



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Regional Development

2009/2068(DEC)

2.3.2010

AMENDMENTS

1 - 13

Draft opinion
Jan Olbrycht
(PE431.070v01-00)

Discharge in respect of the implementation of the European Union general budget for the financial year 2008, section III – Commission and executive agencies
(SEC(2009)1089 – C7-0172/2009 – 2009/2068(DEC))

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PE439.361v01-00

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United in diversity

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AM_Com_NonLegOpinion

Amendment 1
Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Notes that interim payments for the period 2007-2013 made in 2008 only account for 32 % of expenditure and *that* the Court's *comments refer in particular* to expenditure during the 2000-2006 programming period *which represented 68 % of cohesion payments in 2008; notes, therefore,* that effects of the reinforcement of the legal framework for the period 2007-2013 and the simplification measures adopted in 2008 and 2009 cannot be visible yet;

Amendment

1. Notes that interim payments for the period 2007-2013 made in 2008 only account for 32 % of expenditure, *whilst 68% of payments were earmarked for cohesion policy in 2008,* and the Court's *report refers* to expenditure during the 2000-2006 programming period, *or for the European Union of 25 Member States, without taking into consideration the recent developments concerning the simplification of the rules and regulations in force, which means* that effects of the reinforcement of the legal framework for the period 2007-2013 and the simplification measures adopted in 2008 and 2009 cannot be visible yet;

Or. ro

Amendment 2
Jan Olbrycht

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. *Eagerly awaits the publication of* the Commission's communication on the impact of the action plan *planned for February 2010, which should also contain* the results of the first audit carried out by the Commission for a sample of the projects implemented in respect of the 2007-2013 programming period;

Amendment

2. *Welcomes* the Commission's communication *to the European Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors* on the impact of the action plan *to strengthen the Commission's supervisory role under shared management of structural actions, which shows a significant increase in financial corrections applied in 2008 and 2009 and also contains* the results of the first audit

carried out by the Commission for a sample of the projects implemented in respect of the 2007-2013 programming period; ***notes with satisfaction the result of the audit showing a preliminary error rate of 5% that reflects the positive result of the simplification introduced for the 2007-2013 programming period;***

Or. en

Amendment 3
Franz Obermayr

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Points out that the Court of Auditors also criticised the pre-accession assistance to Turkey in its Special Report No 16/2009, finding weaknesses in relation to implementation, monitoring and evaluation, inter alia; points out, further, that Turkey has failed to meet many of the conditions for the opening of new negotiating chapters; proposes, consequently, that the pre-accession assistance to Turkey should be reviewed and possibly cut or stopped;

Or. de

Amendment 4
Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

Amendment

4. Notes that infringement of public procurement rules is one of the most

4. Calls on the Commission, in view of the comments regarding some infringements

frequent reasons underlying irregularities; calls on the Commission to verify the origin of this lack of compliance with Community public procurement rules;

of Community public procurement rules, to verify the reasons that have led to these irregularities;

Or. ro

Amendment 5
Georgios Stavrakakis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Notes that infringement of public procurement rules is one of the most frequent reasons underlying irregularities; calls on the Commission to verify the origin of this lack of compliance with Community public procurement rules;

Amendment

4. Notes that infringement of public procurement rules is one of the most frequent reasons underlying irregularities; calls on the Commission to verify the origin of this lack of compliance with Community public procurement rules; **welcomes in this context the findings of the Court of Auditors and the initiatives taken by the Commission to simplify the management of the Structural Funds, and takes the view that these initiatives will make a crucial contribution to reducing the incidence of errors;**

Or. el

Amendment 6
Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. **Draws attention to** the specific character of the cohesion policy spending resulting

Amendment

5. **Calls on the Commission to take into consideration** the specific character of the

from the multiannual management system and *stresses* that *the* financial corrections are made in subsequent years and also at the closure of the programming period, which, overall, allows the Commission to detect and correct a large number of irregularities;

cohesion policy spending resulting from the multiannual management system and *to take account of the fact* that *all* financial corrections are made in subsequent years and also at the closure of the programming period, which, overall, allows the Commission to detect and correct a large number of irregularities;

Or. ro

Amendment 7
Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. *Notes* that no fraud case was *communicated to* the Commission *in respect of projects audited and stresses that the level of* errors outlined in the Court's report *does not necessarily refer to fraud*;

Amendment

7. *Takes the view that, given* that no fraud case was *recorded in the audit carried out by* the Commission, the errors outlined in the Court's report *do not fall within this category*;

Or. ro

Amendment 8
Franz Obermayr

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Notes that no fraud case was communicated to the Commission in respect of projects audited and stresses that the level of errors outlined in the Court's report does not necessarily refer to fraud;

Amendment

7. Notes that no fraud case was communicated to the Commission in respect of projects audited and stresses that the level of errors outlined in the Court's report does not necessarily refer to fraud; *notes, however, that it is important to combat corruption and fraud in the*

Amendment 9
Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10

Draft opinion

10. Observes that the Commission's Action Plan has enabled it to take action along all the lines recommended by the Court; welcomes the Commission's actions providing training and guidance for programmes authorities with a view to improving the functioning of the shared management system applied in relation to cohesion policy spending; encourages the Commission to further increase its efforts by providing guidance to Member States and encouraging them to strengthen **recovery** procedures and **reporting**.

Amendment

10. Observes that the Commission's Action Plan has enabled it to take action along all the lines recommended by the Court; welcomes the Commission's actions providing training and guidance for programmes authorities with a view to improving the functioning of the shared management system applied in relation to cohesion policy spending; encourages the Commission to further increase its efforts by providing guidance to Member States and encouraging them to strengthen **reporting** procedures and **procedures for the recovery of funds in the event of improper use**.

Amendment 10
Ramona Nicole Mănescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 a (new)

Draft opinion

10a. Welcomes the Court's decision to include in the 2010 Annual Work Programme the audits on the ESF and the ERDF in the field of tourism, vocational training for women and public drinking water supply, which are of particular

importance for the development of local communities.

Or. en

Amendment 11
Ramona Nicole Mănescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10b. Invites the Court to undertake more performance audits in order to assess the sound financial management and in particular the efficiency and effectiveness of the Structural and Cohesion Funds programmes; considers, therefore, that the Court should focus in particular on the 12 new Member States and the Member States most affected by the financial crisis.

Or. en

Amendment 12
Ramona Nicole Mănescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10c. Invites the Court to assess how the external evaluations in respect of the Structural and Cohesion Funds are performed by the managing authorities, and to pay particular attention to the independence of the evaluation when it is paid for by the evaluation beneficiary.

Or. en

Amendment 13
Ramona Nicole Mănescu

Draft opinion
Paragraph 10 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

10d. Invites the Court to assess, in terms of human resources, the capacity of Member States' audit authorities to perform audits and their independence when carrying out the compliance assessment of the management control system.

Or. en