



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

2011/2215(DEC)

10.2.2012

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 Union Agency for Fundamental Rights for the financial year 2010
(C7-0276/2011 - 2011/2215(DEC))

Rapporteur: Simon Busuttil

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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 in its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the conclusion of the Court of Auditors that it was able to obtain reasonable assurances that the annual accounts of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights for the financial year 2010 are in all material respects reliable and that the underlying transactions, taken as a whole, are legal and regular;
2. Notes with concern the Court of Auditors' comment on the commitment of 48 % of the operational expenditure in the last month of 2010 and on the high level of carryovers as a consequence; supports the efforts of the Agency to avoid this situation in the future, namely by planning its activities two years in advance and setting objectives during the course of the year in respect of budget implementation; calls on the Agency to ensure that its budget planning allows for ad hoc requests by the Parliament; notes that almost all amounts carried over to 2011 were used, leading to a final 2010 outturn of 98.55 %;
3. Invites the Agency to take the necessary steps to determine and resolve the main obstacles related to budget expenditure, project funding, recruitment, and legal and administrative constraints, in order to ensure the efficient management of its budget;
4. Notes with concern the delay in completing recruitment procedures, meaning that only 59 out of 72 posts could be filled during 2010; calls on the Agency to take all necessary steps to avoid this situation from occurring again; notes with concern the allegations of harassment of staff and the lawsuit that has been filed; requires the Agency to address those allegations adequately; calls on the Agency to clarify the treatment of whistleblowers and to provide a written report to Parliament on the application of the rules in place to protect whistleblowers;
5. Notes with concern that during the 2009 discharge procedure, the Court of Auditors already commented that the Agency could improve its budgetary and recruitment planning, notably in respect of the high vacancy rate (21 %) and the high volume of appropriations carried forward; reiterates that the Agency should take all necessary steps to improve the situation;
6. Notes that discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the Agency should continue to be based on its performance throughout the year.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	9.2.2012
Result of final vote	+: 50 -: 1 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Jan Philipp Albrecht, Sonia Alfano, Emine Bozkurt, Arkadiusz Tomasz Bratkowski, Simon Busuttil, Carlos Coelho, Rosario Crocetta, Ioan Enciu, Frank Engel, Cornelia Ernst, Monika Flašíková Beňová, Hélène Flautre, Kinga Gál, Kinga Gőncz, Nathalie Griesbeck, Sylvie Guillaume, Anna Hedh, Salvatore Iacolino, Sophia in 't Veld, Livia Járóka, Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio, Timothy Kirkhope, Monica Luisa Macovei, Svetoslav Hristov Malinov, Véronique Mathieu, Anthea McIntyre, Nuno Melo, Louis Michel, Antigoni Papadopoulou, Georgios Papanikolaou, Jacek Protasiewicz, Carmen Romero López, Csaba Sógor, Axel Voss, Renate Weber, Josef Weidenholzer, Cecilia Wikström, Tatjana Ždanoka, Auke Zijlstra
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Alexander Alvaro, Edit Bauer, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Cornelis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Petru Constantin Luhan, Ulrike Lunacek, Hubert Pirker, Raül Romeva i Rueda, Kārlis Šadurskis
Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote	Elisabeth Morin-Chartier, Antonia Parvanova