



2018/2194(DEC)

19.11.2018

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) for the financial year 2017
(2018/2194(DEC))

Rapporteur for opinion: Romeo Franz

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the Court of Auditors' conclusions that the annual accounts of the Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) ('the Agency') present fairly its financial position on 31 December 2017 and that its transactions are legal and regular;
2. Stresses that the revision of the mandate of the Agency and its move to Budapest in 2016 triggered modifications to the Agency's accounting procedures; regrets that since 2013 the accounting system of the Agency has not been re-validated as it should normally have been the case; requests the Agency to take the necessary measures without delay;
3. Reminds the agency of the need to address its high staff turnover, as it may impact its business continuity and the Agency's ability to implement the activities foreseen in its work programme; regrets that this issue opened in 2016 by the Court could not be closed in 2017;
4. Regrets that the Agency only publishes vacancy notices on its own website, in social media and in the inter-agency network and not on the website of the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO); acknowledges the additional translation costs incurred but points out that there are only a limited number of vacancies concerned in the specific case of the Agency; agrees with the Court of Auditors that this would be relevant and useful as EPSO publications increase transparency and publicity and allow citizens to identify vacancies published by the different European institutions and agencies collectively; insists therefore that the Agency also publishes its vacancy notices on the EPSO website;
5. Notes that at the end of 2017 the Agency had not carried a comprehensive analysis of the likely Brexit impacts on its organisation, operations and accounts; welcomes the remedial actions taken by the Agency and notes its limited exposure, also due to the move from Hampshire to Budapest;
6. Welcomes the Commitment of the Agency to follow-up on the Commission's Internal Audit Service report on "Needs assessment, Planning and Budgeting of Training activities";
7. Calls upon the Agency to incorporate in its curriculum a significant element of anti-racism and anti-discrimination training.