



**2015/2163(DEC)**

15.1.2016

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 18**

**Draft opinion**  
**Cristian Dan Preda**  
(PE571.792v01-00)

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2014, Section X - European External Action Service  
(2015/2163(DEC))

AM\_Com\_NonLegOpinion

**Amendment 1**  
**Angel Dzhambazki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Remains concerned about continuing imbalances in the staffing profile of the EEAS regarding gender and nationality; welcomes recent progress but notes that **gender imbalances**, particularly in higher grades and in management, remain considerable; reiterates its concerns about the disproportional number of high-grade posts in the EEAS;

*Amendment*

2. Remains concerned about continuing imbalances in the staffing profile of the EEAS regarding gender and nationality; welcomes recent progress but notes that **imbalances in those two aspects**, particularly in higher grades and in management, remain considerable; reiterates its concerns about the disproportional number of high-grade posts in the EEAS;

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Georgios Epitideios**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Remains concerned about continuing imbalances in the staffing profile of the EEAS regarding gender and nationality; welcomes recent progress but notes that gender imbalances, particularly in higher grades and in management, remain considerable; reiterates its concerns about the disproportional number of high-grade posts in the EEAS;

*Amendment*

2. *(Does not affect the English version)*

Or. el

**Amendment 3**  
**Miroslav Poche**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Remains concerned about continuing imbalances in the staffing profile of the EEAS regarding gender and nationality; welcomes recent progress but notes that gender imbalances, particularly in higher grades and in management, remain considerable; reiterates its concerns about the disproportional number of high-grade posts in the EEAS;

*Amendment*

2. Remains concerned about continuing imbalances in the staffing profile of the EEAS regarding gender and nationality; welcomes recent progress but notes that gender **and nationality** imbalances, particularly in higher grades and in management, remain considerable; reiterates its concerns about the disproportional number of high-grade posts in the EEAS;

Or. cs

**Amendment 4**  
**Urmas Paet**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

***3. Emphasises that the staffing formula establishing the balance between staff drawn from Member States and from the community institutions should apply to all levels of the hierarchy, in particular also to Heads of Delegation where Member States diplomats are strongly overrepresented; also underlines that there is still an overreliance on seconded national experts, which further circumvents the staffing formula; urges the EEAS to work towards reducing this overreliance;***

*Amendment*

***deleted***

Or. et

**Amendment 5**  
**Georgios Epitideios**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3. Emphasises that the staffing formula establishing the balance between staff drawn from Member States and from the community institutions should apply to all levels of the hierarchy, in particular also to Heads of Delegation where Member States diplomats are strongly overrepresented; also underlines that there is still an overreliance on seconded national experts, which further circumvents the staffing formula; urges the EEAS to work towards reducing this overreliance;**

*deleted*

Or. el

**Amendment 6**  
**Angel Dzhambazki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

3. Emphasises that the staffing formula establishing the balance between staff drawn from Member States and from the community institutions should apply to all levels of the hierarchy, ***in particular also to Heads of Delegation where Member States diplomats are strongly overrepresented***; also underlines that there is still an overreliance on seconded national experts, which further circumvents the staffing formula; urges the EEAS to work towards reducing this overreliance;

3. Emphasises that the staffing formula establishing the balance between staff drawn from Member States and from the community institutions should apply to all levels of the hierarchy; also underlines that there is still an overreliance on seconded national experts, which further circumvents the staffing formula; urges the EEAS to work towards reducing this overreliance;

Or. en

**Amendment 7**  
**Urmas Paet**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***3a. Considers it essential that, when a crisis occurs, the EU's external offices should also provide consular services for EU citizens;***

Or. et

**Amendment 8**  
**Sabine Lösing**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4. Emphasises that EU Heads of Delegation continue to be overburdened with administrative tasks due to the inflexibility of the financial regulation; welcomes in this context the discussion on the possible pilot project to establish a regional administrative support centre for Europe that will alleviate some of these burdens and may form part of a broader future solution; repeats its call on the Commission and the EEAS to consider all solutions to this problem, which could also entail possible changes to the financial regulation;***

***4. Regrets the incorporation of the EU Delegations in the EEAS, in particular because of the lack of parliamentary control over the EEAS; further regrets the shift of significant competences towards the EEAS and rejects any further shifts of competences and changes and/or flexibilisation of the financial regulation as parliamentary control will be further undermined;***

