



**2016/2151(DEC)**

23.1.2017

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 35**

**Draft opinion**

**Petr Ježek**

(PE595.387v01-00)

Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission  
(2016/2151(DEC))



**Amendment 1**  
**Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Welcomes the conclusion of the Court of Auditors that the consolidated accounts of the Union present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Union as at 31 December 2015; notes that payments were materially affected by an estimated error rate of 3,8 %; welcomes the reduction from *the figure of 4,4 % in 2014*; encourages the future simplification of the financial regulation of the Union in order to succeed in attaining the target rate of 2 %;

*Amendment*

1. Welcomes the conclusion of the Court of Auditors that the consolidated accounts of the Union present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Union as at 31 December 2015; notes that payments were materially affected by an estimated error rate of 3,8 %; welcomes the reduction from **4,4 % in 2014**; **stresses that although improved, the overall estimated level of error continues to exceed significantly ECA's benchmark; notes that a large part of the variation in the estimated level of error results from the difference between requests and cost reimbursements**; encourages the future simplification of the financial regulation of the Union in order to succeed in attaining the target rate of 2 %; **urges the Commission to better improve its quantification of amounts at risk and corrective capacity**;

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Eleftherios Synadinos**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. **Welcomes** the conclusion of the Court of Auditors that the consolidated accounts of the Union present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Union as at 31 December 2015; notes that payments were materially affected by an estimated error rate of 3,8 %; **welcomes** the reduction from the figure of 4,4 % in

*Amendment*

1. **Acknowledges** the conclusion of the Court of Auditors that the consolidated accounts of the Union present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Union as at 31 December 2015; notes that payments were materially affected by an estimated error rate of 3,8 %; **expresses measured satisfaction regarding** the

2014; *encourages the future* simplification of the financial regulation of the Union in order to succeed in attaining the target rate of 2 %;

reduction from the figure of 4,4 % in 2014; *stresses the need for* simplification of the financial regulation of the Union in order to succeed in attaining the target rate of 2 %;

Or. el

**Amendment 3**  
**Gilles Lebreton, Marine Le Pen**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

1. Welcomes the conclusion of the Court of Auditors that the consolidated accounts of the Union present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Union as at 31 December 2015; *notes* that payments were materially affected by an estimated error rate of 3,8 %; welcomes the reduction from the figure of 4,4 % in 2014; encourages the future simplification of the financial regulation of the Union in order to succeed in attaining the target rate of 2 %;

*Amendment*

1. Welcomes the conclusion of the Court of Auditors that the consolidated accounts of the Union present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Union as at 31 December 2015; *regrets the fact* that payments were materially affected by an estimated error rate of 3,8 %; welcomes, *nevertheless*, the reduction from the figure of 4,4 % in 2014; encourages the future simplification of the financial regulation of the Union in order to succeed in attaining the target rate of 2 %;

Or. fr

**Amendment 4**  
**Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin**

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

*Draft opinion*

*(a) Notes that 12 cases of suspected fraud were forwarded to OLAF; notes with concern that the most frequent instances of suspected fraud concerned conflicts of interest and the artificial creation of conditions to receive subsidy*

*Amendment*

*followed by declarations of costs not meeting the eligibility criteria; regrets however that ECA failed to provide concrete information on the Member States where most suspected fraud cases were found and the results of these investigations; urges the European Commission to draft special reports on fraud and conflict of interests.*

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Urges the Commission to strengthen its rules against "revolving doors" by providing and applying dissuasive penalties; calls upon Commission to set up a mandatory lobby register for all EU institutions, aimed at closing all loopholes concerning the activities of individuals and companies working on influencing EU decision-taking; urges the Commission to make all information on lobby influence available free of charge and easily accessible to the public through an online database.*

Or. en

**Amendment 6**  
**Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*(b) Calls on the Commission to draft and submit to the discharge authority a*

