

THURSDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2016

09.00 - 12.30

Room: Altiero Spinelli (5G-3)

1. AGENDA

The draft agenda was emailed to Members on 14 October 2016 and is in the [file for the meeting](#).

2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman draws attention to the following points:

Languages available

FR, DE, IT, NL, EN, DA, ES, PT, FI, CS, HU, LT, PL, SL, BG, RO.

Webstreaming

The CONT meeting is webstreamed on the [Europarl web-site](#).

Please be aware that each time a speaker activates the microphone to make an intervention, the camera will be automatically directed to the speaker.

3. FOLLOW-UP OF THE 2014 DISCHARGE TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (CONT/8/08123)



Exchange of views with the Secretary-General of the European Parliament, Klaus Welle

Rapporteur: [Markus Pieper](#) (EPP)

Administrator: Mauro De Oliveira

In accordance with the resolution of 28 April 2016 accompanying the decision on discharge for the financial year 2014, the Secretary General will briefly summarise the replies and follow-up of the EP administration to the various questions and requests of the 2014 EP discharge resolution before proceeding to an exchange of views.

The Secretary General's written replies have been made available prior to the Committee meeting. They were sent to Members by email on 13 October 2016 and have also been published on the [Committee website](#). It is proposed that the discussion is structured following this order of interventions:

- brief presentation by the Secretary General of the replies and follow up of the administration,
- statement and oral questions by the Rapporteur,
- reply by the Secretary General to the Rapporteur,

- questions by other Members,
- replies by the Secretary General and closing remarks by the Rapporteur.

4. DISCHARGE 2015: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Exchange of views with the Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for Budget and Human Resources, *Kristalina Georgieva*, and presentation of the following documents:

- the follow-up to the discharge for the 2014 financial year (COM(2016)674 final);
- the 2015 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget (COM(2016) 446 final);
- the Annual Report to the Discharge Authority on internal audits carried out in 2015 (Article 99(5) of the Financial Regulation), in the presence of the Commission's Acting Director General for Internal Audit Service, *Jeffrey Mason* (COM(2016) 628 final);
- The report on Protection of the EU Budget to end 2015 (COM(2016) 486 final)

in the presence of the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, *Lazaros Lazarou*

Rapporteur: [Joachim Zeller](#) (EPP)

Administrators: Christian Ehlers & Philippe Godts

In its resolution accompanying the discharge for 2014 the Parliament called on the Commission in particular

- to submit a communication to the European Parliament in time for the mid-term review of the MFF(...) explaining how it will in future reconcile long term political objectives such as the Europe 2020 Strategy with the future pot 2020 MFF;
- to revise the Code of Conduct for Commissioners (...) in time for the 2015 Commission discharge procedure;
- to apply strictly Article 32(5) of the new Financial Regulation if the level of error is persistently high (...)
- to present the measures taken to improve the performance of Union delegations as regards financial planning and resource allocations.

The Communication of the Commission on the follow-up to the discharge for the 2014 financial year voices the views of the Commission in particular as to the abovementioned issues.

It will be circulated to the Members as soon as possible.

The 2015 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget adopted by the Commission on 5 July 2016 combines two former reports: the Evaluation Report produced in accordance with Article 318 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; and the Synthesis Report required by Article 66 (9) of the Financial Regulation.

Bringing together information on the performance and management of the EU budget, the Annual Management and Performance Report pursues the objective to provide a comprehensive overview of how the EU budget supports the Union's political priorities.

Committee on Budgetary Control

The first section of the report focusses on performance issues whilst the second section which concerns the management achievements is a summary of the Annual Activity Reports produced by each Commission department. The Commission is of the opinion that by doing so it takes overall political responsibility for management of the EU budget. In the report, the Commission also identified the key management issues to be addressed as a matter of priority and the action to be taken to address identified weaknesses.

The Annual Report to the Discharge Authority on internal audits, carried out in 2015, is based on the audit and consulting work done by the Internal Audit Services in 2015 in the Commission Directorates-General and executive agencies. It includes information on significant risk exposure, control issues and governance aspects.

This is the fourth year that the Commission has adopted a Communication on the protection of the European Union Budget. This communication was requested by the European Parliament in the context of the 2011 discharge procedure. It aims, in particular, at illustrating in real terms how the EU budget is protected from expenditures incurred in breach of the law and how the Member States are involved and impacted.

All four documents are/or will be available on the [Committee's website](#).

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

6. NEXT MEETINGS

- 7 November 2016, 15.00 -18.30 (Brussels)
- 8 November 2016, 9.00 - 12.30 and 15.00 - 18.30 (Brussels)

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