

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Budgets

29.4.2009

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Subject: Implementation of the European Parliament's 2009 Budget

Please find attached the proposal for transfer of appropriations **C 8 REV-** financial year 2009

Mr Reimer Böge
Chairman of the Committee on Budgets

Subject: Request for transfer of appropriations C8 REV- financial year 2009

Dear Mr Böge,

In accordance with the provisions of Articles 24 and 43 of the Financial Regulation of 25 June 2002, please find attached a request for transfer of appropriations.

I should be grateful if you would present this transfer request to your committee, if possible at its meeting on 4 May 2009.

Yours sincerely,

Hans-Gert Pöttering

Annex: Request for transfer of appropriations C8 /2009 - REV

SUMMARY

1. *The purpose of this proposal is to request the top-up of the budget lines related to the security and surveillance of buildings by EUR 2.080.000.*

RECEIVING BUDGET LINES

Initial approps. ± AB ± transfers	Commitments entered into	Payments made	Approps. available before proposed transfer	Amount of proposed transfer	Approps. available after proposed transfer
2026/01 "Security and surveillance of buildings: Luxembourg"					
7.578.000	6.407.418	642.253	1.170.582	+ 785.000	1.955.582
2026/02 "Security and surveillance of buildings: Strasbourg"					
7.852.000	6.630.409	695.230	1.221.591	+ 685.000	1.906.591
2026/03 "Security and surveillance of buildings: Brussels"					
19.720.000	15.876.595	1.709.630	3.843.405	+ 610 000	4.453.405
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED IN				+ 2.080.000	

Source: State of appropriations according to FINICS as at 31/03/2009

General framework

2. The careful calculation of the Security unit of its needs for the budget 2009 resulted in an initial estimate of EUR 39.511.735 for the three budget lines "Security and surveillance of buildings: Luxembourg / Strasbourg / Brussels" (2026-01/02/03). This estimate had fully taken into account new needs such as for example the plans to enhance security in the Rue Wiertz area (outside the EP buildings), the new "President"- building in Luxembourg, etc.
3. The Budget 2009, as finally adopted by the budgetary authority, amounted to EUR 35.150.000 based on the wish to limit resources to a 2% increase compared to the budget for 2008 and on a prudent approach towards already including needs for new projects for which the timetable had not yet been finalised. The difference between the Security unit's initial estimates of their needs for 2009 and the authorised budget thus amounted to EUR 4.361.735.

Action plan for savings - Follow-up of commitment to COBU

4. In the meantime, in respect of the level of resources authorised for 2009 by the budgetary authority, and following a commitment made to COBU in the autumn of 2008, DG Presidency has carried out a detailed screening exercise of its expenditure for security with the objective to present a comprehensive package of possibilities for savings.
So far, this exercise has resulted in an action plan leading, if all its proposals are adopted by the EP authorities in total, to **savings of EUR 2,6 million for a full calendar year** (see Annex 1).
5. The proposals of the action plan (partly already adopted by the Questors and in effect) include measures for all three working places such as reduction of surveillance at the STB entrances outside EP sessions, changes in opening hours (nighttime) of BRU buildings or suppression of individual security staff posted inside certain buildings (eg. LUX Goldbell building or some other of the smaller administrative BRU buildings).

Justification for transfer request

6. Despite these saving proposals already submitted and partly in effect, the latest implementation figures and the clearer situation regarding the concrete additional needs for new tasks for the security (i.e. new "President" building in LUX, final stage of negotiations with the Belgian authorities on the Rue Wiertz project, etc.) have shown that the budget authorised for 2009 will not be sufficient to cover all these needs until the end of the budgetary year.
7. Besides, the unexpected increase in the price per hour in connection with the new security guards contract in 2008 now shows a knock-on effect on the budgetary needs for 2009 for all three work places: The new contract that started on 15 April 2008 already led to the need for budgetary re-inforcement last year, for a total amount of EUR 3,2m. Thus, the final budget 2008 was increased to EUR 35.807.950, bringing the implementation rate calculated on the basis of the original budget up to 108%.
8. Because of these two reasons, ie.

1) **final clarity on security needs** and starting dates for new buildings, additional surveillance measures such as the Rue Wiertz project, etc. (see details in ANNEX 1)

2) **knock-on effect from 2008 of unexpected cost increase** mainly for salaries of external security staff (average of +10,4% for all staff levels) (see details in ANNEX 2)

the Security Unit would like to request a transfer to the budget lines 2026 of a total amount of EUR **2.080.000**, distributed as follow between the sub-item:

2026-01 "Security and surveillance of buildings: Luxembourg": EUR 785.000

2026-02 "Security and surveillance of buildings: Strasbourg": EUR 685.000

2026-03 "Security and surveillance of buildings: Brussels": EUR 610.000

This amount already takes into account the effect of all proposals made for savings and economies in the security sector that have been presented by DG PRES¹ so far.

