European Parliament

2014-2019

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

19.2.2016

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 Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (Frontex) for the financial year 2014
(2015/2181(DEC))

Rapporteur: Monica Macovei

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. Notes the Court of Auditors' conclusions that the annual accounts of Frontex (the Agency) present fairly its financial position as at 31 December 2014 and that its transactions are legal and regular;

2. Welcomes that considerable improvements were noted in both ex ante and ex post verifications of expenditure claimed by cooperating countries under grant agreements;

3. Regrets that no audit certificates were requested for grants above the specified thresholds and that expenses documentation requested from the cooperating countries was not always sufficient to make the payment verifications; calls for significant improvements in payment management and verifications in order to provide further assurance on the legality and regularity of grant transactions;

4. Acknowledges the increase of grant agreements in 2014; notes, however, that further increases are expected due to the current refugee and security crises; requests the Agency to adopt realistic and comprehensive budgetary planning; emphasises the need to set up a more adequate funding mechanism in addition to grants;

5. Notes that out of 1 087 procurement procedures in 2014 there is public information on a very limited number of contracts awarded; urges the Agency to ensure transparency and publish all its contracts plus the public procurement related procedures;

6.. Takes note of the extensive reply of the Agency to the ECA's report and the commitments made to improve the budgetary management;

7. Urges the Agency to adopt and make publically available a policy and a practical guide on management and prevention of conflict of interest, according to the guidelines published by the Commission in December 2013; urges the Agency to publish who is who in addition to the organigram; CVs as well as the declarations of interest for the Executive Director, Management Board and Consultative Forum; asks for the establishment of clear rules against "revolving doors"; reminds the Agency that it must adopt internal binding rules on whistle-blowers, according to Article 22c of the EU Staff Regulations, which came into force on 1 January 2014.

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RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	16.2.2016
Result of final vote	+: 51 –: 0 0: 6
Members present for the final vote	Jan Philipp Albrecht, Gerard Batten, Michał Boni, Caterina Chinnici, Ignazio Corrao, Rachida Dati, Agustín Díaz de Mera García Consuegra, Frank Engel, Cornelia Ernst, Tanja Fajon, Laura Ferrara, Monika Flašíková Beňová, Lorenzo Fontana, Kinga Gál, Nathalie Griesbeck, Sylvie Guillaume, Jussi Halla-aho, Monika Hohlmeier, Brice Hortefeux, Sophia in 't Veld, Eva Joly, Sylvia-Yvonne Kaufmann, Timothy Kirkhope, Barbara Kudrycka, Kashetu Kyenge, Marju Lauristin, Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Monica Macovei, Roberta Metsola, Claude Moraes, József Nagy, Péter Niedermüller, Soraya Post, Judith Sargentini, Birgit Sippel, Branislav Škripek, Helga Stevens, Traian Ungureanu, Bodil Valero, Udo Voigt, Josef Weidenholzer, Cecilia Wikström, Kristina Winberg, Tomáš Zdechovský
Substitutes present for the final vote	Marina Albiol Guzmán, Carlos Coelho, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pál Csáky, Daniel Dalton, Dennis de Jong, Gérard Deprez, Anna Hedh, Petr Ježek, Emil Radev, Christine Revault D'Allonnes Bonnefoy, Barbara Spinelli, Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi

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