



2016/2191(DEC)

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AMENDMENTS

1 - 17

Draft report
Inés Ayala Sender
(PE593.866v02-00)

2015 discharge: European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
(2016/2191(DEC))

AM_Com_NonLegReport

Amendment 1
Inés Ayala Sender

Proposal for a decision 1 1
Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Grants the Director of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology discharge in respect of the implementation of the Institute's budget for the financial year 2015 / *Postpones its decision on granting the Director of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the Institute for the financial year 2015;*

Amendment

1. Grants the Director of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology discharge in respect of the implementation of the Institute's budget for the financial year 2015;

Or. es

Amendment 2
Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Notis Marias

Proposal for a decision 1
Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. *Grants the Director of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology discharge in respect of the implementation of the Institute's budget for the financial year 2015* / Postpones its decision on granting the Director of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the Institute for the financial year 2015;

Amendment

1. Postpones its decision on granting the Director of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the Institute for the financial year 2015;

Or. en

Amendment 3

Inés Ayala Sender

Proposal for a decision 2 2
Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Approves the closure of the accounts of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology for the financial year 2015 / *Postpones the closure of the accounts of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology for the financial year 2015;*

Amendment

1. Approves the closure of the accounts of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology for the financial year 2015;

Or. es

Amendment 4
Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Notis Marias

Proposal for a decision 2
Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. *Approves the closure of the accounts of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology for the financial year 2015* / Postpones the closure of the accounts of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology for the financial year 2015;

Amendment

1. Postpones the closure of the accounts of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology for the financial year 2015;

Or. en

Amendment 5
Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Citation 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *having regard to the Court of Auditors' special report No 12/2016 on*

the ‘Agencies’ use of grants: not always appropriate or demonstrably effective’,

Or. es

Amendment 6

Benedek Jávor

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Recital C a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ca. whereas in the context of the discharge procedure, Parliament stresses the special importance of further strengthening the democratic legitimacy of the institutions of the Union by improving transparency and accountability, implementing the concept of performance based budgeting and good governance of human resources;

Or. en

Amendment 7

Petri Sarvamaa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 12

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12. *Points out* that carry-overs *are* often partly or fully justified by the multiannual nature of the agencies’ operational programmes, do not necessarily indicate weaknesses in budget planning and implementation and are not always at odds with the budgetary principle of annuality, in particular if they are planned in advance and communicated to the Court;

12. *Notes* that carry-overs *may* often *be* partly or fully justified by the multiannual nature of the agencies’ operational programmes, do not necessarily indicate weaknesses in budget planning and implementation and are not always at odds with the budgetary principle of annuality, in particular if they are planned in advance and communicated to the Court;

Amendment 8

Benedek Jávor

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

15. Notes that the Institute intends to conclude its internal rules on whistleblowing in the first half of 2017; asks the Institute to keep the discharge authority informed of its progress in this matter;

Amendment

15. Notes that the Institute intends to conclude its internal rules on whistleblowing in the first half of 2017; ***calls on the Institute to adopt the internal whistleblowing policy which will foster a culture of transparency and accountability in the workplace, regularly inform and train employees on their duties and rights, ensure protection of the whistleblower from reprisal, follow up the substance of whistleblowers' alerts in a timely manner and put in place a channel for anonymous internal reporting. Annual reports on the number of whistleblower cases and the follow-up they received should also be published and provided to the discharge authority;*** asks the Institute to keep the discharge authority informed of its progress in this matter;

Amendment 9

Tomáš Zdechovský, Benedek Jávor, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15a. Notes from the Court that for the selection of external experts evaluating KIC proposals and business plans, the Institute makes use of Article 89 of the

Financial Regulation to derogate from the obligation of launching a call for expression of interest; notes, however, that Institute has not fully established internal procedures to regulate implementation of this derogation; notes that in practice, Institute established its pool of experts using existing expert lists and databases of other institutions of the Union and individuals not on these lists following recommendations from the Institute governing board and staff members; calls on the Institute to ensure maximum transparency and integrity in the expert selection procedure by setting relevant internal measures, while ensuring absence of potential conflict of interest;

Or. en

Amendment 10

Benedek Jávor

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 16

Motion for a resolution

16. Notes with concern that the Institute has not taken specific initiatives in order to increase transparency relating to its contacts with stakeholders and lobbyists;

Amendment

16. Notes with concern that the Institute has not taken specific initiatives in order to increase transparency relating to its contacts with stakeholders and lobbyists; *calls on the Institute to enact a proactive lobby transparency policy, to refuse meetings with unregistered lobbyists that fall within the scope of the transparency register, and to maintain a balance between economic and non-economic actors in their contacts with interest representatives;*

Or. en

Amendment 11
Petri Sarvamaa

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 17

Motion for a resolution

17. Notes with satisfaction that the Institute has achieved full staffing through a series of measures implemented in 2015 to 2016 to improve the staff management, recruitment process and work environment; observes that as of December 2016, the Institute employs 59 staff for the 63 authorised positions, which represents the highest number of staff employed in the history of the Institute, and that recruitment for remaining vacant posts is ongoing; ***acknowledges, nevertheless, that the actions taken by the Institute cannot fully compensate for the negative effects of the low and steadily decreasing correction coefficient affecting salary levels in Hungary;***