9. **An authorisation by the budgetary authority for the full amount of the transfer request would result in a final budget for 2009 for the three budget lines concerned "Security and surveillance of buildings" of EUR 37.230.000, corresponding to an increase of 4% compared to the final budget 2008.**

Timing of transfer request

10. This transfer is inevitable to be able to purchase the gardiennage service for part of November and for the complete month of December for Luxembourg and for a part of December for Strasbourg and Brussels. The necessary resources would therefore need to be available for commitment at the beginning of October 2009, at the latest.
11. In order to respect the wish repeatedly expressed by the Committee on Budgets to be allowed sufficient time to properly assess and discuss any transfer request, the Security Unit has decided to introduce the current request in a timely manner. The special calendar of the

¹ On the assumption that the action plan in its entirety will be endorsed by the EP authorities and can therefore be implemented as speedily as possible.

election year 2009 with no meetings of the Committee on Budgets between the end of April and the beginning of September would otherwise have resulted in a situation in which the new Committee on Budgets would have again been presented with a transfer request for which authorisation would have been a matter of immediate urgency.

DONOR BUDGET LINES

Initial approps. ± AB ± transfers	Commitments entered into	Payments made	Approps. available before proposed transfer	Amount of proposed transfer	Approps. available after proposed transfer
Chapter 101 "Contingency reserve"					
10.018.600					
- 800.000	Pending C2				
- 512.000	Pending C5				
8.706.600	0	0	8.706.600	- 2.080.000	6.626.600
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED OUT				- 2.080.000	

Source: State of appropriations according to FINICS as at 31/03/2009

12. The required amount of EUR 2.080.000 is available in chapter 101 "Contingency reserve" and may be taken from there.

REQUEST BY DELEGATED AUTHORISING OFFICER(S) RECEIVING TRANSFER

David HARLEY

Signature :

Date :

ANNEX 1 - New buildings, events and other additional issues affecting the Budget 2009

In Luxembourg a new building (President) will normally be used by the European Parliament as from the spring of 2009. The total cost for the "President" building, as calculated from May 2009 will be app. EUR 550.000.

Two pay reviews will affect security staff in Strasbourg during 2009. The normal pay revision that had already been budgeted is effective as from July. However, during 2008 the first pay review of the new contract was delayed until January 2009. This will now affect the budget of 2009 with app EUR 80.000.

The cost for the surveillance of the new Visitors' Centre in Brussels during six months in 2009 was calculated to be app. EUR 340.000. Should the inauguration of the new Visitors Centre be postponed, the elements for the Budgets 2009 and 2010 will have to be updated accordingly.

Two new security agents will be placed on Rue Wiertz 24 hours per day during 6 months in 2009 ("Rue Wiertz project"). The necessary decisions have already been taken by the Mayor of Brussels and the Mayor of Ixelles, the final formal decision of the responsible Minister is still pending but imminent. The budget of 2009 will be affected with app. EUR 250.000.

ANNEX 2 - Knock-on effect of unexpected increase of price per hour of the external security personnel (increased Budget 2008)

The new security guards contracts (starting date the 15 of April 2008) for the three services (general security, fire security and reception) were only in effect during 8,5 months in 2008, i.e. 2009 will be the first complete year with the new contract.

In 2008, with the new contract, the price/hour unexpectedly increased with an average of 10,4% this being the main reason for the need to increase (transfer) the security budget as adopted by an amount of EUR 3,2m to a total of EUR 35.807.950.

The average rate applied for general security before and after 15 April 2008, for example:

- a "chef d'équipe" increased by 13.3 % from EUR 31,12/hour to EUR 35,26/hour,
- a "chef de poste" increased by 10,6 % from EUR 30,68/hour to EUR 33,92/hour,
- an operator increased by 17,8 % from EUR 28,82/hour to EUR 33,94/hour, and
- a guard increased by 5,8 % from EUR 26,74/hour to EUR 28,29/hour.

Even with the reduction of the number of gardiennage hours as a result of the savings proposals already presented by DG PRES, this knock-on effect will still create additional costs of app. 860.000 for Budget 2009, in comparison with 2008.