*track record of cases of conflicts of interest identified;*

Or. en

**Amendment 7**  
**Eva Joly**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1 a. Regrets that the Commission's audits of a selection of Member States' management and control systems used for the SOLID programmes did not include tests of the effectiveness of internal controls over most key processes (selection and award procedures, project monitoring, payments and accounting), but were rather focused on the description of those processes; notes that there is a risk that some annual programmes with ineffective control systems might be considered by the Commission to provide reasonable assurance and will not be the focus of the Commission's ex post audits; calls on the Commission to ensure that audits cover tests of controls on most key processes;*

Or. en

**Amendment 8**  
**Barbara Spinelli, Malin Björk**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2. Recalls that 2015 was extraordinarily challenging for Union home affairs policies, particularly in the field of migration, with 1,8 million*

*deleted*

*irregular arrivals at the Union's borders, as well as in the field of security, with a series of terror attacks in several Member States; acknowledges the central role of DG-HOME in developing policy responses and in mobilising staff and emergency funding to support the most affected Member States;*

Or. en

**Amendment 9**  
**Eva Joly**

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

*Draft opinion*

2. *Recalls that 2015 was extraordinarily challenging for Union home affairs policies, particularly in the field of migration, with 1,8 million irregular arrivals at the Union's borders, as well as in the field of security, with a series of terror attacks in several Member States; acknowledges the central role of DG-HOME in developing policy responses and in mobilising staff and emergency funding to support the most affected Member States;*

*Amendment*

2. *Acknowledges the role of DG-HOME in developing policy responses in the fields of migration and security and in mobilising staff and emergency funding to support the most affected Member States;*

Or. en

**Amendment 10**  
**Gilles Lebreton, Marine Le Pen**

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

*Draft opinion*

2. Recalls that 2015 was extraordinarily challenging for Union home affairs policies, particularly in the field of migration, with 1,8 million

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that 2015 was extraordinarily challenging for Union home affairs policies, particularly in the field of migration, with 1,8 million

irregular arrivals at the Union's borders, as well as in the field of security, with a series of terror attacks in several Member States; ***acknowledges the central role of DG-HOME in developing policy responses and in mobilising staff and emergency funding to support the most affected Member States;***

irregular arrivals at the Union's borders, as well as in the field of security, with a series of terror attacks in several Member States;

Or. fr

**Amendment 11**  
**Caterina Chinnici, Maria Grapini**

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

*Draft opinion*

2. Recalls that 2015 was extraordinarily challenging for Union home affairs policies, particularly in the field of migration, ***with 1,8 million irregular arrivals at the Union's borders,*** as well as in the field of security, ***with a series of terror attacks in several Member States;*** acknowledges the central role of DG-HOME in developing policy responses and in mobilising staff and emergency funding to support the most affected Member States;

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that 2015 was extraordinarily challenging for Union home affairs policies, particularly in the field of migration, as well as in the field of security; acknowledges the central role of DG-HOME in developing policy responses and in mobilising staff and emergency funding to support the most affected Member States;

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Eleftherios Synadinos**

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

*Draft opinion*

2. Recalls that 2015 was extraordinarily challenging for Union home affairs policies, particularly in the field of migration, with 1,8 million

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that 2015 was extraordinarily challenging for Union home affairs policies, particularly in the field of ***irregular migration management,***

irregular arrivals at the Union's borders, as well as in the field of security, with a series of terror attacks in several Member States; acknowledges the central role of DG-HOME in developing policy responses and in mobilising staff and emergency funding to support the most affected Member States;

with 1,8 million irregular arrivals at the Union's borders, as well as in the field of security, with a series of terror attacks in several Member States; acknowledges the central role of DG-HOME in developing policy responses and in mobilising staff and emergency funding to support the most affected Member States;

Or. el

### **Amendment 13** **Eleftherios Synadinos**

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

##### *Draft opinion*

3. Regrets that key performance indicators in DG-HOME's annual activity report do not *cover* the volume of people assisted, resettled, relocated and returned in 2015; regrets the lack of indicators to evaluate the effect of measures adopted to reinforce coordination and cooperation between national law enforcement authorities;

