



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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*Committee on Budgetary Control*

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**2012/2167(DEC)**

27.2.2013

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 286**

**Draft report**  
**Jens Geier**  
(PE497.984v01-00)

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the 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))

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PE502.129v01-00

**EN**

*United in diversity*

**EN**

AM\_Com\_NonLegReport

**Amendment 1**  
**Philip Bradbourn**

**Proposal for a decision 1**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants**/postpones the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2011;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones **its decision on granting** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2011;

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Proposal for a decision 1**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. Grants/**postpones** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2011;

*Amendment*

1. Grants the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2011;

Or. fr

**Amendment 3**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Proposal for a decision 2**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants**/postpones the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget

*Amendment*

1. Postpones **its decision on granting** the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the

for the financial year 2011;

Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

Or. en

**Amendment 4**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Proposal for a decision 3**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. *Grants*/postpones the Director of the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones *its decision on granting* the Director of the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Proposal for a decision 4**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. *Grants*/(postpones the Director of the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones *its decision on granting* the Director of the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

Or. en

**Amendment 6**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Proposal for a decision 5**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants**/postpones the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones **its decision on granting** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

Or. en

**Amendment 7**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Proposal for a decision 6**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants**/postpones the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones **its decision on granting** the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

Or. en

**Amendment 8**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Proposal for a decision 7**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants**/postpones the Director of the Trans-European Transport Network Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

*Amendment*

1. Postpones **its decision on granting** the Director of the Trans-European Transport Network Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2011;

**Amendment 9**  
**Philip Bradbourn**

**Proposal for a decision 8**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. *Approves* the closure of the accounts of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2011;

*Amendment*

1. *Postpones its decision on* the closure of the accounts of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2011;

**Amendment 10**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – introductory part**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on the Commission to present to Parliament an action plan for the achievement of the following priority actions:

*Amendment*

1. Calls on the Commission, ***with a view to granting of the discharge***, to present to Parliament an action plan for the achievement of the following priority actions:

**Amendment 11**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point a**

*Motion for a resolution*

(a) The Commission should annually adopt

*Amendment*

(a) The Commission should annually, ***and***

a communication to the European Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors with a view to making public all the amounts (in nominal terms) recovered in the course of the preceding year through financial corrections and recoveries for all management modes at the level of the Union and by Member States; the Commission should demonstrate **to the greatest possible extent** that the financial corrections adequately compensated for errors made, and that they contributed to lasting improvements of the management and control systems;

**for the first time in September 2013**, adopt a communication to the European Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors with a view to making public **the impact of its preventive and corrective actions as regards the protection of the Union budget; it should in particular disclose in due time all suspensions, interruptions and retentions which aimed to prevent errors and** all the amounts (in nominal terms) recovered in the course of the preceding year through financial corrections and recoveries for all management modes at the level of the Union and **broken down** by Member States; the Commission should demonstrate **as far as possible** that the financial corrections adequately compensated for errors made, and that they contributed to lasting improvements of the management and control systems;

Or. en

## **Amendment 12** **Markus Pieper**

### **Motion for a resolution** **Paragraph 1 – point a**

#### *Motion for a resolution*

(a) The Commission should annually adopt a communication to the European Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors with a view to making public all the amounts (in nominal terms) recovered in the course of the preceding year through financial corrections and recoveries for all management modes at the level of the Union and by Member States; the Commission should demonstrate **to the greatest possible extent** that the financial corrections adequately compensated for errors made, and that they contributed to lasting improvements of the management

#### *Amendment*

(a) The Commission should annually adopt a communication to the European Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors with a view to making public all the amounts (in nominal terms) recovered in the course of the preceding year through financial corrections and recoveries for all management modes at the level of the Union and by Member States; the Commission should demonstrate that the financial corrections adequately compensated for errors made, and that they contributed to lasting improvements of the

and control systems;

management and control systems;

Or. de

### **Amendment 13**

**Bart Staes**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 1 – point a**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

(a) The Commission should annually adopt a communication to the European Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors with a view to making public all the amounts (in nominal terms) recovered in the course of the preceding year through financial corrections and recoveries for all management modes at the level of the Union and by Member States; the Commission should demonstrate to the greatest possible extent that the financial corrections adequately compensated for errors made, and that they contributed to lasting improvements of the management and control systems;

###### *Amendment*

(a) The Commission should annually adopt a communication to the European Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors with a view to making public all the amounts (in nominal terms) recovered ***per Member-State, International organisation or third country*** in the course of the preceding year through financial corrections and recoveries for all management modes at the level of the Union and by Member States; the Commission should demonstrate to the greatest possible extent that the financial corrections adequately compensated for errors made, and that they contributed to lasting improvements of the management and control systems;

Or. en

### **Amendment 14**

**Bart Staes**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 1 – point a a (new)**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

###### *Amendment*

***(aa) Points out that recoveries should be made for the total amount of the Union's contribution of a project if due to errors or mismanagement of funds by national***



*or regional authorities the project fails largely to achieve its aims even when a part of the project has been financed and funds have already been dispersed;*

Or. en

**Amendment 15**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point a a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(aa) Regards it as abnormal that the annual accounts should include negative net assets of EUR 33.8 billion, and wonders whether the amounts to be called in from the Member States in respect of staff pensions, which are estimated at EUR 34.8 billion, should not be entered as an asset, given that they are clearly a commitment; notes the Commission accounting officer's explanations to the effect that international public-sector accounting standards have been applied; calls on the European Court of Auditors to deliver an explicit opinion on this matter; calls for a figure to be put on the risk of this commitment not being recovered, in the light of the Member States' financial situation; proposes that consideration should be given to setting up a Community pension fund in order to get these financial commitments vis-à-vis staff off the balance sheet;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 16**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point b**

*Motion for a resolution*

(b) The Commission should provide in Note 6 **on** Financial corrections and recoveries, attached to the accounts of the Union, the relevant data covering all the policies managed by the Commission;

*Amendment*

(b) The Commission should provide in Note 6 "Financial corrections and recoveries", attached to the accounts of the Union, the relevant data covering all the policies managed by the Commission;

Or. en

**Amendment 17**  
**Monica Luisa Macovei**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point b a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(ba) The Commission should report on and evaluate the anti-fraud strategies established within each Directorate General following the adoption of the Commission's new Anti-Fraud Strategy<sup>1</sup> and the Internal Action Plan<sup>2</sup> for its implementation in June 2011;***

Or. en

**Amendment 18**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point c**

*Motion for a resolution*

(c) As to the policies managed by **the** multiannual **programme**, the Commission

*Amendment*

(c) As to the policies managed by multiannual **programmes**, the Commission

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<sup>1</sup> COM(2011) 376 final.

<sup>2</sup> SEC(2011) 787 final.

should specify, upon the closure of the programming period, the impact of the financial corrections made during that period on the **overall** error rate; moreover; the Commission should demonstrate that the financial corrections adequately compensated for errors made, and that they contributed to lasting improvements of the management and control systems;

should specify, upon the closure of the programming period, the impact of the **recoveries and** financial corrections made during that period on the error rate; moreover; the Commission should demonstrate that the financial corrections adequately compensated for errors made, and that they contributed to lasting improvements of the management and control systems;

Or. en

**Amendment 19**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point c a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(ca) The Commission shall assist Member States and give guidelines to standardise the language, form and information given in the annual Summaries concerning the implementation of operational programmes under shared management concerning the field of cohesion policy;***

Or. en

**Amendment 20**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point c b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(cb) The Commission shall report how it intends to improve as soon as possible its provision to introduce a pro-active management of potential conflict of interests and 'revolving doors';***

**Amendment 21**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point c c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(cc) The Commission shall report how it has implemented Article 5(3) of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and how it intends to improve and clarify existing rules;*

Or. en

**Amendment 22**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point c d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*(cd) The Commission should provide Parliament as soon as possible with an overview about all (public and non-public) documents and all persons involved in the negotiations of the four cooperation agreements with the tobacco industry;*

Or. en

**Amendment 23**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point c e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(ce) Calls on the Commission to demand greater accountability from national audit authorities and audit systems in the case of Member States where the most frequent errors occur recurrently; calls on the Commission to provide an action plan with proposals as to how the authorisation and work of audit bodies in these Member States can be improved and where it must itself take more responsibility in the event of persistent deficits; calls for the relevant fund regulations to be amended accordingly in connection with the review of the Multiannual Financial Framework;***

Or. de

**Amendment 24**

**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 – point e**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

(e) ***require*** the Member States to communicate to its services the draft eligibility rules in order ***that it may verify their compatibility*** with the relevant Union rules, and ***should*** intensify the controls on the declaration of costs and the effectiveness of the first-level checks;

(e) ***urge*** the Member States to communicate to its services the draft eligibility rules in order ***to adapt national eligibility rules which are not compatible*** with the relevant Union rules, and ***to*** intensify the controls on the declaration of costs and the effectiveness of the first-level checks;

Or. en

**Amendment 25**

**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point f**

*Motion for a resolution*

(f) collect information from Member States concerning the degree to which national rules render Union legislation on budget management unnecessarily complicated ('gold-plating'); recalls that an infringement of those national rules represents an error in budget management and that the Commission is ultimately responsible for errors in implementing the Union budget (Article 317 TFEU);

*Amendment*

(f) collect information from Member States concerning the degree to which national rules render Union legislation on budget management unnecessarily complicated ('gold-plating') **and report to Parliament by October 2013**; recalls that an infringement of those national rules represents an error in budget management and that the Commission is ultimately responsible for errors in implementing the Union budget (Article 317 TFEU);

Or. en

**Amendment 26**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point f**

*Motion for a resolution*

(f) collect information from Member States concerning the degree to which national rules render Union legislation on budget management unnecessarily complicated ('gold-plating'); recalls that an infringement of those national rules represents an error in budget management and that the Commission is ultimately responsible for errors in implementing the Union budget (Article 317 TFEU);

*Amendment*

(f) collect information from Member States concerning the degree to which national rules render Union legislation on budget management unnecessarily complicated ('gold-plating'); recalls that an infringement of those national rules represents an error in budget management **terms** and that the Commission is ultimately responsible for errors in implementing the Union budget (Article 317 TFEU); **requests that this information is sent to the national parliaments once a year and that Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control is duly informed**;

Or. en

**Amendment 27**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point g**

*Motion for a resolution*

(g) support the management and control authorities of the Member States in identifying the systemic sources of errors and give guidance to those authorities in their simplification efforts;

*Amendment*

(g) support the management and control authorities of the Member States in identifying the systemic sources of errors and ***in particular in ensuring compliant implementation of public procurement rules and*** give guidance to those authorities in their simplification efforts;

Or. en

**Amendment 28**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point g**

*Motion for a resolution*

(g) support the management and control authorities of the Member States in identifying the systemic sources of errors and give guidance to those authorities in their simplification efforts;

*Amendment*

(g) support the management and control authorities of the Member States in identifying the systemic sources of errors and give guidance ***in the form of motivated opinions*** to those authorities in their simplification efforts; ***these opinions will be made public;***

Or. en

**Amendment 29**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point g a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(ga) apply the principle of proportionality - without underestimating the rules to reduce administrative burdens and facilitate streamlining of procedures; additional step towards simplification is the obligatory use of the electronic project application and reporting as well as the unification and standardization of documents and procedures for management and implementation of the operational programmes;***

Or. en

**Amendment 30**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point h**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

(h) harmonise the criteria used by its services for making reservations in its annual activity report and the different methodologies used to quantify public procurement errors in the two policy areas agriculture and **regional** policy;

(h) harmonise the criteria used by its services for making reservations in its annual activity report and the different methodologies used to quantify public procurement errors in the two policy areas agriculture and **cohesion** policy;

Or. en

**Amendment 31**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point i a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(ia) evaluate the progress made in the financial management under the policy***



*groups of the budget of the Union with a view to arriving at a positive statement of assurance and to report about this evaluation by March 2014 in the context of the annual activity reports drafted by the Directors-General and the Synthesis report on the Commission's management achievements for 2013;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 32**

**Jens Geier**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 1 – point j**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

(j) DG AGRI should align its practices for the *suspension*/interruption of payments with the best practices of other directorates-general or services;

###### *Amendment*

(j) DG AGRI should align its practices for the interruption of payments with the best practices of other directorates-general or services *as well as put forward proposals for enhanced application and use of suspensions in the policy area of agriculture and rural development;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 33**

**Jens Geier**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 1 – point k**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

(k) *In particular*, DG AGRI should systematically *suspend the* payments when the prime level controls reveal that they are materially affected by error. The payments should be resumed only if sufficient appropriate evidence gathered on the spot proves that the weaknesses have been

###### *Amendment*

(k) *Taking into account the legal framework*, DG AGRI should systematically *interrupt and suspend* payments when the prime level controls reveal that they are materially affected by error. The payments should be resumed only if sufficient appropriate evidence

remedied;

gathered on the spot proves that the weaknesses have been remedied;

Or. en

**Amendment 34**  
**Maria do Céu Patrão Neves**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

(1) The Commission should report by the end of June 2013 on the progress made by the working group set up by DG AGRI to assess the root causes of Rural Development errors and develop corrective action for the current and programming periods;

*Amendment*

(1) The Commission should report by the end of June 2013 on the progress made by the working group set up by DG AGRI to assess the root causes of Rural Development errors and develop corrective action for the current and *future* programming periods. ***That report should be sent to the Member States, the national parliaments and the European Parliament's Committee on Agriculture so that they can analyse the causes of errors, deliver non-binding opinions and submit proposals for countering those errors;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 35**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – subparagraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

DG **REGI**

*Amendment*

DG **REGIO**

Or. en

**Amendment 36**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point o**

*Motion for a resolution*

(o) The Commission should also use net financial corrections to correct serious errors in the current programming period pursuant to Article 99 et seq. of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006\* ;

*Amendment*

(o) The Commission should also use, ***as far as possible***, net financial corrections to correct serious errors in the current programming period pursuant to Article 99 et seq. of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006<sup>1</sup>; ***in particular net financial corrections should be applied at the closure of the programming period***;

Or. en

**Amendment 37**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point p**

*Motion for a resolution*

(p) In addition, the Commission should defend its position not to allow the secondary selection of projects physically completed or fully implemented before the funding application (so-called ‘retrospective projects’) for the funding period 2014-2020;

*Amendment*

(p) In addition, the Commission should defend its ***initial*** position not to allow the secondary selection of projects physically completed or fully implemented before the funding application (so-called ‘retrospective projects’) for the funding period 2014-2020<sup>2</sup>;

Or. en

**Amendment 38**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point q**

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<sup>1</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 laying down general provisions on the European Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1260/1999 (OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 25).

<sup>2</sup> ***COM(2011)0615, Article 55, paragraph 4.***

*Motion for a resolution*

(q) DG **REGI** should fully align its payment practices with the best practices of other directorates-general or services, making direct and full use of the legal instruments provided for by the regulations, especially the interruption of payments **followed** whenever necessary by the suspension of operational programmes;

*Amendment*

(q) DG **REGIO** should fully align its payment practices with the best practices of other directorates-general or services, **and continue** making direct and full use of the legal instruments provided for by the regulations, especially the interruption of payments **or** whenever necessary by the suspension of operational programmes;

Or. en

**Amendment 39**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point q a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(qa) Calls, in the case of Member States which manifestly breach EU provisions on budgetary and competition law (particularly with regard to the award of public contracts), for more stringent monitoring and conditions; calls, where EU law is breached, for automatic suspension of payments for the relevant Structural Fund programmes until rules are complied with, so that use of the funds in accordance with EU rules is guaranteed;***

Or. de

**Amendment 40**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point q b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(qb) Calls for a tougher suspension policy for the ERDF and Cohesion Fund, like that already successfully applied to European Social Fund payments, thus enabling early action to prevent any improper use of Structural Fund monies and underpinning, from the outset, the zero-tolerance approach by the Commission;***

Or. de

**Amendment 41**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point r**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

(r) In particular, DG **REGI** should systematically interrupt the payments and suspend the programmes when the prime level controls reveal that they are materially affected by error; the payments should be resumed only if there is sufficient and reliable evidence that weaknesses have been remedied;

(r) In particular, DG **REGIO** should systematically interrupt the payments and suspend the programmes when the prime level controls reveal that they are materially affected by error; the payments should be resumed only if there is sufficient and reliable evidence that weaknesses have been remedied;

Or. en

**Amendment 42**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – new sub heading after point r**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Error rate in centralised management***

Or. en

**Amendment 43**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point s**

*Motion for a resolution*

(s) By the end of June 2013 the Commission should report to the European Parliament *on* the impact of the simplification measures *announced in its Synthesis report for the year 2011 on the error rate in research policy*;

*Amendment*

(s) By the end of June 2013 the Commission should *present a* report to the European Parliament *assessing* the impact of the simplification measures *introduced in 2011*;

Or. en

**Amendment 44**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point t**

*Motion for a resolution*

(t) That report should *evaluate the result of* the improvements announced by the Commission in respect of the ex ante control and the ex post audit strategies and of the improvement in the guidance on the most common errors given to participants in the Seventh Framework Research Programme and to auditors;

*Amendment*

(t) That report should *also assess* the improvements announced by the Commission in respect of the ex ante control and the ex post audit strategies and of the improvement in the guidance on the most common errors given to participants in the Seventh Framework Research Programme and to auditors;

