

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Budgetary Control

7.3.2007

PE 386.404v01-00

AMENDMENTS 1-14

Draft report

(PE 384.435v01-00)

Edit Herczog

Discharge for the implementation of the budget of the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia for the financial year 2005
(C6-0389/2006 – 2006/2156(DEC))

Motion for a resolution

Amendment by Véronique Mathieu and Ingeborg Gräßle

Amendment 1

Paragraph 1

1. Considers that the ever-growing number of *Community agencies and the activities of certain of them do not seem to form part of an overall policy framework, and that the remits of some agencies do not* always reflect the real needs of the Union *or the expectations of its citizens, and notes that in general terms the agencies do not always have a good image or a good press;*

Or. fr

Amendment by Margarita Starkevičiūtė

Amendment 2

Paragraph 1 a (new)

- 1a. Regrets that the issue of the accountability of the agencies to Parliament was not resolved for the year 2005; insists that the agencies present activity reports to the relevant committees of Parliament; is of the opinion that the Budgetary Control Committee should ask those committees for their opinions on the agencies'*

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performance before the commencement of next year's discharge procedure;

Or. en

Amendment by Véronique Mathieu, Ingeborg Gräßle

Amendment 3

Paragraph 2

2. Invites the Commission therefore to ***define an overall policy framework for the setting up of new Community agencies and to present a cost-benefit study before the setting up of any new agency, while being careful to avoid any overlap of activities between agencies or with the remits of other European organisations;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Véronique Mathieu, Ingeborg Gräßle

Amendment 4

Paragraph 4 a (new)

- 4a. ***Considers it regrettable, given the growing number of regulatory agencies, that the negotiations on the draft interinstitutional agreement on the operating framework for the European regulatory agencies have not yet been concluded, and calls on the relevant departments of OLAF, the Court of Auditors and the Commission to do their utmost to ensure that the agreement is brought to a rapid conclusion;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Ingeborg Gräßle

Amendment 5

Paragraph 4 b (new)

- 4b. ***Notes that the Commission's budgetary responsibility calls for closer linking of the agencies to the Commission; calls on the Commission and the Council to take all necessary steps to give the Commission a blocking minority in the supervisory bodies of the regulatory agencies by 31.12.2007 and to provide for such a minority from the outset when new agencies are set up;***

Or. de

Amendment by Véronique Mathieu and Ingeborg Gräßle

Amendment 6

Paragraph 5 a (new)

- 5a. *Recalls the principle according to which all Community agencies, whether subsidised or not, are subject to Parliament for their discharge, even where a discharge authority exists by virtue of their constitutive texts;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Margarita Starkevičiūtė

Amendment 7

Paragraph 5 b (new)

- 5b. *Is of the opinion that Parliament's discharge powers should be extended to all agencies which carry out tasks on the behalf of the European Union and that Parliament should set up discharge procedures for executive agencies obliging them to provide details of their budgets and establishment plans; suggests that the Court of Auditors develop mandatory guidelines for the separation of the agencies' budgets and establishment plans;***

Or. en

Amendment by Margarita Starkevičiūtė

Amendment 8

Paragraph 5 c (new)

- 5c. *Calls on the Court of Auditors to perform sound financial management audits for all agencies and to report back to the relevant committees of Parliament, including the Committee on Budgetary Control;***

Or. en

Amendment by Jean-Pierre Audy

Amendment 9

Paragraph 5 d (new)

- 5d. *Suggests that, in order to have an overall view of the financial situations of the agencies and their evolution, the presentation of the consolidated accounts of the agencies constituted in sub-consolidation should be studied;***

Amendment by Véronique Mathieu and Ingeborg Gräßle

Amendment 10

Paragraph 6

6. Notes that the number of agencies is constantly increasing and ***that, in accordance with the Commission's political responsibility for the operation of the agencies, which goes far beyond mere logistical support***, there is an even higher need for the Directorates-General of the Commission charged with the setting-up and monitoring of agencies to develop a common approach to agencies; a structure similar to the one created by the agencies for coordination among the DGs concerned would be a pragmatic way forward towards a common approach by the Commission on all matters relating to the agencies;

Or. fr

Amendment by Véronique Mathieu and Ingeborg Gräßle

Amendment 11

Paragraph 7 a (new)

- 7a. ***Notes the lack of a disciplinary body in any of the Community agencies, and calls on the Commission to take the necessary steps to ensure that such a mechanism is rapidly put in place;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Véronique Mathieu and Ingeborg Gräßle

Amendment 12

Paragraph 8 a (new)

- 8a. ***Takes the view that the establishment by a number of agencies of a shared support service aimed at making their computerised financial management systems consistent with those of the Commission is a measure that should be taken further and extended;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Véronique Mathieu and Ingeborg Gräßle

Amendment 13

Paragraph 9

9. Calls upon the Agencies to improve their cooperation and benchmarking with actors in the field; ***urges the Commission to adopt any measures it considers necessary to help the agencies enhance their image and raise the profile of their activities;***

Or. fr

Amendment by Jan Mulder

Amendment 14

Paragraph 12 a (new)

- 12a. Agrees with the Court of Auditors that the Commission also bears responsibility for the (financial) management of the agencies; therefore, urges the Commission to monitor and where necessary direct and help the management of the different agencies, especially in relation to the proper application of tender procedures, transparency of recruitment procedures, sound financial management (underspending and overbudgeting) and most importantly the proper application of the rules concerning the internal control framework;***

Or. en