##### *Amendment*

3. Regrets that key performance indicators in DG-HOME's annual activity report do not *disclose* the volume of people assisted *and the very low numbers* resettled, relocated and returned in 2015; regrets the lack of indicators to evaluate the effect of measures adopted to reinforce coordination and cooperation between national law enforcement authorities;

Or. el

### **Amendment 14** **Gilles Lebreton, Marine Le Pen**

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

##### *Draft opinion*

3. *Regrets* that key performance indicators in DG-HOME's annual activity report do not cover the volume of people assisted, resettled, relocated and returned in 2015; regrets the lack of indicators to evaluate the effect of measures adopted to reinforce coordination and cooperation

##### *Amendment*

3. *Deeply regrets the fact* that key performance indicators in DG-HOME's annual activity report do not cover the volume of people assisted, resettled, relocated and returned in 2015; regrets the lack of indicators to evaluate the effect of measures adopted to reinforce coordination

between national law enforcement  
authorities;

and cooperation between national law  
enforcement authorities;

Or. fr

**Amendment 15**  
**Caterina Chinnici, Maria Grapini**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**4. Encourages the development of  
clearer political priorities with more  
concrete translation into operational  
priorities;**

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Barbara Spinelli**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**4. Encourages the development of  
clearer political priorities with more  
concrete translation into operational  
priorities;**

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 17**  
**Tomáš Zdechovský, Monika Hohlmeier, Patricija Šulin**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

4. Encourages the development of clearer political priorities with more concrete translation into operational priorities;

4. Encourages the development of clearer **and long-term** political priorities with more concrete translation into operational priorities; ***in this respect stresses the importance of closer cooperation with other bodies, especially the Agencies;***

Or. en

**Amendment 18**  
**Gilles Lebreton, Marine Le Pen**

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

*Draft opinion*

4. ***Encourages*** the development of clearer political priorities ***with more concrete translation into operational*** priorities;

*Amendment*

4. ***Calls for*** the development of clearer political priorities;

Or. fr

**Amendment 19**  
**Eleftherios Synadinos**

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

*Draft opinion*

4. ***Encourages*** the development of clearer political priorities with more concrete translation into operational priorities;

*Amendment*

4. ***Notes*** the development of clearer political priorities with more concrete translation into operational priorities;

Or. el

**Amendment 20**  
**Eleftherios Synadinos**

**Draft opinion**

## Paragraph 5

### *Draft opinion*

5. *Stresses* that financial amounts due to be paid in the coming years are high; recalls that the Commission has not yet provided a cash flow forecast for the next 7 to 10 years and encourages the Commission to do so;

### *Amendment*

5. *Notes* that financial amounts due to be paid in the coming years are high; recalls that the Commission has not yet provided a cash flow forecast for the next 7 to 10 years and encourages the Commission to do so, *especially following the UK decision to leave the EU and the possibility of further similar decisions*;

Or. el

## Amendment 21

Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin

### Draft opinion Paragraph 5

#### *Draft opinion*

5. *Stresses* that financial amounts due to be paid in the coming years are high; recalls that the Commission has not yet provided a cash flow forecast for the next 7 to 10 years and *encourages* the Commission to do so;

#### *Amendment*

5. *Notes with concern* that financial amounts due to be paid in the coming years are high; recalls that the Commission has not yet provided a cash flow forecast for the next 7 to 10 years and *urges* the Commission to do so;

Or. en

## Amendment 22

Gilles Lebreton, Marine Le Pen

### Draft opinion Paragraph 6

#### *Draft opinion*

6. *Regrets* the lack of alignment of the Commission's Information Security governance structures with recognised best practices (as per IAS audit report).

#### *Amendment*

6. *Deeply regrets* the lack of alignment of the Commission's Information Security governance structures with recognised best practices (as per IAS audit report).