Or. en

**Amendment 45**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point u**

*Motion for a resolution*

(u) In that report, the Commission should explain whether the measures taken to reduce the audit burden, generated by the fact that seven Authorising Officers by Delegation are responsible for the Research budget, **are efficient** and, if not, propose other solutions;

*Amendment*

(u) In that report, the Commission should explain whether the measures taken to reduce the audit burden, generated by the fact that seven Authorising Officers by Delegation are responsible for the Research budget, **have been effective** and, if not, propose other solutions;

Or. en

**Amendment 46**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point v**

*Motion for a resolution*

(v) The Commission services should develop a new culture of performance, defining in their management plan a number of targets and indicators meeting the requirements of the Court of Auditors in terms of relevance, comparability and reliability;

*Amendment*

(v) The Commission services should develop a new culture of performance, defining in their management plan a number of targets and indicators meeting the requirements of the Court of Auditors in terms of relevance, comparability and reliability; **furthermore performance indicators and targets should be fully integrated in all proposals for new policies and programmes;**

Or. en

**Amendment 47**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point v a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(va) Asks the Commission to take full account on the remarks and requests formulated in the 'Response of the European Court of Auditors to the Commission's second Article 318 evaluation report';***

Or. en

**Amendment 48**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point v b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(vb) Calls on the Commission, until the review by early 2014 of the various fields of policy and programmes, to propose a clear definition of European added value; calls for a review of the programmes with the aim of avoiding national and regional displacement effects and genuinely only financing measures which could not be carried out without impetus from Europe;***

Or. de

**Amendment 49**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point x a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***(xa) Expects that in the framework of a new and enhanced policy on performance, all evaluation reports done or paid for by the Commission will be***



*made public:*

Or. en

**Amendment 50**

**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 – subparagraph under sub heading 'Revenues and traditional own resources'**

*Motion for a resolution*

In order to ensure proper protection of the Union's financial interests, *and with a view to equipping the Union with sufficient own resources for growth*, the Commission should:

*Amendment*

In order to ensure proper protection of the Union's financial interests the Commission should:

Or. en

**Amendment 51**

**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 – point y**

*Motion for a resolution*

(y) provide Parliament with an evaluation of the cost of postponing the full application of the Modernised Customs Code (MCC), which would quantify the budgetary consequences of such postponement;

*Amendment*

(y) provide Parliament, *in time for the 2012 discharge procedure*, with an evaluation of the cost of postponing the full application of the Modernised Customs Code (MCC), which would quantify the budgetary consequences of such postponement;

Or. en

**Amendment 52**

**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point z**

*Motion for a resolution*

(z) collect reliable data on the customs and VAT gap in the Member States, and report **on a regular basis** to Parliament in this regard;

*Amendment*

(z) collect reliable data on the customs and VAT gap in the Member States, and report to Parliament in this regard;

Or. en

**Amendment 53**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point z**

*Motion for a resolution*

(z) collect reliable data on the customs and VAT gap in the Member States, and report on a **regular** basis to Parliament in this regard;

*Amendment*

(z) collect reliable data on the customs and VAT gap in the Member States, and report on a **six month** basis to Parliament in this regard;

Or. en

**Amendment 54**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point a a**

*Motion for a resolution*

(aa) identify actions which would increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the collection of customs duties and VAT in the Member States;

*Amendment*

(aa) identify **and implement** actions which would increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the collection of customs duties and VAT in the Member States, **suggest that in future the percentage of customs duties which the Member States are entitled to keep to cover administrative costs should depend on their effectiveness to collect these duties and not only on the**

*absolute amounts collected;*

Or. en

**Amendment 55**

**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 – point a b**

*Motion for a resolution*

(ab) identify the channels and schemes allowing for tax evasion and tax avoidance and promote appropriate countermeasures;

*Amendment*

(ab) identify the channels and schemes allowing for tax evasion and tax avoidance, ***in particular by multinationals and through post box companies*** and promote appropriate countermeasures, ***and to work closely together with the OECD on this issue in the preparation of its report asked for by the G20;***

Or. en

**Amendment 56**

**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 – point a c**

*Motion for a resolution*

(ac) raise the Member States' awareness, in the context of the negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework, ***of the*** uncollected revenue aspects ***and their*** impact on the availability of the Union's own resources, the economic situation of the Member States and the internal market;

*Amendment*

(ac) raise the Member States' ***and public*** awareness, in the context of the negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework, ***that effective revenue collection remains an essential feature of sound management of public finances, including the fact that*** uncollected revenue aspects ***have an*** impact on the availability of the Union's own resources, the economic situation of the Member States and the internal market;

Or. en

**Amendment 57**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – point a c**

*Motion for a resolution*

(ac) raise the Member States' awareness, in the context of the negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework, of the uncollected revenue aspects and their impact on the availability of the Union's own resources, the economic situation of the Member States and the internal market;

*Amendment*

(ac) raise the Member States' awareness, in the context of the negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework, of the uncollected revenue aspects and their impact on the availability of the Union's own resources, the economic situation of the Member States and the internal market ***and commission a study which would calculate the potential financial benefits for the Member States in tax revenue terms if an equal level playing field against tax evasion and tax avoidance throughout the Union should be created;***

Or. en

**Amendment 58**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

3. Notes that the amount of structural funds implemented through FEIs has continued to increase over the period 2007-2013, in particular for instruments targeting enterprises, and points out that more than 90% of the amounts actually disbursed to final recipients went to enterprises;

*Amendment*

3. Notes that the amount of structural funds implemented through FEIs has continued to increase over the period 2007-2013, in particular for instruments targeting enterprises, and points out that more than 90% of the amounts actually disbursed to final recipients went to enterprises; ***asks the Commission to clarify what percentage of the amounts actually dispersed went to truly private enterprises as opposed to majority publicly owned enterprises;***

**Amendment 59**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***4. Notes with concern that FEIs for urban development and energy efficiency/renewable energies account for only 17% of the amount paid to all FEIs at the end of 2011 and, moreover, that the flow into concrete urban projects remained slow;***

***deleted***

Or. de

**Amendment 60**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

8. Reiterates that Parliament invited the Commission to evaluate objectively and critically the experiences with FEIs in the Cohesion policy for the programming period 2007-2013, to provide a risk assessment considering different FEIs separately, as well as taking into account the risk structure of beneficiaries of the FEIs, and to report annually to Parliament on the use of FEIs in Member States, including comparable indicators on the effectiveness, efficiency and economy of FEIs, and also on how the Commission coordinates, ensures consistency and mitigates the risk of overlapping across the policy areas;

8. Reiterates that Parliament invited the Commission to evaluate objectively and critically the experiences with FEIs in the Cohesion policy for the programming period 2007-2013, to provide a risk assessment considering different FEIs separately, as well as taking into account the risk structure of beneficiaries of the FEIs, and to report annually to Parliament, ***in time for the respective discharge procedure***, on the use of FEIs in Member States, including comparable indicators on the effectiveness, efficiency and economy of FEIs, and also on how the Commission coordinates, ensures consistency and mitigates the risk of overlapping across the

policy areas;

Or. en

**Amendment 61**  
**Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9**

*Motion for a resolution*

9. Regrets that the Commission *has refused* Parliament's request to add the responsible Commissioner's signature to the annual activity reports of his/her related *department*; notes however that the Synthesis report is adopted by the College of Commissioners and contains a specific statement emphasising the Commission's final responsibility for the management of its authorising officers on the basis of assurances and reservations made by them in their annual activity reports; is therefore of the opinion that the College, when adopting the Synthesis report, took note of the problems in the respective directorates-general and can be held responsible;

*Amendment*

9. Regrets that the Commission *constantly ignores* Parliament's *long standing* request to add the responsible Commissioner's signature to the annual activity reports of his/her related *Directorate General*; notes however that the Synthesis report is adopted by the College of Commissioners and contains a specific statement emphasising the Commission's final responsibility for the management of its authorising officers on the basis of assurances and reservations made by them in their annual activity reports; is therefore of the opinion that the College, when adopting the Synthesis report, took note of the problems in the respective directorates-general and can be held responsible;

Or. en

**Amendment 62**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 11**

*Motion for a resolution*

11. Welcomes the fact that the Commission has given Parliament access to the Member States' annual summaries; deplores, however, the *fact* that only 17 Member

*Amendment*

11. Welcomes the fact that the Commission has given Parliament access to the Member States' annual summaries; deplores, however, the *fact* that only 17 Member

States gave the Commission permission to do so;

States gave the Commission permission to do so; *asks the Commission to communicate which steps and measures it will take to see to it that the remaining 10 Member States will also grant their permission;*

Or. en

**Amendment 63**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 11 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*11a. Recalls the Parliament's proposal in the 2010 discharge resolution for a full-time Commissioner for Budgetary Control in the 2014-2019 Commission;*

Or. en

**Amendment 64**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 11 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*11a. Calls for publication of the annual summary in at least one other widely spoken language of the European Union;*

Or. de

**Amendment 65**  
**Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 13 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***13a. Calls on the Commission to investigate the possibilities of setting up a correctional system for error prone spending areas, in which the total material value of errors in year n will be partially or entirely depending on the severity of the irregularities, deducted from the yearly reimbursement requests made by accrediting organizations;***

Or. en

**Amendment 66**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 14 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***14a. Points out that in addition to delivering one opinion on the reliability of the accounts, the European Court of Auditors delivers three on the legality and regularity of the underlying operations; takes the view that this plethora of opinions makes it more difficult for Members of the European Parliament to assess the Commission's implementation of the budget;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 67**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15**



*Motion for a resolution*

15. Points out that the Court establishes, on the basis of its audits, the most likely error rate, which in 2011 stood at 3,9% for payments, that, ***over the years, the institutions arrived at an understanding that the materiality threshold for errors is 2%,*** and that, if the most likely error rate is above this threshold, the Court will give an adverse opinion;

*Amendment*

15. Points out that the Court establishes, on the basis of its audits, the most likely error rate, which in 2011 stood at 3,9% for payments, that, ***on the basis of international auditing standards, the Court of Auditors takes 2% as the materiality threshold, viz. the generally acceptable rate of errors,*** and that, if the most likely error rate is above this threshold, the Court will give an adverse opinion;

Or. de

**Amendment 68**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15**

*Motion for a resolution*

15. Points out that the Court establishes, on the basis of its audits, the most likely error rate, which in 2011 stood at 3,9% for payments, that, over the years, the institutions arrived at an understanding that the materiality threshold for errors is 2%, and that, if the most likely error rate is above this threshold, the Court will give an adverse opinion;

*Amendment*

15. Points out that the Court establishes, on the basis of its audits, the most likely error rate, which in 2011 stood at 3,9% for payments, that, over the years, the institutions arrived at an ***informal*** understanding that the materiality threshold for errors is 2%, and that, if the most likely error rate is above this threshold, the Court will give an adverse opinion;

Or. fr

**Amendment 69**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**15a. Points out that, in accordance with international audit standards, the external auditor should set the materiality threshold for errors independently;**

Or. fr

**Amendment 70**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

16. Emphasises that errors ***should not necessarily be considered as*** fraud and considers that, in the vast majority of cases, errors stem from administrative mistakes which can be corrected;

16. Emphasises that ***a distinction must be drawn between*** errors ***and*** fraud and considers that, in the vast majority of cases, errors stem from administrative mistakes, ***many of which are linked to the complexity of European and national rules,*** which can be corrected;

Or. fr

**Amendment 71**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

16. Emphasises that errors should not necessarily be considered as fraud and considers that, in the vast majority of cases, errors stem from administrative mistakes which can be corrected;

16. Emphasises that errors should not necessarily be considered as fraud and considers that, in the vast majority of cases, errors stem from administrative mistakes which can be corrected; ***reminds the Commission, however, that the current error rate is still unacceptably high and that Parliament has a zero-tolerance***

*approach to errors;*

Or. en

**Amendment 72**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 18**

*Motion for a resolution*

18. Notices that there are differences of ***opinion*** between the Court of Auditors and the Commission with regard to the way in which errors should be calculated, in particular as to whether pre-financing should be included or excluded, as to the handling of quantifiable and non-quantifiable errors, and as to the way in which recoveries and financial corrections should be considered in the ***error calculation***; is of the opinion that the ***differences of opinion*** mirror the different roles respectively played by the institutions, namely the role of auditor on the one hand and manager on the other;

*Amendment*

18. Notices that there are ***some*** differences of ***views*** between the Court of Auditors and the Commission with regard to the way in which errors should be calculated, in particular as to whether pre-financing should be included or excluded, as to the handling of quantifiable and non-quantifiable errors, and as to the way in which recoveries and financial corrections should be considered in the ***overall assessment of the financial impact of errors and the corrective capacity of systems***; is of the opinion that the ***different approaches*** mirror the different roles respectively played by the institutions, namely the role of auditor on the one hand and manager on the other;

Or. en

**Amendment 73**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 18**

*Motion for a resolution*

18. Notices that there are differences of opinion between the Court of Auditors and the Commission with regard to the way in which errors should be calculated, in

*Amendment*

18. Notices that there are differences of opinion between the Court of Auditors and the Commission with regard to the way in which errors should be calculated, in

particular as to whether pre-financing should be included or excluded, as to the handling of quantifiable and non-quantifiable errors, and as to the way in which recoveries and financial corrections should be considered in the error calculation; *is of the opinion that the differences of opinion mirror the different roles respectively played by the institutions, namely the role of auditor on the one hand and manager on the other;*

particular as to whether pre-financing should be included or excluded, as to the handling of quantifiable and non-quantifiable errors, and as to the way in which recoveries and financial corrections should be considered in the error calculation;

Or. en

**Amendment 74**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 18**

*Motion for a resolution*

18. Notices that there are differences of opinion between the Court of Auditors and the Commission with regard to the way in which errors should be calculated, in particular as to whether pre-financing should be included or excluded, as to the handling of quantifiable and non-quantifiable errors, and as to the way in which recoveries and financial corrections should be considered in the error calculation; is of the opinion that the differences of opinion mirror the different roles respectively played by the institutions, namely the role of auditor on the one hand and manager on the other;

*Amendment*

18. Notices that there are differences of opinion between the Court of Auditors and the Commission with regard to the way in which errors should be calculated, in particular as to whether pre-financing should be included or excluded, as to the handling of quantifiable and non-quantifiable errors, and as to the way in which recoveries and financial corrections should be considered in the error calculation; is of the opinion that the differences of opinion mirror the different roles respectively played by the institutions, namely the role of auditor on the one hand and manager on the other, *requests the Court of Auditors to consider the possibility to separate these contested different categories of error rates in its next annual report and to qualify the recovery and financial corrections policies/results per sector;*

Or. en

**Amendment 75**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 19 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***19a. Calls, therefore, pursuant to Article 287(3) TFEU, for closer cooperation between national audit institutions and the European Court of Auditors in connection with the auditing of shared-management arrangements;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 76**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 19 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***19b. Proposes that consideration should be given to having the national audit institutions deliver, in a capacity as independent external auditors and in accordance with international audit standards, national audit certificates in respect of the management of Community funds; these certificates would be submitted to the Member State governments with a view to their being produced as part of the discharge process, on the basis of an appropriate interinstitutional procedure to be established;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 77**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 19 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***19c. Criticises the fact that it takes Parliament too long to reach a discharge decision; proposes that a working party should be set up to propose ways of ensuring that Parliament takes a decision on the discharge in the year after the one being audited;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 78**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 26**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

26. Recalls that the most likely error rate for payments in the financial year 2010 was estimated at 3,7% and in the financial year 2009 at 3,3%; is ***particularly worried*** about this increase because it reverses the positive trend observed in the years 2007, 2008 and 2009; therefore calls on the Commission to take the necessary steps to achieve a trend that shows a consistent decrease in the error rate; underlines that Parliament is of the opinion that '(...) reaching this target is an essential part of getting full value for EU expenditure in the future and progressing towards a positive DAS',\* ;

26. Recalls that the most likely error rate for payments in the financial year 2010 was estimated at 3,7% and in the financial year 2009 at 3,3%; is ***dismayed*** about this increase because it reverses the positive trend observed in the years 2007, 2008 and 2009; therefore calls on the Commission to take the necessary steps to achieve a trend that shows a consistent decrease in the error rate; underlines that Parliament is of the opinion that '(...) reaching this target is an essential part of getting full value for EU expenditure in the future and progressing towards a positive DAS'<sup>1</sup> ;

Or. en

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<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 4 of Parliament's above mentioned resolution of 5 May 2010 on the 2008 discharge.

