



2015/2161(DEC)

4.3.2016

AMENDMENTS

1 - 28

Draft report
Ryszard Czarnecki
(PE571.512v01-00)

Discharge 2014: EU general budget - European Ombudsman
(2015/2161(DEC))

Amendment 1

Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Proposal for a decision 1

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Grants the European Ombudsman discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Ombudsman for the financial year 2014 / ***Postpones its decision on granting the European Ombudsman discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Ombudsman for the financial year 2014;***

Amendment

1. Grants the European Ombudsman discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Ombudsman for the financial year 2014;

Or. en

Amendment 2

Beata Gosiewska

Proposal for a decision 1

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. ***Grants the European Ombudsman discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Ombudsman for the financial year 2014*** / Postpones its decision on granting the European Ombudsman discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Ombudsman for the financial year 2014;

Amendment

1. Postpones its decision on granting the European Ombudsman discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Ombudsman for the financial year 2014;

Or. en

Amendment 3

Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4a. Expresses concern at the size of the savings made by the Ombudsman in the budget headings of translation (EUR 190 000) and communication (EUR 60 000), which were passed on to the heading of Ombudsman staff; stresses that the Ombudsman should ensure equal treatment and opportunities for all EU citizens of the Union and, in this connection, ensuring quality and linguistic diversity and maintaining its communication policy should remain pillars of the institution;

Or. es

Amendment 4
Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5. Notes a particular increase of commitments in 2014 with the **Members** of the institution; asks the Ombudsman to give a comprehensive description of these amounts in the next follow-up report to the discharge;

5. Notes a particular increase of commitments in 2014 with the **staff** of the institution; asks the Ombudsman to give a comprehensive description of these amounts in the next follow-up report to the discharge;

Or. es

Amendment 5
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5a. Welcomes that in line with the Strategy Towards 2019 the Ombudsman pursued Own Initiative Inquiries, taking up a more systematic and systemic approach towards complex issues falling within its mandate; considers this to be an effective tool; asks the Ombudsman to regularly inform the discharge authority about the impact of the inquiries;

Or. en

Amendment 6
Barbara Kappel

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6. Notes the creation of a new post designated as "own-initiative inquiry coordinator"; finds the justification for that creation general and vague; **invites** the Ombudsman to indicate whether this is part of a broader structuring and to identify the coordinator's tasks;

6. Notes the creation of a new post designated as "own-initiative inquiry coordinator"; finds the justification for that creation general and vague; **calls on** the Ombudsman to indicate whether this is part of a broader structuring and to identify the coordinator's tasks;

Or. de

Amendment 7
Igor Šoltes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6. Notes the creation of a new post designated as "own-initiative inquiry coordinator"; finds the justification for that creation general and vague; **invites** the

6. Notes the creation of a new post designated as "own-initiative inquiry coordinator"; finds the justification for that creation general and vague; **asks the**

Ombudsman to *indicate* whether this is part of a broader structuring and to identify the coordinator's tasks;

Ombudsman to explain to Parliament what is the added value of the new post; calls on the Ombudsman to report to Parliament by July 2016 whether this is part of a broader structuring and to identify the coordinator's tasks;

Or. en

Amendment 8

Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 6

Motion for a resolution

6. *Notes* the creation of a new post designated as "own-initiative inquiry coordinator"; *finds the justification for that creation general and vague*; invites the Ombudsman to *indicate whether this is part of a broader structuring and to identify the coordinator's tasks*;

Amendment

6. *Welcomes* the creation of a new post designated as "own-initiative inquiry coordinator"; *considers it to be a step towards more efficient work of the institution*; invites the Ombudsman to *report to the discharge authority on the performance, impact and efficacy of this post*;

Or. en

Amendment 9

Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 6

Motion for a resolution

6. Notes the creation of a new post designated as "own-initiative inquiry coordinator"; finds the justification for that creation general and vague; invites the Ombudsman to indicate whether this is part of a broader structuring and to identify the coordinator's tasks;

Amendment

6. Notes the creation of a new post designated as "own-initiative inquiry coordinator"; finds the justification for that creation general and vague; invites the Ombudsman to indicate whether this is part of a broader structuring and to identify *clearly* the coordinator's tasks; *points out, however, that the Ombudsman's priority should be to address complaints from*

citizens within a reasonable time frame and that under no circumstances should own-initiative inquiries infringe on this objective;