**Amendment 23**  
**Eva Joly**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 a. Shares the Court's assessment that the proliferation of financial mechanisms which are not directly funded by the EU budget nor audited by the Court poses risks both for accountability and the coordination of EU policies and operations<sup>1a</sup>;**

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**<sup>1a</sup> European Court of Auditors, Annual report on the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2015, together with the institutions' replies, p. 74**

Or. en

**Amendment 24**  
**Barbara Spinelli**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 a. Shares the Court's assessment that the proliferation of financial mechanisms which are not directly funded by the EU budget nor audited by the Court poses risks both for accountability and the coordination of EU policies and operations<sup>1a</sup>.**

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**<sup>1a</sup> European Court of Auditors, Annual report on the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2015,**

*together with the institutions' replies, p.  
74*

Or. en

**Amendment 25**  
**Eva Joly**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 b.** *Notes that the European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 9/2016: EU external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Neighbourhood countries until 2014<sup>1a</sup> concludes that the total amount of expenditure charged to the EU budget could not be established in the course of the audit, and that it was unclear whether expenditure had been directed in line with the intended geographical and thematic priorities; questions whether this was still the case for the year 2015; calls on the Commission to develop quality and result-oriented indicators aimed at assessing the quality and results obtained through the use of funds spent in its external migration policies;*

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<sup>1a</sup> *European Court of Auditors, Special Report No 9/2016: EU external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Neighbourhood countries until 2014, p. 7*

Or. en

**Amendment 26**  
**Barbara Spinelli, Malin Björk**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

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*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 b.** *Requests the Court of Auditors to provide a specific assessment for spending under MFF Headings 3 (Security and citizenship) in the coming years.*

Or. en

**Amendment 27**  
**Barbara Spinelli**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 c.** *Notes the Court's assessment that the EU's external migration spending charged to the EU budget until 2014 could not be established in the course of the audit, nor was it clear whether expenditure had been directed in line with the intended geographical and thematic priorities; questions whether this was still the case for the year 2015.*

*Shares the Court's view that relevant, coherent and timely indicators are an essential tool for guiding and assessing a policy and the related instruments. Notes in this regard that the Court found little evidence of precise and systematic indicators geared to each intervention level, and a lack of consistency between the indicators at the various policy levels. Calls therefore on the Commission to develop quality and result-oriented indicators aimed at assessing the quality and results obtained through the use of funds spent in its external migration policies<sup>1a</sup>.*

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<sup>1a</sup> *European Court of Auditors, Special Report No 9/2016: EU external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and*

**Amendment 28**  
**Eva Joly**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 c.** *Believes the positive impact of the EU migration funds relies on processes at national and EU level to ensure transparency, effective monitoring and accountability; calls for the introduction of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in itinere and not only ex post which ensure effective expenditure and implementation of policy objectives; calls on the Commission to ensure that result indicators and measurable targets based on the activities undertaken are defined at policy and project levels; calls for the establishment of stable and comparable qualitative and quantitative indicators; believes the European Court of Auditors should be monitoring the use of funds throughout the project cycle and not only at the very end;*

Or. en

**Amendment 29**  
**Barbara Spinelli**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 d.** *Notes the Court's assessment that Europe's two main spending instruments in the area of external migration, i.e. the*

*TPMA and the ENPI, concentrated most of their activity on the prevention or detection of irregular immigration (including border control). Is concerned that security and border protection spending supersedes other objectives highlighted by the global approach, including the development of the link between migration and development, the development needs of countries of origin and migrants' rights<sup>1a</sup>.*

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*<sup>1a</sup> European Court of Auditors, Special Report No 9/2016: EU external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Neighbourhood countries until 2014*