**Amendment 79**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 27**

*Motion for a resolution*

27. Attributes this development mainly to the increase of the most likely error rate in the area of agriculture, and in particular *in the field of* rural development, *which rose significantly to* 7,7%;

*Amendment*

27. Attributes this development mainly to the increase of the most likely error rate in the area of agriculture, and *is concerned* in particular *about the high level of error in the* rural development *where the most likely error rate reported was* 7,7 %;

Or. en

**Amendment 80**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 27 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*27a. Calls on the Court of Auditors to gear its special reports on specific fields of policy more than previously to facilitating comparisons with past periods;*

Or. de

**Amendment 81**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading after paragraph 27 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Council recommendation*

**Amendment 82**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 27 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***27a. Regrets that the Council continues to refuse to cooperate with Parliament with regards to the Council discharge; believes that this leaves the competent Committee on Budgetary Control with very few instruments and that eventually the Committee is forced to introduce to the Commission its questions and requests for information about the budget of the Council;***

Or. en

**Amendment 83**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 27 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***27b. Notes that the Council recommends to give discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Union for the financial year 2011; notes that the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom have voted against granting discharge to the Commission for the execution of the Union's budget for the financial year 2011; takes notice of these countries' observations:***

***- for the 18th time in succession the Court of Auditors was unable to grant a positive***



*unqualified statement of assurance,*

- underlining that the credibility of Union spending depends on sound financial management at all levels, orderly accounting and transparent accountability of all relevant actors,*
- pointing out that 80% of the Union budget is spent under the system of shared management by Member States,*
- regretting that only four out of seven Member States' audit authorities, assessed by the Court of Auditors, were considered effective,*
- calling on all Member States to provide full, transparent and accurate data as part of their annual summaries,*
- encouraging the Commission to continue driving better financial management by all Member States, including strict application of sanctions such as suspensions and interruptions;*

Or. en

**Amendment 84**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 27 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*27c. Notes in this context the high number of the Commission's reservations concerning the ERDF/Cohesion Fund management and control systems for the period 2007-2013 amongst others in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom; encourages the Council to draw conclusions from the observations by the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom by conducting a peer review of each of the Member States' financial*

*management and quality of performance;*

Or. en

**Amendment 85**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 28 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*28a. Stresses in this context that the Commission should also shoulder its responsibility; calls therefore for the Commission to certify the audit bodies in the Member States, which system should be introduced, at the latest, when the Financial Regulation and the regulations on the Structural Funds are revised;*

Or. de

**Amendment 86**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 28 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*28b. Calls on the Commission to do more to carry out its role of monitoring the administrative and supervisory authorities of the Member States and to publish annual assessments, broken down by Member State;*

Or. de

**Amendment 87**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 30**

*Motion for a resolution*

30. **Reminds** Member States of their **obligation**, pursuant to Article 4(3) TFEU and pursuant to the principle of sincere cooperation, to assist the Union in carrying out tasks which flow from the Treaties;

*Amendment*

30. **Expects that** Member States **are fully aware** of their **obligations**, pursuant to Article 4(3) TFEU and pursuant to the principle of sincere cooperation, to assist **in an active and effective way** the Union in carrying out tasks which flow from the Treaties;

Or. en

**Amendment 88**  
**Monica Luisa Macovei**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 31 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

**31a. Notes that the current system does not ensure a full transparency of the beneficiaries of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)/Cohesion Fund (CF) support; in the current framework, the Commission provides a portal with access to lists of beneficiaries available on national websites, which are only in the respective national language and without following common criteria; expects the future regulation covering the structural instruments to ensure that Member States provide the data on the final beneficiaries of ERDF/CF funds to be published on the Commission's official website in one of the three working languages of the Union and based on a set of common criteria to allow comparison and detection of errors;**

*Amendment*

Or. en

**Amendment 89**  
**Esther de Lange**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 31 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**31a. Points to the existence of significant differences in Member States' administrative performance in the field of revenue and expenditure in shared management, especially related to detecting irregularities, fraud and errors and financial follow-up in both the customs field and spending of Union funds; notes that the Commission so far monitors administrative performance in a reactive way and on case level and thus does not perform sufficient trend analysis to identify fields of risk; calls on the Commission to apply the method of trend analysis to identify financial risks and to take measures to improve Member States' administrative performance;**

Or. en

**Amendment 90**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 33**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

33. Is convinced that the **abovementioned** declarations, in combination with a self-critical deliberation in the Council and an even-handed peer review among Member States, would result in better and more effective budget execution – a result which is preferable to budget cuts;

33. Is convinced that the **above mentioned** declarations, in combination with a **to be introduced** self-critical deliberation in the Council, **which is lacking until now**, and an even-handed **and honest and open** peer review among Member States, would result in better and more effective budget execution, **increase the performance of**

*policies, programmes and projects and which will help to reinforce the solidarity between Member-States and replace mutual distrust, a result which is preferable to budget cuts to the detriment of economic recovery and the trust of the European citizens in a common Europe;*

Or. en

**Amendment 91**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 34**

*Motion for a resolution*

34. Welcomes the fact that Member States may, at the appropriate level, publish information as referred to in paragraph 32, and – in addition – provide declarations signed at an appropriate level based on that information; calls on the Commission to assist the Member States in providing those voluntary management declarations as referred to in Article 59(5) of the new Financial Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 by promoting best practices *and rewarding those who follow such practices*; insists that Parliament should receive both the management declarations and the voluntary declarations;

*Amendment*

34. Welcomes the fact that Member States may, at the appropriate level, publish information as referred to in paragraph 32, and – in addition – provide declarations signed at an appropriate level based on that information; calls on the Commission to assist the Member States in providing those voluntary management declarations as referred to in Article 59(5) of the new Financial Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 by promoting best practices; insists that Parliament should receive both the management declarations and the voluntary declarations;

Or. en

**Amendment 92**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 34**

*Motion for a resolution*

34. Welcomes the fact that Member States may, at the appropriate level, publish information as referred to in paragraph 32, and – in addition – provide declarations signed at an appropriate level based on that information; calls on the Commission to assist the Member States in providing those voluntary management declarations as referred to in Article 59(5) of the new Financial Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 by promoting best practices and rewarding those who follow such practices; insists that Parliament should receive both the management declarations and the voluntary declarations;

*Amendment*

34. Welcomes the fact that Member States may, at the appropriate level, publish information as referred to in paragraph 32, and – in addition – provide declarations signed at an appropriate level based on that information; calls on the Commission to assist the Member States in providing those voluntary management declarations as referred to in Article 59(5) of the new Financial Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 by promoting best practices and rewarding those who follow such practices; insists that Parliament should receive both the management declarations and the voluntary declarations; ***calls for these declarations to be submitted in at least one other widely spoken language of the Union;***

Or. de

**Amendment 93**

**Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 35**

*Motion for a resolution*

35. Welcomes the fact that the Commission transmits to Parliament the annual summaries submitted by the Member States with an analysis of their content, ***and*** calls on the Commission to address to the Member States the necessary recommendations in order to improve the reporting instruments;

*Amendment*

35. Welcomes the fact that the Commission transmits to Parliament the annual summaries submitted by the Member States with an analysis of their content; ***asks the Commission to provide them in a clear and readable format which enables Members of Parliament to easily read them,*** calls on the Commission to address to the Member States the necessary recommendations in order to improve the reporting instruments;

Or. en

**Amendment 94**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 35**

*Motion for a resolution*

35. Welcomes the fact that the Commission transmits to Parliament the annual summaries submitted by the Member States with an analysis of their content, and calls on the Commission to address to the Member States the necessary recommendations in order to improve the reporting instruments;

*Amendment*

35. Welcomes the fact that the Commission transmits to Parliament the annual summaries submitted by the Member States with an analysis of their content, and calls on the Commission to address to the Member States the necessary recommendations in order to improve the reporting instruments; ***calls further on the Commission, in conjunction with the Member States, to make sure that annual summaries are not only made available in the language of the Member State, thus increasing transparency and accountability;***

Or. en

**Amendment 95**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 35**

*Motion for a resolution*

35. Welcomes the fact that the Commission transmits to Parliament the annual summaries submitted by the Member States with an analysis of their content, and calls on the Commission to address to the Member States the necessary recommendations in order to improve the reporting instruments;

*Amendment*

35. Welcomes the fact that the Commission transmits to Parliament the annual summaries submitted by the Member States with an analysis of their content, and calls on the Commission to address to the Member States the necessary recommendations in order to improve the reporting instruments; ***furthermore, calls on the Commission to provide guidelines to the Member States concerning the form and minimal informational content of the***

*reports in order to enable easy comparability; is of the opinion that the language of the reports should be one of the working languages of the Union;*

Or. en

**Amendment 96**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 36**

*Motion for a resolution*

36. Notes, however, that neither the Court of Auditors nor the Commission considers the annual summaries at this stage to be a valuable source of information for the purposes of assessing compliance by, or the performance of, beneficiaries, reiterates its request that the Commission should analyse the strengths and weaknesses of national control systems on the basis of the annual summaries received;

*Amendment*

36. Notes, however, that neither the Court of Auditors nor the Commission considers the annual summaries at this stage to be a valuable source of information for the purposes of assessing compliance by, or the performance of, beneficiaries, reiterates its request that the Commission should analyse the strengths and weaknesses of national control systems on the basis of the annual summaries received; ***considers that this situation is unacceptable and demands that the Commission take immediate action to ensure that the next annual summaries are useful for assessing the performance of beneficiaries;***

Or. en

**Amendment 97**  
**Philip Bradbourn**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 37**

*Motion for a resolution*

37. Urges ***all Member States*** to follow the example of the 15 Member States that have

*Amendment*

37. Urges ***Austria, Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania,***



included an ‘overall level of assurance statement’ in their annual summaries for structural actions in the European Social Fund (ESF) and the ERDF<sup>\*</sup>;

***Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland and Spain*** to follow the example of the 15 Member States that have included an ‘overall level of assurance statement’ in their annual summaries for structural actions in the European Social Fund (ESF) and the ERDF<sup>1</sup>;

Or. en

**Amendment 98**  
**Monica Luisa Macovei**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 37**

*Motion for a resolution*

37. Urges all Member States to follow the example of the 15 Member States that have included an ‘overall level of assurance statement’ in their annual summaries for structural actions in the European Social Fund (ESF) and the ERDF<sup>\*</sup>;

*Amendment*

***37. Points out that the annual summaries provided by the Member States "in [their] current form [have] been seen to provide little added value" and that "the compliance elements of the current annual summary simply duplicate information readily available from other sources"<sup>2</sup>; urges therefore all Member States to increase the usefulness of their annual summaries by including an overall analysis of the results and an overall level of assurance statement to demonstrate their commitment to the sound financial management of Union funds and transparency; urges in particular all Member States to follow the example of the 15 Member States that have included an "overall level of assurance statement" in their annual summaries for structural actions in the European Social Fund (ESF) and the ERDF<sup>3</sup>;***

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<sup>1</sup> See the Commission's Synthesis report, point 3.3, in footnote 9 on page 11 of COM(2012)0281.

<sup>2</sup> ***See the reply given by Commissioner Andor to the written question 18 in preparation of the hearing in the Committee on Budgetary Control on 26 November 2012 together with the 2011 Annual Activity Report - Directorate General Regional Policy, page 84.***

<sup>3</sup> See the Commission's Synthesis report, point 3.3, in footnote 9 on page 11 of COM(2012)0281.

**Amendment 99**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 37**

*Motion for a resolution*

37. Urges all Member States to follow the example *of* the 15 Member States that have included an ‘overall level of assurance statement’ in their annual summaries for structural actions in the European Social Fund (ESF) and the ERDF\*;

*Amendment*

37. Urges all *other* Member States to follow *without delay* the example *of* the 15 Member States that have included an ‘overall level of assurance statement’ in their annual summaries for structural actions in the European Social Fund (ESF) and the ERDF<sup>1</sup> *in order for the Committee on Budgetary Control to benefit from this information during the 2012 discharge procedure; expects that those Member-States who will not submit such a statement in time will submit a comprehensive statement explaining the reasons why;*

**Amendment 100**  
**Jens Geier, Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 39**

*Motion for a resolution*

39. Calls on the Commission to establish, in cooperation with the Member States, a model for national management declarations which will make them meaningful and comparable; takes the view that such declarations should, inter alia, certify criteria (such as true and fair

*Amendment*

39. Calls on the Commission to establish *in the short term*, in cooperation with the Member States, a model for national management declarations which will make them meaningful and comparable; *calls on the Commission to openly provide its opinion on those declarations;* takes the

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<sup>1</sup> See the Commission's Synthesis report, point 3.3, in footnote 9 on page 11 of COM(2012)0281.

accounts, the effectiveness of management and control systems and the legality and regularity of underlying transactions) and specify the scope of assurance reservations and disclaimers; is of the opinion that the Court of Auditors and the Commission should be able to *incorporate* the substance of national management declarations in their audit work;

view that such declarations should, inter alia, certify criteria (such as true and fair accounts, the effectiveness of management and control systems and the legality and regularity of underlying transactions) and specify the scope of assurance reservations and disclaimers; *asks the Commission to present proposals for decreasing the burden of controls for those Member States or regions that perform consistently well according to the annual reports of the Court of Auditors and to their own national management declarations*; is of the opinion that the Court of Auditors and the Commission should be able to *take account of* the substance of national management declarations in their audit work;

Or. en

**Amendment 101**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 39 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**39a Notes the details set out on the following scoreboard regarding the two initiatives relating to the contributions of Member States in improving the effectiveness of shared management:**

<b>SCOREBOARD</b>		
	<i>National management Declarations</i>	<i>'Overall level of assurance statement' in the Annual Summaries for structural actions</i>
<i>Austria</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Belgium</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Bulgaria</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Cyprus</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Czech Republic</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Denmark</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Estonia</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>

<i>Finland</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>France</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Germany</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Greece</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Hungary</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Ireland</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Italy</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Latvia</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Lithuania</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Luxembourg</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Malta</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Netherlands</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Poland</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Portugal</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Romania</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Slovakia</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Slovenia</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Spain</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Sweden</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Or. en

**Amendment 102**

**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Subheading after paragraph 39 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***The Commission as part of the Troika***

Or. en

**Amendment 103**

**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 39 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***39a. Notes with concern the participation of the Commission, together with the IMF and ECB, in the so-called Troika in designing and supervision of the***

*adjustment programs for the European deficit countries;*

Or. en

**Amendment 104**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 39 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***39b. Believes it to be deeply undemocratic that the Commission assumes ever greater powers to control national budgets, without any serious oversight by Parliament;***

Or. en

**Amendment 105**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 39 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***39c. Points out that the targets of the adjustment programs are unrealistic since they underestimate the implications of the deepening recession especially in Greece where the estimated public deficit will not fall below 3 % of GDP until 2020, while the public debt will reach 186 % of GDP in 2013 and 152 % in 2020 and the reasons offered for these divergences are the 'longer and more severe recession' than expected because the GDP has declined by more than 10 % since the start of the programme and it will continue to decline; notes furthermore that the policy recommendations remain unchanged and***

*in the meantime unemployment has risen from 8,3 % of the labour force in 2007 to nearly 17 % in 2011 and more than 26 % in 2012;*

Or. en

**Amendment 106**

**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 39 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***39d. Is highly concerned that Commissions' austerity policies are also blighting the lives of millions of Europeans, most especially in the Southern and Eastern countries of the periphery; notes that the official unemployment rate in 2011 was in Greece 17,7 % and in Spain 21,7 %; is highly concerned about the increase of the rates in 2012 in Spain to 26,1 % and in Greece to 26,8 % while the youth unemployment rate for the EU was 22,7 % in Spain and Greece it was over 50 %; therefore urgently invites the Commission to change its politics by giving up their austerity orientation in order to fight unemployment;***

Or. en

**Amendment 107**

**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 39 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***39e. Strongly criticises that Commission's***

*policy on austerity has focussed on expenditure cuts and privatisations resulting in the postponement or cancellation of infrastructure projects as well as reductions in recurrent expenditure in healthcare, education, social provision and welfare benefits; therefore public employment has been reduced significantly in many countries and, due to the recession and the impact of austerity policies, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of the population at risk of poverty; deplors that the poorest sectors have been hit worst but, in the crisis stricken countries, many middle-class citizens have also been affected;*

Or. en

**Amendment 108**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 39 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*39f. Notes that historically, social policies in Europe have been provided by managing or removing the market in the provision of services, through food subsidies or the free provision of health services and certain levels of education; deplors that now the de-commodification of public services is being reversed through the introduction of vouchers and user fees for health and education services;*

Or. en

**Amendment 109**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 39 g (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**39g. Criticises that the Commission advocates with their adjustments programs the flexibility of labour markets, pay freezes, cuts in pensions and increased retirement ages, together with an easing of restrictions on layoffs and limits on unemployment benefits; is of the opinion that all these represent a further weakening of the provisions of Europe's vaunted social model;**

Or. en

**Amendment 110**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 39 h (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**39h. Notes with concern the pressure currently exerted by the Troika on Cyprus, Greece and Sweden to privatise the water sector. Recalls that recent water privatisation policies in the United Kingdom and Portugal show that privatisation generally lead to cost increases, rather than cost reductions; is concerned about the potential risks for public health of this development; therefore urges the Troika to reconsider their policies and not to demand the privatisation of the water sector;**

Or. en



**Amendment 111**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 40**

*Motion for a resolution*

40. *Is worried* that the total number of reservations included by the Directors-General of the Commission in their annual activity reports increased to 27 in 2011 from 17 in 2010, and that the estimated total financial impact of reservations increased to EUR 1 959 million or 1,5 % of the payments made in 2011(2010: EUR 423 million, corresponding to 0,3. %);

*Amendment*

40. *Notes* that the total number of reservations included by the Directors-General of the Commission in their annual activity reports increased to 27 in 2011 from 17 in 2010, and that the estimated total financial impact of reservations increased to EUR 1 959 million or 1,5 % of the payments made in 2011(2010: EUR 423 million, corresponding to 0,3. %);

