p>

List of Abbreviations

BAR	Brexit Adjustment Reserve, Regulation (EU) 2021/1755
BE PRES	Information available on the website of The Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union
CoR	European Committee of the Regions
CPR14-20	Common Provisions Regulation covering the 2014-20 period (consolidated version)
CPR21-27	Common Provisions Regulation covering the 2021-27 period
ECA	European Court of Auditors
ECA planning	Information available in the Indicative Timetable of Publication of Reports from October 2022 to September 2023, 27 September 2022, or or through (formal or informal) contacts with ECA services
EC planning	Information available on the European Commission at Work , Better Regulation , Regional policy - Inforegio , Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion webpages or through (formal or informal) contacts with Commission services
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ERDF + CF	Regulation (EU) 2021/1058 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund
ESF Plus	Regulation (EU) 2021/1057 establishing the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)
ETC	European Territorial Cooperation goal (Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013) covering the 2014-20 period
FAST CARE	Amending Regulation (EU) 2022/2039 as regards additional flexibility to address the consequences of the military aggression of the Russian Federation FAST (Flexible Assistance for Territories) – CARE
Interreg	European territorial cooperation goal
Interreg21-27	Regulation (EU) 2021/1059 on specific provisions for the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) supported by the ERDF and external financing instruments
JTF	Just Transition Fund (Regulation (EU) 2021/1056)
MS	Member State(s)
REACT-EU	Regulation (EU) 2020/2221 , amending CPR14-20 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and its social consequences and for preparing a green, digital and resilient recovery of the economy
REPowerEU	Amending Regulation (EU) 2023/435 as regards REPowerEU chapters in recovery and resilience plans
RRF	Regulation (EU) 2021/241 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility
SRSP	Structural Reform Support Programme (Regulation (EU) 2017/825 on the establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020, consolidated version)

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