Or. en

**Amendment 9**  
**Georgios Epitideios**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Emphasises that EU Heads of Delegation continue to be overburdened with administrative tasks due to the inflexibility of the financial regulation; **welcomes in this context the discussion on the possible pilot project to establish a regional administrative support centre for Europe that will alleviate some of these burdens and may form part of a broader future solution; repeats its call on the Commission and the EEAS to consider all solutions to this problem, which could also entail possible changes to the financial regulation;**

*Amendment*

4. Emphasises that EU Heads of Delegation continue to be overburdened with administrative tasks due to the inflexibility of the financial regulation;

Or. el

**Amendment 10**

**Angel Dzhambazki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Emphasises that EU Heads of Delegation continue to be overburdened with administrative tasks due to the inflexibility of the financial regulation; **welcomes in this context the discussion on the possible pilot project to establish a regional administrative support centre for Europe that will alleviate some of these burdens and may form part of a broader future solution;** repeats its call on the Commission and the EEAS to consider all solutions to this problem, which could also entail possible changes to the financial regulation;

*Amendment*

4. Emphasises that EU Heads of Delegation continue to be overburdened with administrative tasks due to the inflexibility of the financial regulation; repeats its call on the Commission and the EEAS to consider all solutions to this problem, which could also entail possible changes to the financial regulation; **believes, however, that new solutions should be aimed at reducing general bureaucratic tasks imposed on Heads of Delegation and improving overall efficiency of staff rather than at creating new administrative units;**

Or. en

**Amendment 11**  
**Neena Gill**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Emphasises that EU Heads of Delegation continue to be overburdened with administrative tasks due to the inflexibility of the financial regulation; welcomes in this context the discussion on the possible pilot project to establish a regional administrative support centre for Europe that will alleviate some of these burdens and may form part of a broader future solution; repeats its call on the Commission and the EEAS to consider all solutions to this problem, which could also entail possible changes to the financial regulation;

*Amendment*

4. Emphasises that EU Heads of Delegation continue to be overburdened with administrative tasks due to the inflexibility of the financial regulation; welcomes in this context the discussion on the possible pilot project to establish a regional administrative support centre for Europe that will alleviate some of these burdens and may form part of a broader future solution; repeats its call on the Commission and the EEAS to consider all solutions to this problem, which could also entail possible changes to the financial regulation, *while stressing that high standards in terms of the quality of financial management should prevail*;

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Fabio Massimo Castaldo, Ignazio Corrao**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4a. Deplores the fact that Member States and the EEAS have failed to take full advantage of the potential synergies between their diplomatic networks, that there is still only very limited sharing of premises between EU delegations and Member State diplomatic representations and that political reports are produced jointly only on very rare occasions; calls on the EEAS to submit plans for premises to be shared wherever possible, as well as annual figures for the number of reports*

*drawn up in consultation with Member State representations;*

Or. it

**Amendment 13**  
**Fabio Massimo Castaldo, Ignazio Corrao**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4b. Calls on the EEAS to simplify current budget arrangements and make them less rigid, so as to allow flexible but effective use to be made of delegation staff in the interests of the Union;*

Or. it

**Amendment 14**  
**Angel Dzhambazki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5a. Stresses the importance of strengthening the transparency and accountability of EU funding to NGO's, including in cases where funding is allocated to co-applicants and affiliated entities; underlines that EU funding should solely be allocated to projects run by organisations, including affiliated entities, that abide by and respect the EU's basic values as well as Article 4 of the General Conditions applicable to European Union-financed grant contracts for external actions;*

Or. en

**Amendment 15**  
**Neena Gill**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5a. Reiterates the need to improve cooperation between Member States in their foreign and security policy in order to achieve cost savings; stresses that this is of crucial importance in view of the significant decrease in the EU's collective performance in these areas which threatens to undermine the ability of Member States to respond decisively to shared security challenges during a period in which these are markedly on the rise;*

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Cristian Dan Preda**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5a. Notes that the European Court of Auditors emphasised the existence of some continuing weaknesses in the management of family allowances, a comment that has been repeated for several years in a row; urges the EEAS to take measures to address these shortcomings to avoid a reoccurrence in future years;*

Or. en

**Amendment 17**  
**Zigmantas Balčytis**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5a. Calls for a sped-up procedure on the adoption of the operational guidelines on whistle-blowing which has been initiated;***

Or. en

**Amendment 18**  
**Neena Gill**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***5b. Urges the EEAS and the Commission to implement lessons learnt from the Eulex case in close coordination with Parliament, jointly exploring ways to implement the recommendations contained in the Jacqué report commissioned by the HR/VP and address any outstanding issues;***

Or. en