Or. en

**Amendment 112**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 40**

*Motion for a resolution*

40. *Is worried* that the total number of reservations included by the Directors-General of the Commission in their annual activity reports increased to 27 in 2011 from 17 in 2010, and that the estimated total financial impact of reservations increased to EUR 1 959 million or 1,5 % of the payments made in 2011(2010: EUR 423 million, corresponding to 0,3. %);

*Amendment*

40. *Observes* that the total number of reservations included by the Directors-General of the Commission in their annual activity reports increased to 27 in 2011 from 17 in 2010, and that the estimated total financial impact of reservations increased to EUR 1 959 million or 1,5 % of the payments made in 2011(2010: EUR 423 million, corresponding to 0,3. %);

Or. de

**Amendment 113**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 42**

*Motion for a resolution*

42. **Welcomes** the guidance given by the Secretary-General of the Commission and the Director-General of DG Budget to the Directors-General and heads of services of the Commission on how to calculate the residual error rate, which led to an improvement in some annual activity reports as pointed out by the Court of Auditors;

*Amendment*

42. **Takes note of** the guidance given by the Secretary-General of the Commission and the Director-General of DG Budget to the Directors-General and heads of services of the Commission on how to calculate the residual error rate, which led to an improvement in some annual activity reports as pointed out by the Court of Auditors;

Or. en

**Amendment 114**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 43**

*Motion for a resolution*

43. Regrets nevertheless that the Court of Auditors found weaknesses in those instructions and their implementation, in particular as regards the residual error rate, and **calls on** the Commission to adapt its guidance in consequence;

*Amendment*

43. Regrets nevertheless that the Court of Auditors found weaknesses in those instructions and their implementation, in particular as regards the residual error rate, and **urges** the Commission to adapt its guidance in consequence, **as an immediate priority**;

Or. en

**Amendment 115**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 45**

*Motion for a resolution*

45. Encourages the Commission to make

*Amendment*

45. Encourages the Commission to make

progress in disclosing more precise and reliable data concerning recoveries and financial corrections and to present information reconciling the year in which payment is made, the year in which the related error is detected and the year in which recoveries or financial corrections are disclosed in the notes to the accounts\* ;

progress in disclosing more precise and reliable data concerning recoveries and financial corrections and to present information reconciling ***as far as possible*** the year in which payment is made, the year in which the related error is detected and the year in which recoveries or financial corrections are disclosed in the notes to the accounts<sup>1</sup> ;

Or. en

**Amendment 116**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 46**

*Motion for a resolution*

46. Expects to receive ***as soon as possible*** the report by the Commission on financial corrections at closure 2000-2006 in Regional policy which shows the impact of the financial corrections made during the programming period and at closure on the overall error rate of the 2000-2006 programming period ;

*Amendment*

46. Expects to receive ***in March 2013*** the report by the Commission on financial corrections at closure 2000-2006 in regional policy which shows the impact of the financial corrections made during the programming period and at closure on the overall error rate of the 2000-2006 programming period;

Or. en

**Amendment 117**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 46**

*Motion for a resolution*

46. Expects to receive as soon as possible the report by the Commission on financial corrections at closure 2000-2006 in

*Amendment*

46. Expects to receive as soon as possible the report by the Commission on financial corrections, ***including the amount actually***

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<sup>1</sup> See the Court's 2011 Annual report, Annex 1.2, point 2.

Regional policy which shows the impact of the financial corrections made during the programming period and at closure on the overall error rate of the 2000-2006 programming period ;

*recovered which was returned to the budget*, at closure 2000-2006 in Regional policy which shows the impact of the financial corrections made during the programming period and at closure on the overall error rate of the 2000-2006 programming period;

Or. de

**Amendment 118**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 51**

*Motion for a resolution*

51. Calls on the Commission to issue annual communications to Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors listing, by country and programme, financial corrections and recoveries collected, in order to demonstrate its performance in the protection of the Union's budget;

*Amendment*

51. Calls on the Commission to issue *in time for the respective discharge procedure* annual communications to Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors listing, by country and programme, financial corrections and recoveries collected, in order to demonstrate its performance in the protection of the Union's budget;

Or. en

**Amendment 119**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 51**

*Motion for a resolution*

51. Calls on the Commission to issue annual communications to Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors listing, by country and programme, financial corrections and recoveries collected, in order to demonstrate its performance in the

*Amendment*

51. Calls on the Commission to issue annual communications to Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors listing, by country and programme, financial corrections and recoveries collected, in order to demonstrate its performance in the

protection of the Union's budget;

protection of the Union's budget; *calls on the Commission, on this basis, to draw up a performance ranking;*

Or. de

**Amendment 120**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 52**

*Motion for a resolution*

52. Notes with concern that the abovementioned note 6 attached to the consolidated accounts covers only financial corrections and recoveries performed at Union level, and that information on withdrawals, recoveries and pending recoveries of structural funds made by the Member States is not disclosed for reliability reasons ‘since doubts remain as to the quality and completeness of data submitted by some Member States and/or for some programmes’;

*Amendment*

52. Notes with concern that the abovementioned note 6 attached to the consolidated accounts covers only financial corrections and recoveries performed at Union level, and that information on withdrawals, recoveries and pending recoveries of structural funds made by the Member States is not disclosed for reliability reasons ‘since doubts remain as to the quality and completeness of data submitted by some Member States and/or for some programmes’; *calls on the Commission to make annually public in a communication all the amounts corrected the preceding year through financial corrections and recoveries for all management modes at the level of the Union and by the Member States;*

Or. en

**Amendment 121**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 53**

*Motion for a resolution*

53. Is worried that the Commission itself

*Amendment*

53. Is worried that the Commission itself

confirms in the said note 6 the assessment made by the Court of Auditors on the lack of reliability of supervisory and control systems of the Member States, and deeply regrets that this could affect the reliability of Commission management representations; calls on the Commission to ensure that data communicated by Member States are fully reliable;

confirms in the said note 6 the assessment made by the Court of Auditors on the lack of reliability of supervisory and control systems of the Member States, and deeply regrets that this could affect the reliability of Commission management representations; calls on the Commission to ensure that data communicated by Member States are ***complete and*** fully reliable;

Or. en

**Amendment 122**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 58**

*Motion for a resolution*

58. Emphasises that the President of the Court of Auditors observed that ‘national authorities operate the first – and most important – line of defence in protecting the financial interests of EU citizens and that there needs to be a greater degree of commitment on the part of national authorities to the management and control of EU money’<sup>\*</sup>; underlines in this context the co-responsibility of the Member States for better spending;

*Amendment*

58. Emphasises that the President of the Court of Auditors observed that ‘national authorities operate the first – and most important – line of defence in protecting the financial interests of EU citizens and that there needs to be a greater degree of commitment on the part of national authorities to the management and control of EU money’<sup>1</sup>; underlines in this context the co-responsibility of the Member States for better spending;

***considers, in addition, that the active involvement of the national parliaments, through respective committees for oversight the use of Union taxpayer's money in the Member States (following the example of the Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control), not only at the level of the political and expert monitoring, but also in the programming process of the new cohesion policy, would lead to a lower error rate level, better***

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<sup>1</sup> Introductory remarks made by Mr Caldeira on 6 November 2012 when presenting the Annual report of the European Court of Auditors concerning the financial year 2011 to the European Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control.

*transparency and democratic legitimacy  
of the process of Union funds absorption;*

Or. en

**Amendment 123**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 59**

*Motion for a resolution*

59. *Is particularly worried by* the fact that in 62% of the audited regional policy transactions affected by error, and in 76% of the ESF audited transactions, sufficient information was available for the Member State authorities to have detected and corrected at least some of these errors before claiming reimbursement from the Commission, and that in rural development, the Court of Auditors found that on-the-spot checks had not always been carried out properly; therefore calls on the Member States and the Commission to urgently reinforce first-level checks;

*Amendment*

59. *Deplores* the fact that in 62% of the audited regional policy transactions affected by error, and in 76% of the ESF audited transactions, sufficient information was available for the Member State authorities to have detected and corrected at least some of these errors before claiming reimbursement from the Commission, and that in rural development, the Court of Auditors found that on-the-spot checks had not always been carried out properly; therefore calls on the Member States and the Commission to urgently reinforce first-level checks *to address this unacceptably high level of mismanagement*;

Or. en

**Amendment 124**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 59**

*Motion for a resolution*

59. Is particularly worried by the fact that in 62% of the audited regional policy transactions affected by error, and in 76% of the ESF audited transactions, sufficient

*Amendment*

59. Is particularly worried by the fact that in 62% of the audited regional policy transactions affected by error, and in 76% of the ESF audited transactions, sufficient

information was available for the Member State authorities to have detected and corrected at least some of these errors before claiming reimbursement from the Commission, and that in rural development, the Court of Auditors found that on-the-spot checks had not always been carried out properly; therefore calls on the Member States and the Commission to urgently reinforce first-level checks;

information was available for the Member State authorities to have detected and corrected at least some of these errors before claiming reimbursement from the Commission, and that in rural development, the Court of Auditors found that on-the-spot checks had not always been carried out properly; therefore calls on the Member States and the Commission to urgently reinforce first-level checks ***and shoulder more responsibility for the audit systems of the Member States which have attracted attention; calls for corresponding amendments to the relevant fund regulations as part of the review of the Multiannual Financial Framework;***

Or. de

**Amendment 125**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 59 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***59a. Calls on the Council and the COREPER to see to it that on a regular basis national controls systems in particular and the co-responsibility of the Member States for better spending in general are put as specific points on the agenda of the competent Council meetings of ministers and discussed in the presence of the Commission;***

Or. en

**Amendment 126**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**



**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 59 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**59a. Calls, pursuant to the second subparagraph of Article 287(4) TFEU, for the European Court of Auditors to deliver an opinion on the independence of the national audit authorities in the context of shared management;**

Or. fr

**Amendment 127**  
**Monica Luisa Macovei**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 60**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

60. Notes that numerous errors derive from the incorrect application of national rules (in particular, as regards the ESF errors in 2011, breaches of national rules have contributed 86% of the error rate), and that eligibility error and breaches of public procurement rules are the two main sources of errors;

60. Notes that numerous errors derive from the incorrect application of national rules (in particular, as regards the ESF errors in 2011, breaches of national rules have contributed 86% of the error rate), and that eligibility error (***especially for grant beneficiaries***) and breaches of public procurement rules (***in particular for shared and indirectly managed funds***) are the two main sources of errors;

Or. en

**Amendment 128**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 64**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

64. Urges the Member States to identify, in

64. Urges the Member States to identify

coordination with the Commission and the Court of Auditors, those unnecessarily complex national rules in order to simplify them;

*and report to Parliament*, in coordination with the Commission and the Court of Auditors, those unnecessarily complex national rules in order to simplify them;

Or. en

**Amendment 129**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 64**

*Motion for a resolution*

64. Urges the Member States to identify, in coordination with the Commission and the Court of Auditors, those unnecessarily complex national rules in order to simplify them;

*Amendment*

64. Urges the Member States to identify, in coordination with the Commission and *in consultation with* the Court of Auditors, those unnecessarily complex national rules in order to simplify them;

Or. en

**Amendment 130**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 64**

*Motion for a resolution*

64. Urges the Member States to identify, in coordination with the Commission and the Court of Auditors, those unnecessarily complex national rules in order to simplify them;

*Amendment*

64. Urges the Member States to identify, in coordination with the Commission and the Court of Auditors, those unnecessarily complex national rules in order to simplify them; *notes that in this regard, the potential for elaboration of standard tender documentation on the public procurement procedures should be further explored;*

Or. en

**Amendment 131**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 64 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***64a. Calls on the Commission, where breaches of budgetary and competition law are known to have occurred in the Member States (particularly in the award of public contracts), to apply more stringent monitoring and conditions and, in case of doubt, to suspend financing from the Structural Funds immediately until compliance with the rules and hence a use of the funds which accords with EU law are guaranteed;***

Or. de

**Amendment 132**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 65 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***65a. Urges the Commission to develop additional instruments to facilitate the process of consultation with beneficiaries and to strengthen their direct feedback to the national authorities, in line with the efforts to simplify the national rules and to reduce the error rate;***

Or. en

**Amendment 133**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 66**

*Motion for a resolution*

66. Once again **requests** the Commission to name the Member States responsible for the cumulative quantifiable errors identified; understands the constraints imposed on the Court of Auditors by its statistical sample method, which effectively prevents the Court from naming Member States with the highest error rate; encourages the Court to compare its audit findings with those of the Commission in order to identify those Member States or regions most affected by the level and/or occurrence of errors;

*Amendment*

66. Once again **requires** the Commission to name the Member States responsible for the cumulative quantifiable errors identified; understands the constraints imposed on the Court of Auditors by its statistical sample method, which effectively prevents the Court from naming Member States with the highest error rate; encourages the Court to compare its audit findings with those of the Commission in order to identify those Member States or regions most affected by the level and/or occurrence of errors;

Or. en

**Amendment 134**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 66**

*Motion for a resolution*

66. Once again requests the Commission to name the Member States responsible for the cumulative quantifiable errors identified; **understands** the constraints imposed on the Court of Auditors by its statistical sample method, which effectively prevents the Court from naming Member States with the highest error rate; **encourages** the Court to compare its audit findings with those of the Commission in order to identify those Member States or regions most affected by the level and/or occurrence of errors;

*Amendment*

66. Once again requests the Commission to name the Member States responsible for the cumulative quantifiable errors identified; **rejects the argument that** the constraints imposed on the Court of Auditors by its statistical sample method, which effectively prevents the Court from naming Member States with the highest error rate; **again calls on** the Court to compare its audit findings with those of the Commission in order to identify those Member States or regions most affected by the level and/or occurrence of errors;

Or. de

**Amendment 135**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 67**

*Motion for a resolution*

67. **Welcomes** the entry into force of the European Stability Mechanism but reiterates its warning against the setting-up of that Mechanism outside the Union's institutional framework as this precludes any actual democratic and budgetary control by the institutions of the Union;

*Amendment*

67. **Notes** the entry into force of the European Stability Mechanism but reiterates its warning against the setting-up of that Mechanism outside the Union's institutional framework as this precludes any actual democratic and budgetary control by the institutions of the Union;

Or. de

**Amendment 136**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 67**

*Motion for a resolution*

67. **Welcomes the entry** into force of the European Stability Mechanism but reiterates its warning against the setting-up of that Mechanism outside the Union's institutional framework as this precludes any actual democratic and budgetary control by the institutions of the Union;

*Amendment*

67. **Notes the coming** into force of the European Stability Mechanism but reiterates its warning against the setting-up of that Mechanism outside the Union's institutional framework as this precludes any actual democratic and budgetary control by the institutions of the Union;

Or. en

**Amendment 137**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 67**

*Motion for a resolution*

67. Welcomes the entry into force of the European Stability Mechanism but **reiterates its warning against** the setting-up of that Mechanism outside the Union's institutional framework **as this** precludes any **actual** democratic and budgetary control by the institutions of the Union;

*Amendment*

67. Welcomes the entry into force of the European Stability Mechanism but **criticises** the setting-up of that Mechanism outside the Union's institutional framework, **which** precludes any democratic, **political** and budgetary control by the institutions of the Union, **in particular Parliament**;

Or. fr

**Amendment 138**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 67**

*Motion for a resolution*

67. Welcomes the entry into force of the European Stability Mechanism but reiterates its warning against the setting-up of that Mechanism outside the Union's institutional framework as this precludes any actual democratic and budgetary control by the institutions of the Union;

*Amendment*

67. Welcomes the entry into force of the European Stability Mechanism but reiterates its warning against the setting-up of that Mechanism outside the Union's institutional framework as this precludes any actual democratic and budgetary control by the institutions of the Union, **deems it essential that the ESM will be discussed at least once a year in a plenary debate in the presence of the Council and the Commission**;

Or. en

**Amendment 139**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 67 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***67a. Notes that both the EFSF and the ESM benefit from the service of prominent Union institutions, such as the Commission and the ECB, whilst their respective relationship do not find a sufficient legal basis and control of the institutions according to the procedure laid down in the TFEU; underlines that the creation outside the institutions of the Union represents a setback from the evolution of the Union, essentially at the expense of Parliament, the Court of Auditors and the Court of Justice;***

Or. en

**Amendment 140**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 67 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***67b. Criticizes the fact that ESM Treaty lacks sufficient provisions for ensuring effective external audit; regrets that in Article 24 (Board of Auditors) of the by-laws of the Treaty only one member can be nominated by the Court of Auditors while two members upon the proposal of the Chairperson;***

Or. en

**Amendment 141**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 67 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***67c. Is worried about news that the German Government is going to claim a permanent seat for a German member from the Federal Court of Auditors in the Board of Auditors of the ESM<sup>1</sup>;***

Or. en

**Amendment 142**

**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 67 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***67d. Is concerned by the regulation of paragraph 6 of Article 24 of the by-laws of the Treaty with the agreed procedure only to inform Parliament by sending the annual report of the Board of Auditors to Parliament; underlines the right of Parliament to have a debate on the annual report with the Board of Auditors in presence of the Board of Governors of the ESM;***

Or. en

**Amendment 143**

**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 71**

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<sup>1</sup> "Germany's Finance Ministry said in a letter accompanying the draft that the proposed rules ensure Germany's court of auditors will take part. 'In the negotiations, the government laid the groundwork for the Federal Court of Auditors to be able to have a seat on the Audit Committee from the moment the ESM is set up,' the ministry said." (Bloomberg News 2012-09-25).



