



**2018/2114(INI)**

11.1.2019

# AMENDMENTS

## 1 - 15

**Draft opinion**  
**Maria Grapini**  
(PE631.991v01-00)

on the implementation of the legal provisions and the Joint Statement ensuring  
parliamentary scrutiny over decentralised agencies  
(2018/2114(INI))



**Amendment 1**  
**Maria Grapini**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Notes that EU agencies are established by the co-legislators for specific tasks under Union law; considers therefore that agencies are primarily accountable to Parliament and the Council, which must ensure that adequate scrutiny mechanisms are in place in the legislative acts governing those agencies and that those mechanisms are subsequently properly implemented;

*Amendment*

1. Notes that EU agencies are established by the co-legislators for specific tasks under Union law, ***such as contributing to the implementation of EU policies or supporting cooperation between the EU and national governments***; considers therefore that agencies are primarily accountable to Parliament and the Council, which must ensure that adequate scrutiny mechanisms are in place in the legislative acts governing those agencies and that those mechanisms are subsequently properly implemented ***points out that certain policy areas require the close involvement of national parliaments in the scrutiny of agencies (for example, the Europol Joint Parliamentary Supervisory Group)***;

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Csaba Sógor**

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

*Draft opinion*

1. Notes that EU agencies are established by the co-legislators for specific tasks under Union law; ***considers therefore that agencies are primarily accountable to Parliament and the Council, which must ensure that adequate scrutiny mechanisms are in place in the legislative acts governing those agencies and that those mechanisms are***

*Amendment*

1. Notes that EU agencies are established by the co-legislators for specific tasks under Union law ***in line with the principle of conferral of powers on the basis of different provisions from the Treaties***;

*subsequently properly implemented;*

Or. en

**Amendment 3**  
**Maria Grapini**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 a. Considers that the common approach to decentralised agencies - which lays down common principles for the establishment and functioning of EU agencies - could be updated taking account of the need, on the one hand, to have common rules governing EU agencies, and the other hand, the differences between agencies in terms of staff size, budget and operational responsibility; considers that the process leading to such an update has to be fully inclusive of all relevant actors and be undertaken respecting the principles of loyal cooperation and transparency;***

Or. en

**Amendment 4**  
**Csaba Sógor**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 a. Points out that the mechanisms to ensure the accountability of agencies are incorporated in the Treaties, in the founding regulations of agencies, in the case-law of the European Court of Justice, as well as in the joint Statement and the Common Approach;***

**Amendment 5**  
**Maria Grapini**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 b. Considers that the EU agencies must live up to the highest standards of transparency towards the general public, thereby facilitating scrutiny of their activities;***

Or. en

**Amendment 6**  
**Csaba Sógor**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1 b. Considers that it must be ensured that adequate scrutiny mechanisms are in place in the legislative acts governing agencies and that those mechanisms are subsequently properly implemented; Notes that the provisions on scrutiny in the founding regulations differ in varying degrees from the mechanisms proposed in the Common Approach, which could be due to the different tasks and functions agencies perform;***

Or. en

**Amendment 7**  
**Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz**

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

*Draft opinion*

2. Considers that the nature of those scrutiny mechanisms will vary depending on the actual role and operational impact of the agency, including factors such as the agency's mission, budget and staff numbers, and the political sensitivity of its activities; believes that agencies granted greater operational competence, larger budgets and a larger staff must be subject to greater democratic oversight and scrutiny mechanisms, particularly where they are active in politically sensitive fields; calls therefore for those factors to be taken into account when streamlining governance and accountability mechanisms;

*Amendment*

2. Considers that the nature of those scrutiny mechanisms will vary depending on the actual role and operational impact of the agency, including factors such as the agency's mission, budget and staff numbers, and the political sensitivity of its activities; believes that agencies granted greater operational competence, larger budgets and a larger staff must be subject to greater democratic oversight and scrutiny mechanisms, particularly where they are active in politically sensitive fields; ***believes that the accountability mechanisms cannot constraint the agencies, as they need to adapt to the tasks envisaged and the needs that arise while carrying out their duties***; calls therefore for those factors to be taken into account when streamlining governance and accountability mechanisms;

