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***General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015  
- all sections***

*Plenary Statement*  
21 October 2014, European Parliament, Strasbourg

Colleagues, the 2015 budget is clearly not business as usual. The way MFF for 2014-19 was constructed, has left us with very low ceilings for 2014 and 2015. We have no other choice but to stick to the MFF agreement and use the ceilings fully, in particular with regards to payments appropriation. This is my first comment.

My second point is that we also know that the amendments to the budget 2014 come at a low cost to Member States. There is no reason not to deliver them, because they are the precondition for stabilizing the growing backlog.

And my third comment: The European Parliament agreed to lower budgets for 2011, 2012 and 2013 to help Member States with their fiscal consolidation. But now it is the last wake up call to address the postponed challenges and clear up the way toward stabilisation of the entire MFF.