*Motion for a resolution*

71. Is worried about the significant increase in outstanding budgetary commitments from EUR 13 billion in 2010 to EUR 207 billion, mostly in cohesion policy, for the programming period 2007-2013, **and notes that this could be explained in particular by the introduction of the mechanism of prior approval of Member States' management and control systems before any interim payments is made;**

*Amendment*

71. Is worried about the significant increase in outstanding budgetary commitments from EUR 13 billion in 2010 to EUR 207 billion, mostly in cohesion policy, for the programming period 2007-2013;

Or. en

**Amendment 144**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 73**

*Motion for a resolution*

73. Notes that the Court of Auditors, in its annual report, found that the revenue calculation was free from material error; is concerned however that, as far as traditional own resources (TOR) are concerned, the Court's audit **does not** cover undeclared imports or those that have escaped customs surveillance, and that the annual report does not therefore provide an estimation of losses to the Union budget in that respect;

*Amendment*

73. Notes that the Court of Auditors, in its annual report, found that the revenue calculation was free from material error; is concerned however that, as far as traditional own resources (TOR) are concerned, the Court's audit **cannot** cover undeclared imports or those that have escaped customs surveillance, and that the annual report does not therefore provide an estimation of losses to the Union budget in that respect;

Or. en

**Amendment 145**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 73**

*Motion for a resolution*

73. Notes that the Court of Auditors, in its annual report, found that the revenue calculation was free from material error; is concerned however that, as far as traditional own resources (TOR) are concerned, the Court's audit does not cover undeclared imports or those that have escaped customs surveillance, and that the annual report does not therefore provide an estimation of losses to the Union budget in that respect;

*Amendment*

73. Notes that the Court of Auditors, in its annual report, found that the revenue calculation was free from material error; is concerned however that, as far as traditional own resources (TOR) are concerned, the Court's audit does not cover undeclared imports or those that have escaped customs surveillance, and that the annual report does not therefore provide an estimation of losses to the Union budget in that respect; ***suggests to the Court of Auditors to issue a special report on undeclared imports based on a survey in at least 10 Member-States and to adjust its working programme for 2013 accordingly;***

Or. en

**Amendment 146**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 76**

*Motion for a resolution*

76. Is deeply concerned by the Court's conclusion that there are weaknesses in national customs supervision and that therefore it cannot be ensured that the TOR recorded are complete and correct; finds it unacceptable that control of customs procedures in the Member States is not functioning properly; recalls that correct operation of customs procedures has direct consequences in terms of the calculation of the value added tax; is deeply worried by the Court's finding, in its Special Report No 13/2011, that the application of customs procedure 42\* alone accounted in

*Amendment*

76. Is deeply concerned by the Court's conclusion that there are ***continuing*** weaknesses in national customs supervision and that therefore it cannot be ensured that the TOR recorded are complete and correct; finds it unacceptable that control of customs procedures in the Member States is not functioning properly; recalls that correct operation of customs procedures has direct consequences in terms of the calculation of the value added tax; is deeply worried by the Court's finding, in its Special Report No 13/2011, that the application of customs procedure

2009 for extrapolated losses of approximately EUR 2 200 million\* with regard to the seven Member States which were audited, representing 29 % of the VAT theoretically applicable on the taxable amount of all the imports made under customs procedure 42 in 2009 in those seven EU Member States;

42<sup>1</sup> alone accounted in 2009 for extrapolated losses of approximately EUR 2 200 million<sup>2</sup> with regard to the seven Member States which were audited, representing 29 % of the VAT theoretically applicable on the taxable amount of all the imports made under customs procedure 42 in 2009 in those seven EU Member States;

Or. en

**Amendment 147**  
**Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 78**

*Motion for a resolution*

78. Underlines that the Court's findings in its Special Report No 13/2011 were corroborated by the conclusions of the fact-finding mission of Parliament's Budgetary Control Committee to the ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp, which took place on 19 *and* 20 September 2012; notes that ***Rotterdam, the largest European port, attracts a lot of ships thanks to the simplified Dutch data processing system***; stresses that ***simplification*** of customs procedures should not lead to less effective control systems in European ports and that ***'simplified*** procedures' should be effectively controlled by the Member States; ***notes that reduced controls could translate into major economic advantages for a port, points out, however, that seeking such competitive advantages may seriously harm the financial interests of the Union and its Member States***;

*Amendment*

78. Underlines that the Court's findings in its Special Report No 13/2011 were corroborated by the conclusions of the fact-finding mission of Parliament's Budgetary Control Committee to the ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp, which took place on 19 *and* 20 September 2012; notes that ***the Union is major trading block and that large European ports attract many ships; due to the logistic pressure these ports rely on the procedures and the risk based approach to controls as foreseen in the customs regulation and that also authorized economic operators play a more and more important role***; stresses that ***a risk based approach*** of customs procedures should not lead to less effective control systems in European ports and that ***all*** procedures should be effectively controlled by the Member States; ***stresses that any unjustified reduced control*** may seriously harm the ***Union's financial***

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<sup>1</sup> Regime used by an importer in order to obtain a VAT exemption when the imported goods will be transported to another Member State and where the VAT is due in the Member State of destination.

<sup>2</sup> Of which EUR 1 800 million were incurred in the seven selected Member States and EUR 400 million in the 21 Member States of destination of the imported goods in the sample.

*interests and that of the* Member States.

Or. en

**Amendment 148**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 78**

*Motion for a resolution*

78. Underlines that the Court's findings in its Special Report No 13/2011 were corroborated by the conclusions of the fact-finding mission of Parliament's Budgetary Control Committee to the ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp, which took place on 19 and 20 September 2012; notes that Rotterdam, the largest European port, *attracts a lot of ships thanks to the simplified Dutch data processing system*; stresses that simplification of customs procedures should not lead to less effective control systems in European ports and that 'simplified procedures' should be effectively controlled by the Member States; notes that reduced controls could translate into major economic advantages for a port, points out, however, that seeking such competitive advantages may seriously harm the financial interests of the Union and its Member States;

*Amendment*

78. Underlines that the Court's findings in its Special Report No 13/2011 were corroborated by the conclusions of the fact-finding mission of Parliament's Budgetary Control Committee to the ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp, which took place on 19 and 20 September 2012; notes that Rotterdam, the largest European port, *granted a high-level of simplified custom procedures to importers compared with other major ports in the Union*; stresses that simplification of customs procedures should not lead to less effective control systems in European ports, *or lead to distortion of competition* and that simplified procedures should be effectively controlled by the Member States; notes that reduced controls could translate into major economic advantages for a port, points out, however, that seeking such competitive advantages may seriously harm the financial interests of the Union and its Member States;

Or. en

**Amendment 149**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 78**

*Motion for a resolution*

78. Underlines that the Court's findings in its Special Report No 13/2011 were corroborated by the conclusions of the fact-finding mission of Parliament's Budgetary Control Committee to the ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp, which took place on 19 and 20 September 2012; notes that Rotterdam, the largest European port, attracts a lot of ships thanks to *the simplified Dutch data processing system*; stresses that simplification of customs procedures should not lead to less effective control systems in European ports and that 'simplified procedures' should be effectively controlled by the Member States; notes that reduced controls could translate into major economic advantages for a port, points out, however, that seeking such competitive advantages may seriously harm the financial interests of the Union and its Member States;

*Amendment*

78. Underlines that the Court's findings in its Special Report No 13/2011 were corroborated by the conclusions of the fact-finding mission of Parliament's Budgetary Control Committee to the ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp, which took place on 19 and 20 September 2012; notes that Rotterdam, the largest European port, attracts a lot of ships thanks to simplified *import procedures and fewer import controls in the Netherlands*; stresses that simplification of customs procedures should not lead to less effective control systems in European ports and that "simplified procedures" should be effectively controlled by the Member States; notes that reduced controls could translate into major economic advantages for a port, points out, however, that seeking such competitive advantages may seriously harm the financial interests of the Union and its Member States;

Or. en

**Amendment 150**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 78**

*Motion for a resolution*

78. Underlines that the Court's findings in its Special Report No 13/2011 were corroborated by the conclusions of the fact-finding mission of Parliament's Budgetary Control Committee to the ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp, which took place on 19 and 20 September 2012; notes that Rotterdam, the largest European port, attracts a lot of ships thanks to the simplified Dutch data processing system;

*Amendment*

78. Underlines that the Court's findings in its Special Report No 13/2011 were corroborated by the conclusions of the fact-finding mission of Parliament's Budgetary Control Committee to the ports of Rotterdam and Antwerp, which took place on 19 and 20 September 2012; notes that Rotterdam, the largest European port, attracts a lot of ships thanks to the simplified Dutch data processing system;

stresses that simplification of customs procedures should not lead to less effective control systems in European ports and that ‘simplified procedures’ should be effectively controlled by the Member States; ***notes that reduced controls could translate into major economic advantages for a port, points out, however, that seeking such competitive advantages may seriously harm the financial interests of the Union and its Member States;***

stresses that simplification of customs procedures should not lead to less effective control systems in European ports and that ‘simplified procedures’ should be effectively controlled by the Member States;

Or. en

**Amendment 151**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 79**

*Motion for a resolution*

79. ***Welcomes*** the initiatives taken by the Commission by way of follow-up to the Court of Auditors' Special Report No 13/2011; regrets, however, that, according to the First Eurofisc Activity Report for 2011 issued in May 2012, the main findings and observations of that Special Report are still outstanding;

*Amendment*

79. ***Takes note of*** the initiatives taken by the Commission by way of follow-up to the Court of Auditors' Special Report No 13/2011; regrets, however, that, according to the First Eurofisc Activity Report for 2011 issued in May 2012, the main findings and observations of that Special Report are still outstanding; ***would like to be informed before September 2013 on progress made;***

Or. en

**Amendment 152**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 80**

*Motion for a resolution*

80. Is seriously concerned, in particular, by

*Amendment*

80. Is seriously concerned, in particular, by

the finding of the Working Field 3 that, in most Member States, tax administrations no direct access to customs data and that automated cross-checking with tax data is therefore not possible;

the finding of the Working Field 3 that, in most Member States, tax administrations **have** no direct access to customs data and that automated cross-checking with tax data is therefore not possible;

Or. en

**Amendment 153**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 81**

*Motion for a resolution*

81. Regrets that Recommendation No 6 of Special Report No 13/2011, calling for amendment of the VAT Directive in order to identify separately the intra-community supplies following imports under the procedure in question in the trader's VAT recapitulative statement, which would allow an effective reconciliation between the customs and tax data in the Member State of importation, has not been implemented by the Commission;

*Amendment*

81. Regrets that Recommendation No 6 of Special Report No 13/2011, calling for amendment of the VAT Directive in order to identify separately the intra-community supplies following imports under the procedure in question in the trader's VAT recapitulative statement, which would allow an effective reconciliation between the customs and tax data in the Member State of importation, has not been implemented by the Commission, **would like to be informed of the reasons why this was not done**;

Or. en

**Amendment 154**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 84**

*Motion for a resolution*

84. Deplores the fact that the Commission and the Member States have been unable to ensure timely implementation of the MCC, which was supposed to become applicable

*Amendment*

84. Deplores the fact that the Commission and the Member States have been unable to ensure timely implementation of the **Modernised Customs Code (MCC)**, which

on 24 June 2013 at the latest; stresses that any further delays will impede adequate protection of the Member States' financial interests and, consequently, those of the Union itself; underlines that, according to the Commission, this situation is due, to a considerable extent, to the fact that the Member States cannot agree on the most appropriate IT development methodology and that they are facing limitations in human and financial resources; is concerned that the Commission and the Member States are lagging behind this very important reform in the situation where the collection of own resources is less than satisfactory;

was supposed to become applicable on 24 June 2013 at the latest; stresses that any further delays will impede adequate protection of the Member States' financial interests and, consequently, those of the Union itself; underlines that, according to the Commission, this situation is due, to a considerable extent, to the fact that the Member States cannot agree on the most appropriate IT development methodology and that they are facing limitations in human and financial resources; is concerned that the Commission and the Member States are lagging behind this very important reform in the situation where the collection of own resources is less than satisfactory;

Or. de

**Amendment 155**  
**Monica Luisa Macovei**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 87 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***87a. Welcomes that EUROFISC, a common operational structure allowing Member States to react rapidly to cross-border VAT fraud, became fully operational and notes that a specific working field was created in February 2011 in order to exchange targeted information on fraudulent transactions using the customs procedure 42;***

Or. en

**Amendment 156**  
**Monika Panayotova**



**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 88**

*Motion for a resolution*

88. Calls on the Commission to collect reliable data on the customs and VAT gap in the **Member States** and to report on a regular basis to Parliament in that regard;

*Amendment*

88. Calls on the Commission to **strengthen its coordination with the Member States in order to** collect reliable data on the customs and VAT gap in the **respective countries** and to report on a regular basis to Parliament in that regard;

Or. en

**Amendment 157**  
**Monica Luisa Macovei**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 89**

*Motion for a resolution*

89. Welcomes the Commission's Action Plan to strengthen the fight against tax fraud and tax evasion<sup>\*</sup>; stresses that the potential cost of tax evasion and avoidance for EU Member States is estimated to amount to some EUR 1 trillion every year;

*Amendment*

89. Welcomes the Commission's Action Plan to strengthen the fight against tax fraud and tax evasion<sup>1</sup>; **commends in particular the Commission's proposal to set up a Quick Reaction Mechanism and insists that this would enable Member States to respond more swiftly and efficiently to VAT fraud**; stresses that the potential cost of tax evasion and avoidance for EU Member States is estimated to amount to some EUR 1 trillion every year **while in comparison, the Union budget for 2011 in terms of appropriations for commitments amounted only to EUR 142,5 billion**;

Or. en

**Amendment 158**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

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<sup>1</sup> COM(2012)0722.

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 90**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**90. Finds it unacceptable that, in times of economic crisis, some Member States advocate spending cuts in the Union budget and the Multiannual Financial Framework, thus jeopardising attainment of the EU 2020 objectives, while at the same time not preventing tax evasion and avoidance;** *deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 159**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 90**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**90. Finds it unacceptable that, in times of economic crisis, some Member States advocate spending cuts in the Union budget and the Multiannual Financial Framework, thus jeopardising attainment of the EU 2020 objectives, while at the same time not preventing tax evasion and avoidance;** *deleted*

Or. de

**Amendment 160**  
**Christofer Fjellner**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 90**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**90. Finds it unacceptable that, in times of economic crisis, some Member States advocate spending cuts in the Union budget and the Multiannual Financial Framework, thus jeopardising attainment of the EU 2020 objectives, while at the same time not preventing tax evasion and avoidance;**

*deleted*

Or. sv

**Amendment 161  
Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 92**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**92. Recalls that the deterioration of the state of play in agriculture and, in particular, in rural development, is the main cause of the increase of the most likely error rate for all payments in the financial year 2011;**

*deleted*

Or. de

**Amendment 162  
Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 94**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

94. Takes note of the Court's approach which for the first time included cross compliance infringements in the calculation of the error rate as 'cross-compliance obligations are substantive legal requirements that must be met by all

94. Takes note of the Court's approach which for the first time included cross compliance infringements in the calculation of the error rate as 'cross-compliance obligations are substantive legal requirements that must be met by all

recipients of direct aid and are the basic and in many cases the only conditions to be respected in order to justify the payments of full amount of direct payments<sup>1\*</sup>; asks the Court in this context to explain and justify its changes of methodology **and to align its methodology with that of the Commission;**

recipients of direct aid and are the basic and in many cases the only conditions to be respected in order to justify the payments of full amount of direct payments<sup>1</sup>; asks the Court in this context to explain and justify its changes of methodology, **calls on the Commission and the Court of Auditors to agree on a consistent methodology that makes it possible to better compare the year-on-year results of the Commission's budget implementation;**

Or. en

**Amendment 163**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 94**

*Motion for a resolution*

94. Takes note of the Court's approach which for the first time included cross compliance infringements in the calculation of the error rate as 'cross-compliance obligations are substantive legal requirements that must be met by all recipients of direct aid and are the basic and in many cases the only conditions to be respected in order to justify the payments of full amount of direct payments<sup>1\*</sup>'; asks the Court in this context to explain and justify its changes of methodology and to align its methodology with that of the Commission;

*Amendment*

94. Takes note of the Court's approach which for the first time included cross compliance infringements in the calculation of the error rate as 'cross-compliance obligations are substantive legal requirements that must be met by all recipients of direct aid and are the basic and in many cases the only conditions to be respected in order to justify the payments of full amount of direct payments<sup>2</sup>'; asks the Court in this context to **further** explain and justify its changes of methodology and to align its methodology with that of the Commission;

Or. en

**Amendment 164**  
**Jens Geier**

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<sup>1</sup> The Court's 2011 Annual report, point 3.9 footnote 11.

<sup>2</sup> The Court's 2011 Annual report, point 3.9 footnote 11.