Or. en

**Amendment 8**  
**Csaba Sógor**

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

*Draft opinion*

2. Considers that the nature of those scrutiny mechanisms ***will*** vary depending on the actual role and operational impact of the agency, including factors such as the agency's mission, budget and staff numbers, and the political sensitivity of its activities; believes that agencies granted greater operational competence, larger budgets and a larger staff must be subject to greater democratic oversight and scrutiny mechanisms, particularly where

*Amendment*

2. Considers that the nature of those scrutiny mechanisms ***may*** vary depending on the actual role and operational impact of the agency, including factors such as the agency's mission, budget and staff numbers, and the political sensitivity of its activities; believes that agencies granted greater operational competence, larger budgets and a larger staff must be subject to greater democratic oversight and scrutiny mechanisms, particularly where

they are active in politically sensitive fields; calls therefore for those factors to be taken into account when streamlining governance and accountability mechanisms;

they are active in politically sensitive fields; calls therefore for those factors to be taken into account when streamlining governance and accountability mechanisms;

Or. en

**Amendment 9**  
**Maria Grapini**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Believes that it is imperative to continue to improve relations between operational EU agencies and Member States to help bring greater efficiency and effectiveness both to the work of the agency and national policies;**

Or. en

**Amendment 10**  
**Csaba Sógor**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Points out that the Common Approach has not always been followed in the adoption of or amendment of founding acts of agencies; Considers therefore that thought should be given to a binding agreement on the establishment and functioning of agencies;**

Or. en

**Amendment 11**  
**Maria Grapini**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. Considers the current rules for missions to agencies (three Members every two years with missions strictly limited to green weeks and to the seat of an agency) as too rigid to allow for regular political contact between Parliament and an agency, this contact being a precondition for successful scrutiny by Parliament; proposes that committees should be given greater flexibility to organise visits to agencies, and in particular for visiting locations in which the agency carries out operational activities;

*Amendment*

3. Considers the current rules for missions to agencies (three Members every two years with missions strictly limited to green weeks and to the seat of an agency) as too rigid to allow for regular political contact between Parliament and an agency, this contact being a precondition for successful scrutiny by Parliament; proposes that committees should be given greater flexibility to organise *scrutiny or information* visits to agencies, and in particular for visiting locations in which the agency carries out operational activities;

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Jean Lambert**

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

*Draft opinion*

3. Considers the current rules for missions to agencies (three Members every two years with missions strictly limited to green weeks and to the seat of an agency) as too rigid to allow for regular political contact between Parliament and an agency, this contact being a precondition for successful scrutiny by Parliament; proposes that committees should be given greater flexibility to organise visits to agencies, and in particular for visiting locations in which the agency carries out operational activities;

*Amendment*

3. Considers the current rules for missions to agencies (three Members every two years with missions strictly limited to green weeks and to the seat of an agency) as too rigid to allow for regular political contact between Parliament and an agency, this contact being a precondition for successful scrutiny by Parliament; proposes that committees should be given greater flexibility to organise visits to agencies, and in particular for visiting locations in which the agency carries out operational activities; ***proposes that at least one Member from each political***

*group should be able to attend such missions;*

Or. en

**Amendment 13**  
**Jean Lambert**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3 a. Considers that the cooperation with the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Board should be strengthened; proposes that the Co-Chair or other relevant members of the Board should be invited to participate in Parliament's missions to agencies, where relevant;*

Or. en

**Amendment 14**  
**Jean Lambert**

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

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

4. Proposes that, given the problems encountered in obtaining sufficient, relevant and timely information from agencies, Parliament should, as a rule, be entitled to send an observer to the management board meetings of *large* operational agencies.

4. Proposes that, given the problems encountered in obtaining sufficient, relevant and timely information from agencies, Parliament should, as a rule, be entitled to send an observer to the management board meetings of operational agencies.

Or. en

**Amendment 15**  
**Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz**

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

*Draft opinion*

4. Proposes that, given the problems encountered in obtaining sufficient, relevant and timely information from agencies, Parliament should, as a rule, be entitled to send an observer to the management board meetings of large operational agencies.

*Amendment*

4. Proposes that, given the problems encountered in obtaining sufficient, relevant and timely information from agencies, Parliament should, as a rule, be entitled to send an observer to the management board meetings of large operational agencies; ***underlines that this proposal doesn't exclude the fact that agencies should have sufficient budgetary resources and prepared staff to carry out their mandates effectively.***

Or. en