Amendment

17. Notes with satisfaction that the Institute has achieved full staffing through a series of measures implemented in 2015 to 2016 to improve the staff management, recruitment process and work environment; observes that as of December 2016, the Institute employs 59 staff for the 63 authorised positions, which represents the highest number of staff employed in the history of the Institute, and that recruitment for remaining vacant posts is ongoing;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 18 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

18a. Notes from the Court that despite a valid rationale, the Institute's complex operational framework and management problems have impeded its overall effectiveness; notes that the Institute has an ability to support the entire innovation scheme from start-ups to innovation-driven projects run by multiple KIC partners, however, it lacks coordination at Union level with the relevant

Amendment

Amendment 13
Zigmantas Balčytis

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 20

Motion for a resolution

20. Notes from the Court's report that one KIC legal entity paid performance-based additional remuneration of EUR 646 000 to 55 of its staff, based on the decision of the KIC supervisory board and which the Institute reimbursed at 100 %; notes the Court's opinion that paying such performance-based remuneration using public funds is an unusual practice; accepts, however, that the KICs are business-driven organisations which aim for financial sustainability, and where the use of variable elements as part of the basic remuneration can provide a strong incentive for good performance and ensure that value for money is achieved; notes, furthermore, that Horizon 2020 expressly provides for variable components of basic remuneration to be eligible costs; highlights the fact that the Institute's contribution to salaries paid to KIC management staff, including performance-based remuneration, is to be kept below the ceiling established by the Institute in its 2016 grant agreements and onwards;

Amendment

20. Notes from the Court's report that one KIC legal entity paid performance-based additional remuneration of EUR 646 000 to 55 of its staff, based on the decision of the KIC supervisory board and which the Institute reimbursed at 100 %; notes the Court's opinion that paying such performance-based remuneration using public funds is an unusual practice; ***notes that paying such bonuses using only public funds is an unusual practice and it should be taken into account when setting the ceiling for the Institute's funding of individual salaries which will be applied with effect from the 2016 grant agreement;*** accepts ***in part***, however, that the KICs are business-driven organisations which aim for financial sustainability, and where the use of variable elements as part of the basic remuneration can provide a strong incentive for good performance and ensure that value for money is achieved; notes, furthermore, that Horizon 2020 expressly provides for variable components of basic remuneration to be eligible costs; highlights the fact that the Institute's contribution to salaries paid to KIC management staff, including performance-based remuneration, is to be kept below the ceiling established by the Institute in its 2016 grant agreements and onwards;

Amendment 14
Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 20

Motion for a resolution

20. Notes from the Court's report that one KIC legal entity paid performance-based additional remuneration of EUR 646 000 to 55 of its staff, based on the decision of the KIC supervisory board and which the Institute reimbursed at 100 %; notes the Court's opinion that paying such performance-based remuneration using public funds is an unusual practice; accepts, however, that the KICs are business-driven organisations which aim for financial sustainability, and where the use of variable elements as part of the basic remuneration can provide a strong incentive for good performance and ensure that value for money is achieved; notes, furthermore, that Horizon 2020 expressly provides for variable components of basic remuneration to be eligible costs; highlights the fact that the Institute's contribution to salaries paid to KIC management staff, including performance-based remuneration, is to be kept below the ceiling established by the Institute in its 2016 grant agreements and onwards;

Amendment

20. Notes from the Court's report that one KIC legal entity paid performance-based additional remuneration of EUR **646 000** to 55 of its staff, based on the decision of the KIC supervisory board and which the Institute reimbursed at 100 %; notes the Court's opinion that paying such performance-based remuneration using public funds is an unusual practice; accepts, however, that the KICs are business-driven organisations which aim for financial sustainability, and where the use of variable elements as part of the basic remuneration can provide a strong incentive for good performance and ensure that value for money is achieved; notes, furthermore, that Horizon 2020 expressly provides for variable components of basic remuneration to be eligible costs; highlights the fact that the Institute's contribution to salaries paid to KIC management staff, including performance-based remuneration, is to be kept below the ceiling established by the Institute in its 2016 grant agreements and onwards; ***notes that under the reformed rules with double ceilings which applied from 2016, the high levels of performance-based additional remuneration paid in 2015 are no longer possible;***

Amendment 15

Tomáš Zdechovský, Benedek Jávor, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 20 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

20a. Notes with concern that general visibility of the Institute is low and some of the KICs' partners are not aware of their affiliation with the Institute; calls for a better visibility and promotion of the Institute brand as a unique innovation community; welcomes the recent success in listing 18 Institute Community Members in the Forbes 30 under 30 list, featuring Europe's best young innovators and entrepreneurs;

Or. en

Amendment 16

Zigmantas Balčytis

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 20 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

20a. Notes that the principle of sound financial management was also breached when a KIC partner procured public relations services with daily rates ranging from 800 euro to 3 250 euro per person, which were also fully reimbursed by the Institute;

Or. It

Amendment 17

Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 20 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

20a. Welcomes the improvements in the expert selection process for KIC proposals and encourages the Institute to be committed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of this process;

Or. en