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 96**

*Motion for a resolution*

96. Notes that it is up to the Member States to define ‘good agricultural and ecological condition’ and to which acreage it will be applied; criticises strongly that thereby **guarantee payments will be received by beneficiaries** who very often **can hardly be called** farmers; considers this to be a wrong allocation of funds which could be saved;

*Amendment*

96. Notes that it is up to the Member States to define "good agricultural and ecological condition" and to which acreage it will be applied; criticises strongly **the fact** that thereby **beneficiaries** who very often **are not** farmers **will receive direct payments** ; considers this to be a wrong allocation of funds which could be saved;

Or. en

**Amendment 165**  
**Monica Luisa Macovei**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 96 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**96a. Takes note that Member States recovered from the beneficiaries EUR 172,7 million during financial year 2011, and that the overall outstanding amount still to be recovered from the beneficiaries at year-end was EUR 1 206,9 million of which EUR 458 million have been charged to the Member States for EAGF expenditure in line with the 50/50 rule; acknowledges that around EUR 25,7 million will be borne by the Union budget for cases reported irrecoverable during financial year 2011; points out that DG AGRI cleared all pending non-recovered cases dating from 2006 or 2002 by Decisions 2011/272/EU of 29 April 2011 and that following the application of the 50/50 rule EUR 27,8 million was charged to the Member States while EUR 29,2 million was borne by the Union budget for reasons of irrecoverability;**

**Amendment 166**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 98**

*Motion for a resolution*

98. Welcomes the register providing information on beneficiaries of the Common Agricultural Policy payments in the Member States; considers this tool to be an important step towards more transparency in the agricultural sector; recalls nevertheless that, in accordance with the ruling of the European Court of Justice of 9 November 2010 invalidating the legislation as regards natural persons<sup>\*</sup>, Commission Regulation (EC) No 259/2008<sup>\*</sup> has been modified limiting the obligation to publish information on the beneficiaries of CAP payments to legal persons; ***expects the Commission to draft a new proposal***, taking into consideration the ***arguments of the Court of Justice while complying with the transparency objective***;

*Amendment*

98. Welcomes the register providing information on beneficiaries of the Common Agricultural Policy payments in the Member States; considers this tool to be an important step towards more transparency in the agricultural sector; recalls nevertheless that, in accordance with the ruling of the European Court of Justice of 9 November 2010 invalidating the legislation as regards natural persons<sup>1</sup>, Commission Regulation (EC) No 259/2008<sup>2</sup> has been modified limiting the obligation to publish information on the beneficiaries of CAP payments to legal persons; ***notes the Commission's proposal for new transparency rules, adopted on 25 September 2012, to make it obligatory for Member States to disclose data of all beneficiaries including natural persons, except for beneficiaries whose annual aid does not exceed a certain de-minimis threshold***, taking into consideration the ***objections made in the Court's judgment, in particular on data protection concerns***;

Or. en

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<sup>1</sup> Joined cases C-92/09 and C-93/09, ECR 2010, p. I-11063.

<sup>2</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 259/2008 of 18 March 2008 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1290/2005 as regards the publication of information on the beneficiaries of fund deriving from the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) (OJ L 76, 19.2008, p. 28).

**Amendment 167**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 98 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**98a. Takes note of the current practice in the management of Sapard funds, namely, that funds are only exceptionally recovered in full if the fraudulent behaviour for a part of the project has artificially created the conditions without which the beneficiary would not have obtained support for the project at all; is worried about the current practice, recommended by the Commission to the Sapard agency, that a project of which a part has been affected by fraudulent behaviour can be deemed eligible for funding if the project is not deemed to be of an artificial nature, i.e. the percentage of the costs of all the affected elements does not exceed 50 % of the total costs of the entire project; is especially concerned about the lack of deterrence from fraudulent behaviour this practice exhibits;**

Or. en

**Amendment 168**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 99**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

99. Regrets that the EAGF payments are not free from material error in 2011, the most likely error rate being estimated by the Court of Auditors at 2,9 %, and that the control systems audited by the Court were found to be partially effective in assuring

99. Regrets that the EAGF payments are not free from material error in 2011, the most likely error rate being estimated by the Court of Auditors at 2,9 %, and that the control systems audited by the Court **in Austria, Finland, Hungary, Italy and**

the legality and regularity of payments;

*Spain* were found to be **only** partially effective in assuring the legality and regularity of payments;

Or. en

**Amendment 169**  
**Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 102**

*Motion for a resolution*

102. Notes with disappointment that the Court of Auditors found that the effectiveness of the Integrated Administration and Control System is adversely affected by inaccurate data in the various databases and also by an incorrect administrative treatment of claims by the paying agencies in **the** Member States;

*Amendment*

102. Notes with disappointment that the Court of Auditors found that the effectiveness of the Integrated Administration and Control System (**IACS**) is adversely affected by inaccurate data in the various databases and also by an incorrect administrative treatment of claims by the paying agencies in **certain** Member States; **reminds the Commission that introduction of IACS led to dramatic decrease in errors and calls to remedy the situation without any delays using suspensions and interruptions of funding when necessary;**

Or. en

**Amendment 170**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 102 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

**102a. Is concerned that the Commission, in its annual activity report, maintained its reservations concerning the IACS systems in Bulgaria and Portugal due to serious deficiencies; underlines that,**

*Amendment*



*given the importance of IACS for the management and control of agricultural expenditure, serious deficiencies in its set-up an operation exposes the Commission to reputational risk even if the financial impact does not exceed the materiality threshold;*

Or. en

**Amendment 171**  
**Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 106**

*Motion for a resolution*

106. Calls on the Commission to take all necessary actions so that paying agencies remedy weaknesses detected in their administration and control system and insists that the design and quality of the work to be performed by certifying bodies must be improved in order to provide reliable assessment of legality and regularity of operations in the paying agencies;

*Amendment*

106. Calls on the Commission to take all necessary actions so that paying agencies remedy weaknesses detected in their administration and control system and insists that the design and quality of the work to be performed by certifying bodies must be improved in order to provide reliable assessment of legality and regularity of operations in the paying agencies; *asks the Commission to investigate if it is possible to cooperate with private individuals to verify cross compliance standards and reduce administrative burden;*

Or. en

**Amendment 172**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 111**

*Motion for a resolution*

111. **Deplores** that the Court identifies significant problems concerning the implementation of cross-compliance requirements for the identification and registration of animals<sup>1</sup> and calls on the Member States to improve the **spread** of checks throughout the year so that all relevant requirements are properly checked;

*Amendment*

111. **Notes** that the Court identifies significant problems concerning the implementation of cross-compliance requirements for the identification and registration of animals<sup>2</sup> and calls on the Member States to improve the **quality** of checks throughout the year **without imposing an additional administrative load on the beneficiaries**;

Or. de

**Amendment 173**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 116**

*Motion for a resolution*

116. Is particularly concerned by the fact that DG AGRI considers that ‘in general Member States are improving their management and control systems for rural expenditure’\* while the audit of the Court shows that **5 of the 6 selected** supervisory and control systems **assessed** were not effective or partially effective\* ; is of the opinion that such a big divergence between the assessments of the Commission and the Court of Auditors makes it difficult for the discharge authority to reach objective conclusions; calls therefore on both institutions to **establish a** data exchange mechanism in order to provide the discharge authority with coherent and credible data; is convinced of the usefulness of tripartite meetings between the Court, the Commission and

*Amendment*

116. Is particularly concerned by the fact that DG AGRI considers that “in general Member States are improving their management and control systems for rural expenditure”<sup>3</sup> while the audit of the Court shows that **the** supervisory and control systems **in Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Italy and Spain** were not effective or **only** partially effective<sup>4</sup>; is of the opinion that such a big divergence between the assessments of the Commission and the Court of Auditors makes it difficult for the discharge authority to reach objective conclusions; calls therefore on both institutions to **make more effective use of the** data exchange mechanism in order to provide the discharge authority with coherent and credible data; is convinced of the usefulness of tripartite meetings

<sup>1</sup> The Court's 2011 Annual report, 4.18.

<sup>2</sup> The Court's 2011 Annual report, 4.18.

<sup>3</sup> DG AGRI, annual activity report, page 79.

<sup>4</sup> The Court's 2011 Annual report, annex 4.2.

representatives from Member States concerned when looking for common analysis;

between the Court, the Commission and representatives from Member States concerned when looking for common analysis;

Or. en

**Amendment 174**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 116**

*Motion for a resolution*

116. Is particularly concerned by the fact that DG AGRI considers that ‘in general Member States are improving their management and control systems for rural expenditure’\* while the audit of the Court shows that 5 of the 6 selected supervisory and control systems assessed were not effective or partially effective\* ; is of the opinion that such a big divergence between the assessments of the Commission and the Court of Auditors makes it difficult for the discharge authority to reach objective conclusions; calls therefore on both institutions to establish a data exchange mechanism in order to provide the discharge authority with coherent and credible data; is convinced of the usefulness of tripartite meetings between the Court, the Commission and representatives from Member States concerned when looking for common analysis;

*Amendment*

116. Is particularly concerned by the fact that DG AGRI considers that ‘in general Member States are improving their management and control systems for rural expenditure’<sup>1</sup> while the audit of the Court shows that 5 of the 6 selected supervisory and control systems assessed were not effective or partially effective<sup>2</sup> ; is of the opinion that such a big divergence between the assessments of the Commission and the Court of Auditors makes it difficult for the discharge authority to reach objective conclusions; calls therefore on both institutions to establish a data exchange mechanism in order to provide the discharge authority with coherent and credible data; ***insists on synchronized performance evaluation and/or backcasting for past periods in order to ensure a reliable database for future comparisons***; is convinced of the usefulness of tripartite meetings between the Court, the Commission and representatives from Member States concerned when looking for common analysis;

Or. en

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<sup>1</sup> DG AGRI, annual activity report, page 79.

<sup>2</sup> The Court's 2011 Annual report, annex 4.2.

**Amendment 175**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 118 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**118a. Calls on the Commission to further improve the quality control of accreditation criteria for paying agencies and certifying bodies;**

Or. en

**Amendment 176**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 120**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

120. **Notes** that the Court estimated the most likely error rate in this spending area at 6%; ***underlines at the same time*** that this error rate remains below ***of*** those reported by the Court for the period 2006-2008 due to reinforced control provisions and a strict policy of interruptions and suspensions when deficiencies were detected, in line with the Commission's 2008 Action Plan;

120. **Deplores** that the Court estimated the most likely error rate in this spending area at 6%; ***which is unacceptably high, but notes*** that this error rate remains below those reported by the Court for the period 2006-2008 due to reinforced control provisions and a strict policy of interruptions and suspensions when deficiencies were detected, in line with the Commission's 2008 Action Plan;

Or. en

**Amendment 177**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 122 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***122a. Calls on the Commission to use all available instruments over the next programming period 2014-2020, as outlined in the Commission proposal (COM (2011)0615), in particular by means of delegated acts and implementing acts, with a view to setting out conditions which the national audit authorities shall fulfil, and to adopting models for the audit strategy, the audit opinion and the annual control report, as well as the methodology for the sampling method;***

Or. en

**Amendment 178**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 122 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***122 a. Regrets the fact that, according to the 2011 Annual Activity Report of DG REGIO, the countries with the highest risk of incorrect payments for the 2007-2013 programming period are the Czech Republic (11.4%), Romania (11.2%) and Italy (8.6%);***

Or. de

**Amendment 179**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 122 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***122b. Takes note that in 2011 the DG REGIO found serious deficiencies in five Member States: France, Austria, Italy, Romania and Czech Republic; notes that, whereas the difficulties in France and Austria have been identified by the national audit authorities themselves, the deficiencies in Italy, Romania and Czech Republic were primarily linked to the architecture of the management and control systems;***

Or. en

**Amendment 180**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124a. Notes the high number of the Commission's reservations concerning the ERDF/Cohesion Fund management and control systems for the period 2007-2013 in the following Member States: Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain and United Kingdom, due to significant issues regarding the effective functioning of management and control systems; is deeply concerned about the reputational risks in Greece, Hungary and Romania;***

Or. en

**Amendment 181**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124a. Is concerned about the fact that regional policy has focussed on the regional and urban level, but this is to the detriment of the national level, which is often more appropriate for promoting development;***

Or. en

**Amendment 182**  
**Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124a. Recalls that the regional, structural and cohesion funds are established to reduce the gap between the levels of development of Europe's regions; notes with concern that many of these funds are used extensively by richer member states; is of the opinion that this is ineffective use of the funds; reiterates that when funds are targeted more on those Member States in actual need of the funds the money is not only spent more effectively, but the control system also becomes more targeted which will contribute to lower error rates;***

Or. en

**Amendment 183**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124b. Notes the Commission's reservations, for the 2000-2006 period, concerning the Cohesion Fund management and control systems in Hungary and Spain, and concerning the ERDF linked to outstanding issues at closure stage in Spain, Germany, Ireland, Italy and Cross-Border programmes, all due to reputational reasons;***

Or. en

**Amendment 184**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124b. Is of the opinion that the full use of resources requires more democratic participation and not elite planning;***

Or. en

**Amendment 185**  
**Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124b. Notes with concern that SMEs are underrepresented in receiving funds compared to large companies; invites the Commission and Member States to ensure that the eligibility rules, accounting***



*obligations and their practical implementation do not prohibitively rule out the participation of SMEs;*

Or. en

**Amendment 186**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*124c. Is concerned that the 'Smart Specialisation' proposed by the Union whereby every region should be a world leader in some area cannot work as there are not sufficient products to go round and over-specialisation is likely;*

Or. en

**Amendment 187**  
**Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*124c. Moreover notes that due to a lack of independently audited control systems at Member States level tax-payers money is inefficiently used; reiterates the importance of all Member States taking full responsibility for putting in place effective and efficient controls for the management of Union funds at national level and to introduce a Member State Declaration in which the respective government accounts for the way in which the Union funds are spent at Member State level;*

**Amendment 188**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124d. Considers intra-regional trade important and underlines the position that there should be greater attention to promoting more ecologically sustainable forms of production by using local resources for local consumption, for example in the case of food or energy generation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 189**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124e. Underlines the loud call from journalists and Union officials alike for uniformity in gathering, cataloguing, archiving and reporting of data of the regional policy, to be mandated by the Union institutions and sanctioned for non-compliance;***

Or. en

**Amendment 190**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124f. Is of the opinion that in line with the Lisbon Treaty investigative journalism needs a clear definition and broad interpretation of what constitutes a document; is of the opinion that a swift implementation of workable FOI (Freedom of Information) laws across the Union is imperative, as is the systematic, proactive and centralised disclosure of data and documents, especially in relation to regional policy;***

Or. en

**Amendment 191**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading after paragraph 124 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Greece***

Or. en

**Amendment 192**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 g (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***124g. Is concerned by criticism of the effectiveness of Regional Policy in Greece, e.g. by the former Greek Minister of Economic Affairs Mr Michaelis Chrysochoidis, including in 2011 when he***

*mentioned that the regional funds in Greece were primarily spent for consumption instead of being invested in advanced and competitive technologies; calls on the Commission to maintain close contacts with critics in order to scrutinise Greece's regional policy and, if necessary, to correct it;<sup>1</sup>*

Or. en

**Amendment 193**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 124 h (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*124h. Notes that one of the important reasons for the current debt problems of Greece can be found in large infrastructure projects of the country that were co-financed by the Union, especially the so called "Megala Erga" projects; notes that the construction of the new Athens airport and of new tramways, railways, highways and the bridge connecting the Peloponnes to central Greece, resulted in high costs and had put pressure on the national budget;*

Or. en

**Amendment 194**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 127**

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<sup>1</sup> In an interview with the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, published on 9 February 2012, the former Greek Minister of Economic Affairs Mr Michaelis Chrysochoidis told this newspaper that the allocation of European regional funds contributed to the "destruction" of the Greek Economy.

