

2014 - 2019

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

2014/2126(DEC)

8.12.2014

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) for the financial year 2013 (2014/2126(DEC))

Rapporteur: Sylvie Guillaume

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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 into its motion for a resolution:

- 1. Welcomes the conclusions of the Court of Auditors that the annual accounts of the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) present fairly, in all material respects, its financial position as of 31 December 2013 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, and that the transactions underlying the annual accounts of the EASO for the financial year 2013 are legal and regular in all material respects;
- 2. Takes note of the Court of Auditors' observations pointing to necessary improvements in the reliability of accounts, internal controls and budgetary management; stresses that the various remarks made by the Court of Auditors must be seen in the context of the financial year 2013 being the first full financial year in which the EASO was financially independent;
- 3. Considers, in particular, that budgetary planning could be improved, but welcomes the fact that both the overestimation of budgetary needs and carry-overs of committed appropriations were significantly lower than in 2012;
- 4. Takes note of the Court of Auditors' observations pointing to necessary improvements in recruitment procedures and their transparency; takes note, in this regard, of the EASO's replies concerning, in particular, the changes to the no conflict of interest declarations for selection committee members, in line with the Court of Auditors' observations, and the implementation of a policy on the prevention and management of conflicts of interest signed on 29 November 2013;
- 5. Considers, in general, that the EASO should pay particular attention to ensuring sound financial management, i.e. to using its appropriations economically, efficiently and effectively in the performance of its duties.