Or. es

Amendment 10
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

7. Points out that the structure and organisation of the Ombudsman's office described in its annual activity report (AAR) does not correspond to the organigram displayed in its website; asks the Ombudsman to clarify how is the office currently organised;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 11
Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

7. Points out that the structure and organisation of the Ombudsman's office described in its annual activity report (AAR) does not correspond to the organigram displayed in its website; asks the Ombudsman to clarify how is the office currently organised;

7. Points out that the structure and organisation of the Ombudsman's office described in its annual activity report (AAR) does not correspond to the organigram displayed in its website; asks the Ombudsman to clarify how is the office currently organised *and to ensure that its website is updated regularly and accurately reflects the organisation chart of the institution;*

Or. es

Amendment 12
Karin Kadenbach

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7

Motion for a resolution

7. Points out that the structure and organisation of the Ombudsman's office described in its annual activity report (AAR) does not correspond to the organigram displayed in its website; asks the Ombudsman to clarify how *is* the office currently organised;

Amendment

7. Points out that the structure and organisation of the Ombudsman's office described in its annual activity report (AAR) does not correspond to the organigram displayed in its website; ***calls for compliance with the principle of transparency, in particular as regards identifying and assigning clear lines of responsibility, and*** asks the Ombudsman to clarify how the office *is* currently organised;

Or. de

Amendment 13
Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

7a. ***Is concerned at the Ombudsman's recruitment policy, that has involved running emergency procedures to directly employ former trainees on short-term contracts; deplores the fact that three temporary staff were been hired in 2014 without passing any selection procedure; calls on the Ombudsman to bring, as a matter of urgency, its staff selection criteria into line with the European civil service's standards of quality, transparency, objectivity and equal opportunities;***

Amendment

7a. ***Is concerned at the Ombudsman's recruitment policy, that has involved running emergency procedures to directly employ former trainees on short-term contracts; deplores the fact that three temporary staff were been hired in 2014 without passing any selection procedure; calls on the Ombudsman to bring, as a matter of urgency, its staff selection criteria into line with the European civil service's standards of quality, transparency, objectivity and equal opportunities;***

Or. es

Amendment 14
Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

7b. Welcomes the progress made by the Ombudsman in 2015 in gender equality; stresses, however, that the available data for 2014 still shows great disparities, particularly in AST posts (21/9) and management positions (9/2), and emphasises the importance of setting medium-term objectives to achieve the necessary balance, and of continuing to work actively in this direction;

Or. es

Amendment 15
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8. Notes with concern that more than half of the targets set by the Ombudsman to assess its performance through key performance indicators were not reached; notes that the failure crosses all subject matters; expects the Ombudsman to correct those weaknesses in next year's exercise;

8. Notes that the Strategy Towards 2019 brings new Key Performance Indicators with very specific targets; understands from the KPI Scoreboard that some of the targets have not been reached; in this regard notes that the Ombudsman scored lower in terms of the proportion of inquiries closed within 12 and 18 months and furthermore in the proportion of cases in which the admissibility decision is taken within one month; encourages the Ombudsman to develop a strategy towards mitigation of any potential weaknesses and to inform the discharge authority on the development;

Amendment 16

Igor Šoltes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 8

Motion for a resolution

8. Notes with concern that more than half of the targets set by the Ombudsman to assess its performance through key performance indicators were not reached; notes that the failure crosses all subject matters; expects the Ombudsman to correct those weaknesses in next year's exercise;

Amendment

8. Notes with concern that more than half of the targets set by the Ombudsman to assess its performance through key performance indicators were not reached; notes that the failure crosses all subject matters; ***asks the Ombudsman to report to Parliament, by July 2016, why the targets were not reached; calls on the Ombudsman to present to Parliament a plan to improve its efficiency and effectiveness;*** expects the Ombudsman to correct those weaknesses in next year's exercise;

Amendment 17

Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 9

Motion for a resolution

9. Welcomes the fact that the number of inquiries closed in relation to the number of ongoing inquiries at the end of the previous exercise reached the highest ever level (1,4, with a target of 1,1); stresses ***however*** that the proportion of inquiries closed within 12 and 18 months decreased in 2014;