*Motion for a resolution*

127. Points to the fact that the ***detection of non-quantifiable*** errors could give rise to a difference of ***opinion***: whereas the Court looks at compliance, according to which rules were either adhered to or not, the Commission takes into consideration the financial impact of an error and financial corrections may vary accordingly;

*Amendment*

127. Points to the fact that the ***quantification of*** errors could give rise to a difference of ***treatment***: whereas the Court looks at compliance, according to which rules were either adhered to or not, the Commission takes into consideration the financial impact of an error and financial corrections may vary accordingly;

Or. en

**Amendment 195**

**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Subheading after paragraph 130 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Italy***

Or. en

**Amendment 196**

**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 130 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***130a. Is concerned by the fact that the Autostrada 3 in Calabria/Italy for which the Union has paid a huge amount from regional funds, is already under construction since 1997 and has not yet been finished;***

Or. en

**Amendment 197**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 130 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***130b. Is the concerned by the fact that the first section of the highway was extremely costly in comparison with other highway reconstructions in other parts of Europe and that the price per kilometre was about EUR 848 000 in Calabria, which is ten times higher than usual;***

Or. en

**Amendment 198**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 130 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***130c. Is deeply worried that apparently some of the enterprises involved in the reconstruction work were bribed by mafia clans for giving up their engagements<sup>1</sup>;***

Or. en

**Amendment 199**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 132**

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<sup>1</sup> *In a report entitled "Im Sumpf der Subventionen" that was broadcasted by the German/French TV channel Arte on 7 August 2012, where these practises had been portrayed.*

*Motion for a resolution*

132. Calls on the Commission to assist Member States in drafting comprehensive, meaningful and comparable audit control reports, including a chapter on the contribution EU funds made in the respective country to attain the EU 2020 objectives;

*Amendment*

132. Calls on the Commission to assist Member States in drafting comprehensive, meaningful and comparable audit control reports, including a chapter on the contribution EU funds made in the respective country to attain the EU 2020 objectives, ***both at national and regional level, considering each region's individual potential for development and its possible transformation in an economic growth centre;***

Or. en

**Amendment 200**

**Monica Luisa Macovei**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 133**

*Motion for a resolution*

133. In this context draws the attention of the Commission and the Member States to the fact that under the EU 2020 objectives operational programmes should increasingly be designed in such a way that its sub-objectives are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely and, consequently, the programme lends itself to performance audits;

*Amendment*

133. In this context draws the attention of the Commission and the Member States to the fact that under the EU 2020 objectives operational programmes should increasingly be designed in such a way that its sub-objectives are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely and, consequently, the programme lends itself to performance audits; ***welcomes in this respect the launch by DG REGIO of its first performance audits on technical assistance and the selection of projects in the water area;***

Or. en

**Amendment 201**

**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 133**

*Motion for a resolution*

133. In this context draws the attention of the Commission and the Member States to the fact that under the EU 2020 objectives operational programmes should increasingly be designed in such a way that its sub-objectives are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely and, consequently, the programme lends itself to performance audits;

*Amendment*

133. In this context draws the attention of the Commission and the Member States to the fact that under the EU 2020 objectives operational programmes should increasingly be designed in such a way that its sub-objectives are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely and, consequently, the programme lends itself to performance audits; ***notes that the establishment of a common system of result and impact indicators would contribute to the evaluation of the progress achieved under the different programmes in the context of their effectiveness and efficiency and not only in terms of their financial implementation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 202**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 133 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

***133a. Reminds the Member States that due to the strict time limits for project execution, a mature project pipeline is required, especially for major infrastructure projects, in order to start their implementation at the beginning of the next programming period 2014-2020;***

*Amendment*

Or. en



**Amendment 203**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 134 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*134a. Whenever there is information concerning considerable, long-term deficiencies in the proper application of EU legislation in a Member State or serious flaws in the operation of management and control systems, the Commission should interrupt payments to the Member State concerned in order to prevent major damage to the EU's financial interests. Such measures should remain in place until the necessary remedial actions have been ensured by the Member State concerned. If the deficiencies in the management and control system of a Member State are continuous and widespread and do not comply with EU rules at all, the Commission should impose a total interruption of funding to the Member State concerned.*

Or. de

**Amendment 204**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 135**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

135. Calls on the Commission **and** the Court to establish a transparent system which allows, on the one hand, **to take** into consideration annual financial corrections but also, on the other, financial corrections during the life span of a programming period;

135. Calls on the Commission **in consultation with** the Court to establish a transparent system which allows, on the one hand, **taking** into consideration annual financial corrections but also, on the other, financial corrections during the life span of a programming period;

**Amendment 205**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 136**

*Motion for a resolution*

136. Calls on the Commission to assist Member States in rendering first-level controls and national audit authorities more effective by exchange of best practice and closer cooperation between the Commission, the Court and national authorities ('tripartite meetings');

*Amendment*

136. Calls on the Commission to assist Member States in rendering first-level controls and national audit authorities more effective by exchange of best practice and closer cooperation between the Commission, the Court and national authorities ('tripartite meetings'); ***furthermore calls on the Commission to certify national audit authorities;***

**Amendment 206**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 136**

*Motion for a resolution*

136. Calls on the Commission to assist Member States in rendering first-level controls and national audit authorities more effective by exchange of best practice and closer cooperation between the Commission, the Court and national authorities ('tripartite meetings');

*Amendment*

136. Calls on the Commission to assist Member States in rendering first-level controls and national audit authorities more effective by exchange of best practice and closer cooperation between the Commission, the Court and national authorities ('tripartite meetings'); ***considers, in addition, that the national audit authorities could put extra emphasis on the follow-up of the achieved results and effectiveness of Union funds absorption, rather than applying only a quantitative approach, regardless of the final project goals;***

**Amendment 207**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading after paragraph 136 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***The European Union Solidarity Fund***

**Amendment 208**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 136 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***136a. Calls on the Commission to start the preparation of a "best practices" manual from the current programming period, incorporating practical results, achieved effect and lessons learnt in order to optimize the absorption process and to decrease the level of error rates. In this regard the potential future beneficiaries for the next programming period 2014-2020, incl. Croatia, as well as the candidate and potential EU candidate countries, would profit;***

**Amendment 209**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 136 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***136b. Notes with concern the executive summary of the Special Report No 24/2012 of the Court of Auditors on the European Union Solidarity Fund's response to the 2009 Abruzzo earthquake in which the Court of Auditors criticizes that the CASE project ("Complessi Antisismici Sostenibili Ecocompatibili", seismically isolated and environmentally sustainable housing) did not comply with the objectives of the European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF);***

Or. en

**Amendment 210**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 136 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***136c. Criticises the fact that EUSF grants were used for the CASE project which did not meet the target of accommodation all the affected people before the winter; criticizes, like the Court of Auditors, that the CASE apartments were clearly more expensive than apartments on the market and that additional cost had been avoided if more bidders had participated in tenders and more attention had been paid to economy when evaluating the bids; takes very seriously the reports about the involvement of the mafia and about an alleged connection between the high costs and the mafia;***

Or. en

**Amendment 211**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 136 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***136d. Underlines the recommendations of the Court of Auditors in its Special Report No 24/2012 that the Commission should clarify the provisions of the Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 in the light of the Aquila case in order to guarantee that the EUSF grants are used in accordance with the principles of sound financial management in future; demands that the Commission shall re-analyse the application for the assistance by the Italian authorities in the light of the eligible criteria in the Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002; calls the Commission to scrutinize the possibility of the reimbursement of the expected revenue of the CASE project to the Union budget; is still waiting for Commission's internal audit on Aquila's earth quake report;***

Or. en

**Amendment 212**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 137 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***137a. Notes that, in 2011, the Director-General issued reservations in his annual activity report with regard to operational programmes in Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Spain, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and the United Kingdom;***

**Amendment 213**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 140**

*Motion for a resolution*

140. Emphasises that it is the task of the national audit authorities to detect and correct errors committed at the ‘first level’;

*Amendment*

140. Emphasises that it is the task of the national audit authorities to ***develop the necessary "internal immunity" of rules and measures in order to*** detect and correct errors committed at the ‘first level’;

**Amendment 214**  
**Monica Luisa Macovei**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading after paragraph 146 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Fraud Prevention***

**Amendment 215**  
**Monica Luisa Macovei**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 146 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***146a. Welcomes the development by DG EMPL and REGIO of smart IT tools for the prevention, detection and investigation of fraud such as ARACHNE Risk Scoring***

*Tool; points out that a pilot exercise was carried out in Belgium, Portugal and Hungary which led to the further development of the initial risk scoring tool with modules capable of enriching the data with external publicly available information; understands that the ARACHNE tool will be ready by the end of March 2013 while by the end of 2013, all Member States will be able to use the tool on a voluntary basis;*

Or. en

**Amendment 216**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 151**

*Motion for a resolution*

151. Calls on the Commission to assist Member States in rendering first-level controls and national audit authorities more effective by exchange of best practice and closer cooperation between the Commission, the Court and national authorities ('tripartite meetings'); welcomes tripartite meetings as an important part in the contradictory process aiming at enhanced cooperation among the parties resulting in a more effective detection and correction of errors, in particular with regard to the European Social Funds;

*Amendment*

151. Calls on the Commission to assist Member States in rendering first-level controls and national audit authorities more effective by exchange of best practice and closer cooperation between the Commission, the Court and national authorities ('tripartite meetings'); welcomes tripartite meetings as an important part in the contradictory process aiming at enhanced cooperation among the parties resulting in a more effective detection and correction of errors, in particular with regard to the European Social Funds; **furthermore calls on the Commission to certify national audit authorities;**

Or. en

**Amendment 217**  
**Ingeborg Gräble**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading after paragraph 152 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Bulgaria and Romania***

Or. en

**Amendment 218**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 152 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***152a. Notes with concern the interim Commission's report on the progress made by Romania under the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism, especially in the light of Rumania's capability to protect the financial interest of the Union; notes with concern the report's statement about the Romanian government and Parliament not fully respecting the principle of integrity; welcomes, therefore, the report's suggestion that constitutional requirements such as the suspension from Ministerial office on indictment should be applied; is concerned by the report's assessment that only limited progress has been achieved in the prevention and sanctioning of corruption related to public procurement; stresses, the importance of the reports suggestion that the Government materializes the appointment of a new leadership for the prosecution and the National Anti-corruption Agency (DNA); is concerned to find out that current national legislation does not foresee a possibility of a cancellation on the grounds of conflict of interest of projects that have already been executed; takes note of the report's view, in this respect,***



*that comprehensive statistics with exact amounts of confiscated assets stemming from fight against corruption should be published; deplores the findings highlighted by the report that the decisions of the National Integrity Agency (ANI) still remain under frequent question, that its personnel have been subject to frequent political and media attacks, and that Parliament failed to enforce a ANI's report despite final backing up by Court decisions; calls on the Commission steadfastly and determinedly to insist vis-à-vis the Romanian Government that the Commissions' recommendations are complied with and clarified; expects, finally, a series of measures from the Commission, in cooperation with the Romanian government, aimed at improving the integrity of the Romanian legal system;*

Or. en

**Amendment 219**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 152 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*152c. Notes with concern the Commission's interim report on the progress made by Bulgaria under the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism especially in the light of Bulgaria's capability to protect the financial interest of the Union ; notes with concern the Report's statement that the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) has not used the new powers given to it accordingly, aimed at effectively managing and leading the judiciary through a comprehensive reform process; welcomes the efforts by*

*the Bulgarian government to renew the SJC with a mandate able of implementing fundamental reform; acknowledges the fact that the new specialised structures put in place illustrate a commitment to adapting the current structures to tackle organised crime more effectively; takes note, however that the Report suggests that these new instruments have not yet delivered the expected results regarding important cases; deplores the poor results pointed out in the Report about uncovering contract killings, since of 33 contract killings monitored by the Commission since 2006, only four court cases have started, even if a number of investigations are still under way; is alarmingly astonished to discover by the Report's findings that systemic failures in law enforcement have been recently demonstrated after two prominent convicts escaped enforcement of their prison sentence; notes with great concern that investigations into alleged corruption and abuse of office by magistrates have received a particular weak response from the judiciary; notes with great concern that, as the report suggests, there are clear cases of serious violations of Union procurement rules; regrets with great concern, furthermore, the fact that a weak implementation of Public Procurement legislation could translate into an important source of corruption as well as a poor delivery of public goods with an European added value and waste of Union public money; calls on the Commission steadfastly and determinedly to insist vis-à-vis the Bulgarian Government that the Commissions' recommendations are complied with and clearer; expects, finally, a series of measures from the Commission, in cooperation with the Bulgarian government, to improve the integrity of the Bulgarian legal system;*

Or. en

**Amendment 220**  
**Ingeborg Gräble**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading after paragraph 152 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Control of Structural Funds in the Czech Republic***

Or. en

**Amendment 221**  
**Ingeborg Gräble**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 152 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***152d. Takes note that the Action plan has been fulfilled by the Czech government in 2012; takes note with concern of the centralization of the audit activities under the main audit authority in the Czech Ministry of Finance since the Court of Auditors reported this audit authority has been ineffective; is also worried since the Action Plan did not ask any changes in staff in the management of the main audit authority;***

Or. en

**Amendment 222**  
**Ingeborg Gräble**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 152 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**152e. Takes also note that the Commission has not applied any corrections due to the failure of the audit system in the Czech Republic, however, the Commission applied corrections for shortcomings in the public procurement and the selection of operations; notes that the corrections applied can be allocated to other projects; is worried about information reported by the Court of Auditors that suggest that the Czech Ministry of Finance used its role as an audit authority and certification authority to influence the final error rate; requests the Commission to report back to Parliament in detail on the matter; calls on the Commission to elaborate in cooperation with the Czech Government an Action plan that tackles the shortcomings in the Audit system at the core;**

Or. en

### **Amendment 223**

**Jens Geier**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 153**

*Motion for a resolution*

153. Is concerned by the difference in the methodologies applied by the Court for the calculation of the error rate for transactions for external relations, aid and enlargement in the general budget on the one hand and for the level of error for payments from the EDFs on the other hand; **calls on** the Court to align its methodology in order to provide the Parliament with a uniform picture of the activities in the area of the EU's external action;

*Amendment*

153. Is concerned by the difference in the methodologies applied by the Court for the calculation of the error rate for transactions for external relations, aid and enlargement in the general budget on the one hand and for the level of error for payments from the EDFs on the other hand; **takes note that** the Court **has decided** to align its methodology **from 2012 onwards** in order to provide the Parliament with a uniform picture of the activities in the area of the

EU's external action;

Or. en

**Amendment 224**

**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 156**

*Motion for a resolution*

156. **Welcomes** the creation of the European External Actions Service (EEAS); asks for a clear allocation and coordination of roles and responsibilities of the Commission and the EEAS as regards programming and implementation of the budget in third countries;

*Amendment*

156. **Following** the creation of the European External Actions Service (EEAS) asks for a clear allocation and coordination of roles and responsibilities of the Commission and the EEAS as regards programming and implementation of the budget in third countries;

Or. en

**Amendment 225**

**Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 156 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**156a. Asks the Commission to report before July 2013 on the number of NGOs to which the Union contributes but which do not generate any revenue other than funding from government agencies;**

Or. en

**Amendment 226**

**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 156 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***156a. Calls for a detailed summary of the allocation of funding in Libya; also calls for clarification of whether the subdelegation of the EU ambassador in Libya has been revoked;***

Or. de

**Amendment 227**  
**Martin Ehrenhauser**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 156 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***156a. Is concerned to find that the performance indicators for the budget support to the Republic of Haiti have not been made public; urges the Commission to make public these indicators and the respective assessments of the Government of Haiti's performance in order to qualify for budget support;***

Or. de

**Amendment 228**  
**Martin Ehrenhauser**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 156 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***156b. Notes that new criteria for budget support are set out in the Commission's policy 'The future approach to EU budget support to third countries'; calls on the***

*Commission to apply these criteria from 2013 onwards in a transparent way to the budget support for the Government of Haiti;*

Or. de

**Amendment 229**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 156 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*156b. Calls on the Commission to use a 'traffic light' system in the progress reports, for ease of reference, in order to show what has improved or deteriorated from one year to the next;*

Or. de

**Amendment 230**  
**Martin Ehrenhauser**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 156 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*156c. Deeply regrets that, in spite of what was promised, the Commission has still not published a list of EU-funded projects in Haiti; calls on the Commission to publish this list without delay and to provide an assessment of the sustainability of these projects in a five-year perspective;*

Or. de

**Amendment 231**  
**Martin Ehrenhauser**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 156 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***156d. Urges the Commission to carry out the postponed first ever overall impact evaluation of the EU's aid programme for Haiti in 2013 and to produce a report on this for the Budget Control Authority;***

Or. de

**Amendment 232**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading after paragraph 156 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Eurobarometer***

Or. de

**Amendment 233**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 156 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***156e. Is concerned about the criticisms, much voiced in scientific publications, of Eurobarometer's survey methods and calls on the Commission to give a detailed opinion of these;***

Or. de



**Amendment 234**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 156 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*156f. Is critical of the fact that Eurobarometer strategically manipulates results in its surveys by means of suggestive questions, a lack of choice of possible answers and an above-average number of positive answer categories;*

Or. de

**Amendment 235**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 156 g (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*156g. Is concerned that results obtained in this way might suggest a positive approach to integration which does not in fact exist among EU citizens and that the Commission is thereby deceiving itself, the other EU institutions and the public over the actual desire for integration among the inhabitants of the Member States;*

Or. de

**Amendment 236**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 156 h (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***156h. Calls on the Commission to arrange for future Eurobarometer surveys to be carried out by a neutral organisation which is independent of the EU institutions, as experience shows that there is often scope for manipulation when a survey involves an identity of object and subject, thus providing an opportunity to put public opinion research to the service of achieving political objectives;***

Or. de

**Amendment 237**  
**Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 158**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

158. Regrets that the great number of Commission services involved in that policy area renders decision-making and the lines of responsibilities opaque; calls on the Commission to ***designate a single Commissioner as responsible for the ITER project;***

158. Regrets that the great number of Commission services involved in that policy area renders decision-making and the lines of responsibilities opaque; calls on the Commission to ***review distribution of Commissioners' portfolios in order to better reflect competences distribution of the committees of Parliament and as it is wide spread practice in Member States;***

Or. en

**Amendment 238**  
**Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 159**

*Motion for a resolution*

159. Is concerned about the delay in dismantling the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant (INPP) in Lithuania, due to conflicts between the authorities and the contractors; **welcomes that the Commission** and the international donor **community have suspended** financial support for the project, in line with the recommendations of Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control, until the conflict has been solved;

*Amendment*

159. Is concerned about the delay in dismantling the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant (INPP) in Lithuania, due to conflicts between the authorities and the contractors; **supports Commission's** and the international donor **community's decision to suspend** financial support for the project, in line with the recommendations of Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control, until the conflict has been solved;

Or. en

**Amendment 239**  
**Zigmantas Balčytis**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 159**

*Motion for a resolution*

159. Is concerned about the delay in dismantling the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant (INPP) in Lithuania, due to conflicts between the authorities and the contractors; **welcomes** that the Commission and the international donor community have suspended financial support for the project, in line with the recommendations of Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control, until the conflict has been solved;

