



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

2014/2113(DEC)

8.12.2014

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on the discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (Frontex) for the financial year 2013
(2014/2113(DEC))

Rapporteur: Sylvie Guillaume

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Notes the Court of Auditors' conclusions that the annual accounts of the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (Frontex) present fairly, in all material respects, its financial position as at 31 December 2013 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, and that, setting aside the problems concerning the 2013 grant agreements in the area of joint land/sea/air operations, the transactions underlying the annual accounts of Frontex for the financial year 2013 are legal and regular in all material respects;
2. Notes the Court of Auditors' opinion that there is insufficient assurance of the legality and regularity of grant transactions in the area of joint land/sea/air operations, but that, unlike in 2012, the impact was confined to certain areas; applauds, therefore, in that connection, the introduction by Frontex as from June 2013 of a more comprehensive system of *ex ante* verifications for grant agreements;
3. Emphasises that, although the multiannual nature of Frontex operations and the greater likelihood that unforeseen events will occur make the planning and implementation of the annual budget that much more difficult, budgetary control can still be improved, in order to reduce the carryover rate;
4. Notes the Court of Auditors' comments that a comprehensive seat agreement with the host Member State would serve to make the conditions under which Frontex and its staff operate more transparent; notes Frontex's reply that talks are under way with the Polish authorities and that the follow-up and corrective measures required in that connection fall largely outside its remit;
5. Considers, in general, that Frontex should pay greater attention to ensuring sound financial management, i.e. to using its appropriations economically, efficiently and effectively in carrying out its remit.