



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Culture and Education

2012/2167(DEC)

30.1.2013

AMENDMENTS

1 - 8

Draft opinion
Morten Løkkegaard
(PE502.046v01-00)

Discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2011, Section III – Commission and executive agencies
(COM(2012)0436 – C7-0224/2012 – 2012/2167(DEC))

AM_Com_NonLegOpinion

Amendment 1
Helga Trüpel

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Notes with satisfaction that in 2011, the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) further simplified its administrative procedures by introducing online reports and increasing the use of e-forms, lump sums and flat-rate payments; supports the idea of shifting increasingly towards lump sums and flat-rate decisions for the next programme generation (2014–2020);

Amendment

1. Notes with satisfaction that in 2011, the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) further simplified its administrative procedures by introducing online reports and increasing the use of e-forms, lump sums and flat-rate payments; ***suggests that the EACEA pursues its development towards a maximised use of the e-forms for reporting, while taking into account remarks by beneficiaries on possible improvements to the codification of the forms***; supports the idea of shifting increasingly towards lump sums and flat-rate decisions for the next programme generation (2014–2020);

Or. en

Amendment 2
Ivo Belet

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Welcomes the positive evaluation of the EACEA by the Court of Auditors;

Or. en

Amendment 3
Ivo Belet

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 b (new)**

Draft opinion

Amendment

1b. Notes the rising number of visitors on the Europa website which proves that easy access to information on EACEA activities is crucial; therefore invites the Commission to continue to invest in user-friendly websites;

Or. en

**Amendment 4
Helga Trüpel**

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)**

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Calls on the EACEA to revise the one-sided and inadequate financial ratios established in order to evaluate the financial situation of beneficiaries and to decide upon the level of grant instalments, thereby even jeopardising projects selected by not granting the usual payment of first instalments and waiting till the project is finished and reported back; reminds the EACEA that efficient monitoring and controlling of projects includes a realistic assessment of the environment of small and medium enterprises and very small organisations;

Or. en

**Amendment 5
Helga Trüpel**

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 3**

Draft opinion

3. Is concerned by the significant errors in the underlying transactions by the EACEA in the context of the Lifelong Learning Programme (2007–2013) that were found through ex-post controls; notes that these errors are mainly due to the lack of adequate justifying documents from beneficiaries and the non-respect of eligibility rules; encourages the EACEA to further improve its control systems **and to inform** beneficiaries of their financial obligations and controls;

Amendment

3. Is concerned by the significant errors in the underlying transactions by the EACEA in the context of the Lifelong Learning Programme (2007–2013) that were found through ex-post controls; notes that these errors are mainly due to the lack of adequate justifying documents from beneficiaries and the non-respect of eligibility rules; encourages the EACEA to further improve its control systems, to **adapt them to the different kinds of** beneficiaries, **and to raise awareness** of their financial obligations and controls;

Or. en

Amendment 6
Ivo Belet

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. **Notes that the pilot project on** European research grants for cross-border investigative journalism **was abandoned at the end of 2010, as the integrity of the journalism could not be ensured; therefore welcomes the fact that, after intense discussions with the Parliament in 2011, the Commission is now launching a preparatory action under the same name** with the aim of **developing** models for independent **EU-funded** journalism.

Amendment

5. **Welcomes the launch of the preparatory action for** European research grants for cross-border investigative journalism **by** the Commission with the aim of **stimulating** models for independent journalism;

Or. en

Amendment 7
Cătălin Sorin Ivan

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Regrets that for the fourth consecutive year the Commission's Directorate-General for Communication still has a reputational reserve in the Annual Activity Report regarding the non-compliance with copyright legislation despite the action plan adopted in 2009; furthermore remarks that during 2011 not only the reputational risk but also the financial risk linked to the copyright compliance have materialised.

Or. en

Amendment 8
Ivo Belet

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Notes the successful actions that the Commission has undertaken in the field of sport; nevertheless calls upon the Commission to be more ambitious with the tools and budget it has, in order to prepare for the sports programme in 2014.

Or. en