Or. en

**Amendment 30**  
**Barbara Spinelli**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6 e. Expresses concerns over the Court's finding that, while most of the audited projects did address human rights, directly or indirectly, in their objectives these were not always successfully implemented. Examples cited by the Court were the promotion of migrants' rights in Morocco and Algeria and the construction of migrant reception centres to comply with international standards in the Ukrainian readmissions programme. The Court also mentioned the SaharaMed project, which received 10 million euro in funding to improve capacity in tackling irregular immigration and preventing and intercepting irregular immigrants in the Mediterranean area, but did not include precautionary measures to guarantee respect for*

*migrants' rights, either through activities or the purchase of equipment<sup>1a</sup>.*

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*<sup>1a</sup> European Court of Auditors, Special Report No 9/2016: EU external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Neighbourhood countries until 2014*

Or. en

**Amendment 31**  
**Barbara Spinelli, Malin Björk**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 f (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6 f. Notes the Court's assessment that anti-discrimination and anti-gypsyism have not been provided enough attention. Shares the Court's recommendation to Member States to include indicators and target values which deal with anti-discrimination and, more specifically, anti-gypsyism in line with the requirements of the racial equality directive<sup>1a</sup> ;*

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*<sup>1a</sup> European Court of Auditors, Special Report No 14/2016: EU policy initiatives and financial support for Roma integration: significant progress made over the last decade, but additional efforts needed on the ground, pp.65-66*

Or. en

**Amendment 32**  
**Barbara Spinelli, Malin Björk**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 g (new)**

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**6 g.** *Notes the Court's assessment that the need for active participation by civil society organisations, in particular representatives of the Roma community itself, was not always taken into account in the selected Member States when National Roma Integration Strategies were being drafted. Shares the Court's recommendation to Member States to ensure that civil society organisations including Roma representatives are systematically consulted and included when Roma integration measures are being planned and implemented<sup>1a</sup>.*

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<sup>1a</sup> *European Court of Auditors, Special Report No 14/2016: EU policy initiatives and financial support for Roma integration: significant progress made over the last decade, but additional efforts needed on the ground, pp.65-66. Concerning the Italian National Roma Integration Strategy, see: <http://www.agenziaradicale.com/index.php/diritti-e-liberta/4370-campi-nomadi-a-roma-la-montagna-ha-partorito-un-topolino>*

Or. en

**Amendment 33**  
**Barbara Spinelli**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 h (new)**

**6 h.** *Believes the positive impact of the EU migration funds relies on processes at national and EU level to ensure transparency, effective monitoring and accountability. It is hence imperative to introduce monitoring and evaluation*

*mechanisms in itinere and not only ex post which secure effective expenditure and assess whether the EU is attaining its policy objectives. Calls therefore on the Commission to ensure that result indicators and measurable targets based on the activities undertaken are defined at policy and project levels. Qualitative and quantitative indicators shall be established, be stable overtime and be comparable in order to measure the EU funds' impact and the achievement of their objectives. Quantified data should be systematically collected. Believes the European Court of Auditors should be monitoring throughout the project cycle and not only at the very end*

Or. en

**Amendment 34**  
**Barbara Spinelli, Malin Björk**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 i (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 i. Recalls that the fair and transparent distribution of funding between the different objectives of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund was a priority for Parliament during negotiations leading to the adoption of that fund; calls on the Commission accordingly to increase the number of budget lines under the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund to facilitate a better readability and transparency of how the financial resources allocated to the different objectives and thus to those budgetary lines will be spent; calls, in particular, on the Commission to separate expenditure on enhancing fair return strategies from expenditure on legal migration and from promoting the effective integration of third-country nationals in all future draft budgets as**

*proposed in the LIBE opinion for the  
2015 Budget<sup>1a</sup> ;*

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*<sup>1a</sup> §12 of EP budget opinion 2015*

Or. en

**Amendment 35**  
**Barbara Spinelli, Malin Björk**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 j (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***6 j. Calls for EU development funds  
and humanitarian aid not be linked to  
partner countries' capacity and/or  
willingness to collaborate in migration  
control e.g. through readmission clauses***

Or. en