

De Europese begroting in de periode 2007-2013: een breuk met het verleden?

Evelien VANALME

Adviseur van Financiën

Luc COOSEMANS

Adviseur-generaal van Financiën

Studie- en Documentatiedienst van de
FOD Financiën

ABSTRACT

The general budget of the European Union has always been an issue of high political salience. At the end of the 1980's, a system of Multiyear Financial Perspectives (MYFP) was agreed on in order to overcome yearly budget battles. Under this system, the annual ceilings for total resources and the main spending headings are fixed for a period of 5 to 7 years and enshrined in an Interinstitutional Agreement between Commission, Council and Parliament.

This paper tries to find out whether the actual MYFP that covers the period 2007 – 2013 does already give some answers to the growing list of criticism that has been formulated over the last years regarding all aspects of the European budget: is regulation effective; is the financing mechanism appropriate; does the expenditure policy reflect the political agenda of the union?

At midterm of the MYFP, just before the new rules under the Lisbon Treaty will become operational and on the eve of the new Commission's proposals regarding budgetary reform, it seemed a good moment for some analysis and comments.

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