*Amendment*

159. Is concerned about the delay in dismantling the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant (INPP) in Lithuania, due to conflicts between the authorities and the contractors; **notes** that the Commission and the international donor community have suspended financial support for the project, in line with the recommendations of Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control, until the conflict has been solved;

Or. en

**Amendment 240**  
**Marian-Jean Marinescu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 159 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***159a. Is deeply concerned by the current deficiency in viable knowledge on the amounts necessary to complete the whole decommissioning process; acknowledges that considerable amounts are still needed in this process and deplores the fact that Member States have failed to set up the necessary mechanisms to ensure this additional funding; reiterates and stresses that the final responsibility for the safe closure of nuclear power plants lies with the Member State in which the power plant is situated; notes that failure to comply with this obligation puts Union citizens at risk;***

Or. en

**Amendment 241  
Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 159 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***159a. Notes that the EBRD commissioned expert reports from the Swedish Approval Authority (SKB), among others, which confirmed that GNS fuel elements are safe; notes with concern that this documentation for the fuel element containers, which has long been available, was not forwarded to the Lithuanian Approval Authority; notes that, as long as the fuel elements are not stored in the containers, the Ignalina power station must be administered as if it were in operation, which means that the 2 000 or so employees must continue to be financed by the EU; calls on the Commission to accept no excuses from the Lithuanian Government which would***

*cause the authorisation and the project to be further delayed; also asks that the Commission set down a rigid timetable and threaten to impose sanctions if it is not adhered to;*

Or. de

**Amendment 242**  
**Marian-Jean Marinescu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 159 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*159b. Is of the firm opinion that the Union's financial assistance must expire at the end of next programming period, i.e. in 2017 and 2020 respectively; notes that the three Member States concerned must therefore set-up the appropriate mechanisms to ensure additional funding; insists that the ex-ante conditionalities, as set out in Article 4 of the proposed Council Regulation must be adhered to; notes that in the event of non-compliance, funding should be suspended;*

Or. en

**Amendment 243**  
**Marian-Jean Marinescu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 159 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*159c. Calls on Bulgaria, Lithuania and Slovakia to establish decommissioning plans, including detailed financial envelopes, explaining how the closure of the nuclear power plants will be financed;*

*supports the idea that mitigation measures should no longer be financed under the decommissioning programmes, structural fund facilities could be used; believes that amounts should be issued directly to the Member States for concrete projects alone and only if they are related exclusively to the decommissioning activity as such;*

Or. en

**Amendment 244**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading after paragraph 159 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Galileo***

Or. en

**Amendment 245**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 159 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***159a. Is concerned by a report by the German government from the beginning of 2011, which has been quoted by the Financial Times Deutschland, which shows that the Galileo project will face further delays and cost EUR 1,5 billion extra.<sup>1</sup>***

Or. en

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<sup>1</sup> See "BBC news science and environments" from 18 January 2011

**Amendment 246**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 159 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*159b. Is worried about the Commission's mid-term review of the project from 2011 which said that EUR 3,4 billion would be not enough to complete the infrastructure resulting from the Galileo programme, owing to the increased cost of the development phase, the increased prices of launchers, the lack of competition for the award of some packages;*

Or. en

**Amendment 247**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 159 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*159c. Is concerned about reports that the real operating costs of the Galileo system will be much higher than estimated by the Commission which means that it would be necessary to subsidize the project to the tune of EUR 750 million per year;*

Or. en

**Amendment 248**  
**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 159 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**159d.** *Notes that in 2007 the Union stepped in the project after a consortium of eight European companies withdrew their investment for fear that the project's cost would spiral out of control and the revenues would be lower than originally envisaged; is concerned that the now expected revenues of the navigation system will be lower than expected in 2007;*

Or. en

**Amendment 249**

**Søren Bo Søndergaard, Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 159 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**159e.** *Notes that in context of the skyrocketing costs of Galileo there are increasing doubts on the sense of this system; notes that even the former CEO of a German company, which has a contract to build 14 satellites for the Galileo global positioning system, was quoted in a diplomatic cable exposed by Wikileaks as calling Galileo a "stupid idea that primarily serves French interests", and a waste of taxpayers' money;*

Or. en

**Amendment 250**

**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 166**



*Motion for a resolution*

166. Finds it incomprehensible that auditors of beneficiaries submit erroneous certificates on the financial statements; strongly believes that the Commission must focus on **verifying** the professional qualifications of private auditors and providing additional expertise;

*Amendment*

166. Finds it incomprehensible that auditors of beneficiaries submit erroneous certificates on the financial statements; strongly believes that the Commission must focus on **giving guidance on** the professional qualifications of private auditors and providing additional expertise;

Or. en

**Amendment 251**

**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 167**

*Motion for a resolution*

167. Notes that the Horizon 2020 programme **could introduce** significant simplifications of the rules

*Amendment*

167. **Notes the examples given by the Court of Auditors on errors in declarations of personnel and indirect costs;** notes that the Horizon 2020 programme **proposal introduced** significant simplifications of the rules **for these cost categories; considers that these simplifications are essential if there is to be a significant reduction in the error rate;**

Or. en

**Amendment 252**

**Jan Mulder**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 173**

*Motion for a resolution*

**173. Calls on the Commission not to reimburse any more travel costs of**

*Amendment*

**deleted**

*advisors to Commissioners, whose work has not produced any tangible findings until an added value of their work can be proven;*

Or. en

**Amendment 253**  
**Cornelis de Jong, Søren Bo Søndergaard**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 173 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*173a. Notes with concern the finding of the Court of Auditors that in 15 out of 28 audited cases, the information available in the Office for Administration and Payment of Individual entitlements (PMO) on the personal and family situation of the staff members was not up to date; recommends to the Commission to follow up the recommendation of the Court of Auditors to request staff to deliver at appropriate intervals documents confirming their personal situation and that it implements a system for the timely monitoring of these documents.*

Or. en

**Amendment 254**  
**Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 173 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*173b. Calls on the Commission to execute an in-depth study on a the differences in required qualifications for positions for civil servants between Union and Member*

*States and on the question of whether these differences legitimise the differences in remuneration of national vs. Union civil servants.*

Or. en

**Amendment 255**  
**Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 173 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*173c. Calls on the Commission, when conducting the in-debt study, to specifically look into the discrepancy in pay levels for civil servants of the Union and Member States with respect to the different allowances (family, expatriation, installation and resettlement allowances), annual leave, holidays, travel days, and compensation for over-time, taking the different taxation systems into account.*

Or. en

**Amendment 256**  
**Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 173 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*173d. Calls on the Commission to make an action plan to reduce or end certain allowances such as the expatriation or household allowance, in order to achieve cost saving, and to take into account the continuing deteriorating financial and economic situation in all Member States;*

**Amendment 257**  
**Cornelis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 173 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***173e. Notes with concern that the Commission is unable to give a full overview of the costs incurred for hiring external staff and temporary agents on a yearly basis; therefore requests to systematically monitor these costs and make them publically available;***

Or. en

**Amendment 258**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading after paragraph 174 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***OLAF***

Or. en

**Amendment 259**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 174 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***174a. Notes that the Director-General of OLAF has repeatedly not only directed***

*the conduct of investigations as foreseen in Article 6 of the Regulation (EC) No. 1073/1999, but has been personally involved and lead himself investigations as an investigator; urges the Director-General in future to comply with the provisions laid down in the Regulation (EC) No. 1073/1999 in casu Article 11 and Article 90a of the Staff Regulations and refrain from leading investigations himself;*

Or. en

**Amendment 260**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 174 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*174b. Is worried about several cases in 2011 for which the OLAF Director-General has denied the Supervisory Committee sufficient access to case files; emphasizes the importance of full information of the Supervisory Committee, since it endangers the fundamental rights of persons concerned by OLAF investigations and opens the possibility of indemnity claims; urges the Director-General to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and timely information of the Supervisory Committee, so that it can fulfil the role foreseen in the Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 to its full extent; welcomes the principal idea of a working arrangement between the Director-General and the OLAF Supervisory Committee; invites the Director-General and the supervisory board to explain the details of the working arrangement in a meeting of Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control;*

**Amendment 261**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 174 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***174c. Has noticed the signature of the memorandum of understanding between OLAF and the European Communities Trade Mark Association by the OLAF Director-General; is worried about a possible extension of OLAF's mandate beyond its core competences that might lead to a weakening of OLAF's investigational capacity;***

Or. en

**Amendment 262**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 174 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***174d. Has taken note of several cases where the proper treatment of persons concerned by OLAF in respect to their fundamental rights has been successfully challenged in court; is of the opinion that the supervision of OLAF's investigational activities by the Supervisory Committee needs to be strengthened but a sufficient number staff, to be nominated by them, would be made available; underlines the need of a separate budget line and separate establishment plan;***

Or. en

**Amendment 263**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 174 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*174e. Is worried about the functionality of OLAF's Supervisory Committee, since one of its Members has withdrawn temporarily from her position in the Committee, being subject to investigations in her home country; calls on the Supervisory Committee to remedy the situation, so that the Committee is again fully manned and functional as soon as possible and functional without delay;*

Or. en

**Amendment 264**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading after paragraph 174 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Secretary General*

Or. en

**Amendment 265**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 174 g (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*174g. Recalls that the Secretary General*

*assured the Budgetary Control Committee in her hearing in January 2013 that her work regarding the drafting of the tobacco directive considered only horizontal issues; takes note of the correspondence of the Secretary General with DG SANCO, which goes well beyond horizontal issues, referring to an agreement between the Secretary General and DG SANCO before inter-service consultation has been launched; calls on the Commission to inform Parliament in detail about the content of the agreement and the reasoning behind the intervention of the Secretary General in that matter;*

Or. en

**Amendment 266**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 180 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*180a. Notes that the Union is a under signatory to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC); deems the implementation of Article 5(3) as a legally binding obligation to the Union; calls on the Commission to report on how the provisions of Article 5(3) have been implemented in the Union and its institutions, especially considering the following question: how far does implementation follow guidelines set by the WHO to Article 5(3); questions where and why the Commission has deviated from those guidelines?;*

Or. en



**Amendment 267**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 180 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***180b. Draws the Commission's attention to the fact that the amount of EUR 85,9 million repaid by Belgium to Parliament at the beginning of 2010 and earmarked for building projects is to be considered as external assigned revenue under Article 21 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012;***

Or. en

**Amendment 268**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 180 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***180c. Calls on the Commission to inform the Budgetary Authority on an annual bases about the development of accounts outside the Union budget including their cash-flow development as well as the purpose of each account;***

Or. en

**Amendment 269**  
**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 184 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***184a. Calls on the Commission, in an annex to each annual Evaluation Report, to publish a detailed schedule of all planned performance audits and evaluations for the foreseeable future; calls on the Commission to ensure that during the course of a MFF period, all programme areas are evaluated and the results published as annexes to the Evaluation Report;***

Or. en

**Amendment 270**

**Philip Bradbourn, Ryszard Czarnecki**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 184 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***184b. Calls on the Commission to ensure that evaluations are conducted independently; notes that the resulting reports should be shared as soon as possible with the relevant committees of Parliament;***

Or. en

**Amendment 271**

**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 190 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***190a. Reminds the Commission of the rules concerning the rotation of senior staff in the Commission administration;***

*confirms the need for these requirements in order to create transparency and avoid taking information hostage; calls on the Commission to implement this principle across the board and underlines the importance of leading by example and the taking of responsibility at the highest levels;*

Or. de

**Amendment 272**

**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 197 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*197a. Notes that Eurostat again failed to deal properly with sensitive information, for example in the case of the data on Greece; calls on the Commission to undertake more stringent quality reviews and ensure that Eurostat guarantees that it will be accurate in its presentation of statistical data; calls for a report on this matter to be produced by March 2014;*

Or. de

**Amendment 273**

**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 201**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

201. Regrets that the launching of the Strategy Europe 2020 in 2010 did not coincide with the time frame of the new programming period **2013-2020** and deplores that this will cause some delay in

201. Regrets that the launching of the Strategy Europe 2020 in 2010 did not coincide with the time frame of the new programming period **2014-2020** and deplores that this will cause some delay in

the achievement of the strategy;

the achievement of the strategy, *in those cases where the Member States have not managed to adapt their national and European funded programmes for sustainable, smart and inclusive growth*;

Or. en

**Amendment 274**  
**Martin Ehrenhauser**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading and paragraph 204 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Transparency***

***204a. Calls on the Commission to publish, on its website, how many classified documents it has produced, broken down by level of classification, and how many classified documents, broken down by level of classification, it has received from (or forwarded to) individual bodies, other institutions and Member States of the EU and third parties;***

Or. de

**Amendment 275**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 204 – indent 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

– in time for the 2012 discharge procedure the Commission should report on how it intends to secure European added value of EU spending in accordance with the principles set out by the Court in point 10.31 of its 2011 Annual Report (scale and effects of the expenditure, trans-frontier

– in time for the 2012 discharge procedure the Commission should report on how it intends to secure European added value of EU spending in accordance with the principles set out by the Court in point 10.31 of its 2011 Annual Report (scale and effects of the expenditure, trans-frontier

effects, reasonable concentration and selective approach to expenditure outside the Union);

effects, reasonable concentration and selective approach to expenditure outside the Union) ***and to develop corresponding, meaningful performance indicators;***

Or. de

**Amendment 276**  
**Bart Staes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 209 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***209a. Considers that by June 2013, the Council will produce a roadmap on the multiple seats of Parliament, whereby Parliament's Secretary-General and its Bureau will provide Members with up-to-date figures and information on the financial and environmental impact of the multiple seat arrangement; wonders if it is possible that by the above mentioned date, the Commission provides information on the total costs, on an annual basis, of its presence in Strasbourg during session weeks;***

Or. en

**Amendment 277**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital A**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

A. whereas Europe is facing ***an economic*** and financial crisis ***in addition to*** a crisis of confidence in ***its institutions, a situation which requires Parliament to be particularly rigorous when scrutinising***

A. whereas Europe is facing ***a serious budgetary*** and financial crisis ***which may give rise to*** a crisis of confidence in ***the Union, and whereas it is important that, through the Commission, which***

*the accounts of the Commission;*

*implements the Union budget, the European Union should set a good example of sound public management; whereas this sound public management is vital to the Union's retention of its AAA rating, which is important, particularly to meet the commitment to provide EUR 60 billion in guarantees for the European Stability Mechanism;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 278**  
**Philip Bradbourn**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital B**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*B. whereas austerity measures triggered by the economic and financial crisis could have a negative impact on error rates when Member States downsize their administrations;*

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 279**  
**Jean-Pierre Audy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital B**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*B. whereas austerity measures triggered by the economic and financial crisis could have a negative impact on error rates when Member States downsize their administrations;*

*deleted*

Or. fr

**Amendment 280**  
**Jens Geier**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital B**

*Motion for a resolution*

B. whereas austerity measures triggered by the economic and financial crisis could have a negative impact on error rates when Member States downsize their administrations;

*Amendment*

B. whereas austerity measures triggered by the economic and financial crisis could have a negative impact on error rates when Member States **and the Commission** downsize their administrations;

Or. en

**Amendment 281**  
**Philip Bradbourn**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D**

*Motion for a resolution*

***D. whereas the EU Member States are currently negotiating the new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2014-2020, during which a number of Member States, advocating 'better spending', would like to push through cuts in the Union budget; whereas at the same time Member States, amongst them many 'friends of better spending', neither shoulder a sufficient degree of responsibility for the implementation of EU funds nor agree to discuss in the Council, in the form of a peer review, the execution of the Union budget and the protection of the Union's financial interests;***

*Amendment*

***deleted***

Or. en

**Amendment 282**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***D. whereas the EU Member States are currently negotiating the new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2014-2020, during which a number of Member States, advocating 'better spending', would like to push through cuts in the Union budget; whereas at the same time Member States, amongst them many 'friends of better spending', neither shoulder a sufficient degree of responsibility for the implementation of EU funds nor agree to discuss in the Council, in the form of a peer review, the execution of the Union budget and the protection of the Union's financial interests;***

***deleted***

Or. en

**Amendment 283**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***D. whereas the EU Member States are currently negotiating the new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2014-2020, during which a number of Member States, advocating "better spending", would like to push through cuts in the Union budget; whereas at the same time Member States, amongst them many "friends of better spending", neither shoulder a sufficient degree of responsibility for the implementation of EU funds nor agree to***

***D. whereas the EU Member States are currently negotiating the new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2014-2020;***



*discuss in the Council, in the form of a peer review, the execution of the Union budget and the protection of the Union's financial interests;*

Or. de

**Amendment 284**  
**Monika Panayotova**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Da. whereas in a situation of limitation of resources, caused by the economic and financial crisis, considers the need for the so-called "Intelligent solidarity" - the use of Union funds to implement reforms, observe financial discipline and ensure political and economic stability;*

Or. en

**Amendment 285**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital K a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Ka. whereas the Committee on Budgetary Control should be more closely involved in monitoring Commission spending in future; looks forward to closer cooperation with the European Court of Auditors in order to produce wide-ranging proposals on improving efficiency in audit procedures;*

Or. de

**Amendment 286**  
**Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital K b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Kb. whereas the powers and resources of the Committee on Budgetary Control in the discharge procedure should be examined and set out in detail in an own-initiative report;***

Or. de