Amendment

9. Welcomes the fact that the number of inquiries closed in relation to the number of ongoing inquiries at the end of the previous exercise reached the highest ever level (1,4, with a target of 1,1); stresses that the proportion of inquiries closed within 12 and 18 months decreased in 2014; ***notes from the Ombudsman that the new strategy including the Own Initiative Inquiries had impact on the number of the cases closed;***

Amendment 18
Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9a. Stresses that the number of complaints falling outside the Ombudsman's scope of activities remains very high, especially from citizens of some Member States such as Spain and Poland, which undoubtedly creates a great deal of frustration among citizens regarding the EU institutions in general and the Ombudsman in particular; calls on it, therefore, to improve its information and communication policy and to forge stronger links for smooth and regular cooperation with the European Network of Ombudsmen and national and regional ombudsmen to remedy this problem;

Or. es

Amendment 19
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9a. Notes from the KPI Scoreboard that the level of satisfaction of the Ombudsman's staff was lower than targeted; notes from the Ombudsman that this was mainly related to crucial changes in the institution and has since been remedied by number of measures; calls on the Ombudsman to continue in ensuring a high level of staff satisfaction;

Amendment 20
Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11. Welcomes the savings on the budget lines for translation and publications;

deleted

Or. es

Amendment 21
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11a. Welcomes the well-structured, clear and reader-friendly AAR presented by the Ombudsman; welcomes the intensified external communication strategy and stronger presence on social media;

Or. en

Amendment 22
Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11a. Notes the large number of missions by Ombudsman staff between Brussels and Strasbourg – 212 in total, costing EUR 126 000 plus an estimated EUR 60

000 in lost working time while travelling; calls on the Ombudsman to reduce to the fullest extent possible the number of missions and to make maximum use of videoconferencing and other related technical means, as other institutions are doing, to avoid unnecessary travel and significantly reduce costs; reminds the Ombudsman, furthermore, that this travel has an effect on its CO₂ emissions – and not only in buildings – and that it is therefore important for it to assume its responsibilities in this regard and report to Parliament on progress it has made;

Or. es

Amendment 23
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12. Expects the Ombudsman to continue to strive for consistency in the AAR and to make it fully comprehensive, as it is an important tool for the assessment of its work;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 24
Barbara Kappel

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

13. Asks the Ombudsman to include in the AAR a table of all human resources broken down by nationality, gender and grade;

13. Asks the Ombudsman, *with a view to ensuring greater transparency*, to include in the AAR a table of all human resources broken down by nationality, gender and

grade;

Or. de

Amendment 25
Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13

Motion for a resolution

13. Asks the Ombudsman to include in the AAR a table of all human resources broken down by nationality, gender and grade;

Amendment

13. Asks the Ombudsman to include in the AAR a table of all human resources broken down by nationality, gender and grade; *also calls on it to answer questions raised by Parliament and the other institutions on pensions;*

Or. es

Amendment 26
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

15. Points out that the annual report on the activities of the Ombudsman in 2014 is scheduled for adoption by Parliament on 24 February 2016.

Amendment

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 27
Karin Kadenbach

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

15. Points out that the annual report on the activities of the Ombudsman in 2014 *is scheduled for adoption* by Parliament on 24 February 2016.

Amendment

15. Points out that the annual report on the activities of the Ombudsman in 2014 *was adopted* by Parliament on 24 February 2016.

Or. de

Amendment 28

Tomáš Zdechovský, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Bart Staes, Monika Vana, Patricija Šulin, Henna Virkkunen, Anders Primdahl Vistisen, Morten Messerschmidt, Pina Picierno, Lynn Boylan, Frédérique Ries, Michaela Šojdrová, Ivan Štefanec, Catherine Bearder, Ruža Tomašić, Molly Scott Cato, Heidi Hautala, Ulrike Lunacek, Richard Sulík, Jan Philipp Albrecht, Dennis de Jong, Igor Šoltes, Elly Schlein, Luigi Morgano

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15a. Takes note of the Ombudsman's calculations with regard to potential savings of EUR 195 000 should there be only one seat of the institution; takes into account that the seat of the Ombudsman is tied with the seat of the Parliament and therefore deems it necessary that the Ombudsman is included in any debate on centralisation of the Parliament's seat; stresses that such centralization should be actively promoted;

Or. en