31st Council
10-13 June 2020
Online
by the European Greens

Title:	**AM-35-1 to Res 2.: A budget for a sovereign Europe**
Tabled by:	Green Party of England and Wales

From line 35 to 41:

~~Growing threats to democracy and open societies require strong rule-of-law safeguards in the next MFF to ensure transparent EU spending and prevent corruption and misuse. Independent courts, impartial investigations, independent journalism and equal application of the law are essential for accountability and protecting public funds. Where national governments fail to ensure fair and transparent distribution, the Commission should manage funds directly rather than penalise regional and local beneficiaries.~~
In the face of growing democratic backsliding across Europe, the next MFF must include strengthened rule-of-law conditionality to safeguard transparent and accountable use of EU funds. Independent judiciaries, anti-corruption mechanisms, free and independent media, and respect for fundamental rights are indispensable to protecting public money and democratic governance. Where national authorities undermine these principles or fail to distribute funds fairly, the Commission should be empowered to manage and disburse funding directly to regional and local authorities, public institutions and civil society organisations.