

Statement by the Committee on the Labour Market 2011/12:AU3 Subsidiarity check of the Proposal for a Regulation on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (2014–2020)

Reasoned opinion of the Riksdag

Sweden considers it extremely important that EU cooperation in the area of employment is carried out with respect for the different conditions prevailing in the member states and national practices concerning the labour market. Effective cooperation in the area of employment is important to stimulate member states to carry out the reforms necessary to get more people into work. Structural changes in the labour market as a result of transformation of the economy must be met and supported in the best way possible. Cooperation is needed between several policy areas, such as environmental, economic, financial, educational, social and labour market policy, in every member state. The Riksdag considers that it is important to see the added value for all the member states of the EU cooperation that exists in this area, in which exchange of experience, evaluation and common goals are the working methods that should be used. According to the Commission, the member states cannot to a sufficient extent achieve the goal of the proposal themselves, but this goal is best achieved at EU level.

In the Commission's view, the proposal is therefore compliant with the principle of subsidiarity. The Swedish Government is of the opposite view.

The Riksdag agrees with the Government's assessment that the goal of the proposed European Globalisation Fund can be achieved to a sufficient extent by the member states. They have the main responsibility and are best equipped to formulate and implement the required policies in the areas of employment and social policy. It is the individual member states that take active labour market measures to deal with transformation of the economy.

The EU's role should merely be supportive and complementary in this area. In the opinion of the Riksdag, it is an important principle that the member states should have the opportunity to safeguard and develop their own particular labour market models within the framework of EU law.

The Riksdag considers that measures of the kind set out in the current proposal should be the responsibility of each individual member state in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity.

The Riksdag therefore finds that the proposal for a regulation on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (2014–2020), COM(2011) 608 final conflicts with the principle of subsidiarity.