



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

2014/2139(DEC)

30.1.2015

OPINION

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Union agencies for the financial year 2013: performance, financial management and control
(2014/2139(DEC))

Rapporteur: Marian Harkin

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Acknowledges the role of the agencies in supporting Union policies; calls for the broader use of this expertise and capacity in the relevant stages of the European Semester policy process; emphasises the contribution of the agencies in working towards the targets of the Europe 2020 Strategy;
2. Considers that the discussion of the draft annual work programmes and the multiannual strategies of the agencies in the committees responsible helps to ensure that the programmes and strategies reflect the actual political priorities;
3. Notes the statements in the Commission progress report¹ on the implementation of the Common Approach on EU decentralised agencies² and the related Roadmap³; welcomes progress in many areas, including a joint handbook on good practices, guidelines with standard provisions for headquarters agreements of EU decentralised agencies, guidelines on performance budgeting and decentralised agencies, guidelines on the prevention and management of conflicts of interest, ongoing work on tailored performance indicators to assess the results achieved by Directors of Agencies and structural reform in the proposed merger of CEPOL with Europol;
4. Notes that the Commission should continue assessing the possibilities to merge existing agencies on the basis of careful impact assessments especially in their administrative and financial management; welcomes the fact that this will make it possible to reduce costs and calls on the Commission to pay particular attention to ensuring that the rationalisation measures should not compromise the valuable contribution of the agencies to policy decisions, particularly those related to the challenges of the Europe 2020 Strategy; considers that existing good practices of synergies among agencies should maximise the purpose of mutual complementarity;
5. Welcomes the progress made in the implementation of the Roadmap, which aims to streamline the functioning of the agencies into a more coherent and efficient framework in order to improve their efficiency, cost-effectiveness and accountability; welcomes in this regard the clarification of the modalities and roles of agencies' internal control functions and internal audit services in the revised Framework Financial Regulation, as well as the guidelines for agencies' anti-fraud strategies elaborated upon by the European Anti-Fraud Office.

¹ [http://europa.eu/agencies/documents/2013-12-](http://europa.eu/agencies/documents/2013-12-10_progress_report_on_the_implementation_of_the_common_approach_en.pdf)

[10_progress_report_on_the_implementation_of_the_common_approach_en.pdf](http://europa.eu/agencies/documents/2013-12-10_progress_report_on_the_implementation_of_the_common_approach_en.pdf)

² http://europa.eu/agencies/documents/joint_statement_and_common_approach_2012_en.pdf

³ [http://europa.eu/agencies/documents/2012-12-](http://europa.eu/agencies/documents/2012-12-18_roadmap_on_the_follow_up_to_the_common_approach_on_eu_decentralised_agencies_en.pdf)

[18_roadmap_on_the_follow_up_to_the_common_approach_on_eu_decentralised_agencies_en.pdf](http://europa.eu/agencies/documents/2012-12-18_roadmap_on_the_follow_up_to_the_common_approach_on_eu_decentralised_agencies_en.pdf)

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	29.1.2015
Result of final vote	+: 43 -: 9 0: 2
Members present for the final vote	Laura Agea, Guillaume Balas, Tiziana Beghin, Brando Benifei, Mara Bizzotto, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Enrique Calvet Chambon, David Casa, Ole Christensen, Jane Collins, Martina Dlabajová, Lampros Fountoulis, Elena Gentile, Arne Gericke, Marian Harkin, Danuta Jazłowiecka, Agnes Jongerius, Rina Ronja Kari, Jan Keller, Ádám Kósa, Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz, Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Kostadinka Kuneva, Jean Lambert, Jérôme Lavrilleux, Jeroen Lenaers, Verónica Lope Fontagné, Thomas Mann, Anthea McIntyre, Joëlle Mélin, Elisabeth Morin-Chartier, Georgi Pirinski, Marek Plura, Sofia Ribeiro, Maria João Rodrigues, Claude Rolin, Anne Sander, Sven Schulze, Siôn Simon, Jutta Steinruck, Romana Tomc, Yana Toom, Marita Ulvskog, Renate Weber, Tatjana Ždanoka, Jana Žitňanská, Inês Cristina Zuber
Substitutes present for the final vote	Tania González Peñas, Richard Howitt, Paloma López Bermejo, António Marinho e Pinto, Edouard Martin, Helga Stevens, Monika Vana