



EU Agencies Network report to the European Parliament to the 2016 budgetary discharge

January 2018

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1. Introduction

On 15 November 2017 the EU Agencies Network received a questionnaire in relation to the decentralised Agencies' 2016 discharge from the Budgetary Control Committee (CONT) of the European Parliament. The responses form part of the background information collected by the Rapporteur (Mr Bart Staes, MEP) in preparation of the annual hearing the EU Agencies before the CONT Committee.

The questionnaire consists of thirteen questions addressed to the EU Agencies:

- The Coordination drafted nine horizontal replies on behalf of the Network (questions 1, 2, 5-7, 10-13);
- Five questions were answered by individual Agencies, where relevant.

The questions answered by the individual Agencies and can be found in Annex I.

Altogether 31 decentralised Agencies and one fully fee-financed Agency (EUIPO) participated in the survey.

2. Horizontal questions to be answered by the Agencies' Network

Budget and financial management

1. *The Court of Auditors noted in its Special Report 12/2016 on the Agencies' use of grants that most Agencies have not adequately addressed alternative funding options and consequently grants have not always been the best way to achieve their objectives. Before launching grants, do agencies have an ex-ante assessment system in place to explore whether grants are the most effective funding tool? Furthermore, the Court has also found that the audited agencies have not adequately measured the effectiveness of their grants. What steps did the agencies take in order to strengthen their verification systems for grant project implementation? Did agencies establish performance monitoring and reporting systems based on result and impact-oriented key performance indicators, as well as ex-post evaluation results?*

The Court of Auditors Special Report 12/2016 on the Agencies' use of grants concluded with two key messages that, "*Agencies managed grants in broad compliance with the rules*" and that "*the audited Agencies have [actually] improved their grant implementation and monitoring procedures*". Recommendations to improve the grant management made by the ECA were taken on board by the auditees.

Choice of funding tool available to EU Agencies

Agencies' mandates and strategic objectives indicate the scope of funding options which are available to the Agency. Choosing the funding mechanism may vary to ensure that these objectives are met. Limited flexibility is built in to the system and in order to meet their

objectives Agencies carry out ex-ante assessment in order to identify the most appropriate funding mechanism in respect of the Financial Regulation and to ensure the most effective and efficient use of resources in comparison to the desired output and outcomes. This is strengthened when Agencies opt for the use of grants. It is done in consultation with the relevant body (Agencies MB, EP, Commission) to ensure the respect of an Agency's mandate and strategy as set out in the Agency's work plan.

Measuring effectiveness

The concerned Agencies, as confirmed in the ECA report (the full responses to the ECA recommendations and follow-up actions taken are described in the Annex), have improved their control mechanisms. However, it must be borne in mind that this increases the administrative burden and the resources needed to manage these grants appropriately thus nullifies the benefits that the use of Grants can offer, taking into account the continued reductions of staff in the EU Agencies.

Furthermore, the EU Agencies welcome the declared intention of the Commission to simplify the administration of grant procedures during the ongoing revision of the Financial Regulation.

Whilst there is scope for improving the grant award procedures at Agency level, it should be underlined that:

- Agencies cannot control some of the issues raised by the ECA and cannot deviate from the Financial Regulations or the Agencies own founding Regulations which describe what instruments are available to EU Agencies and how grants should be awarded;
- When a selection of funding tools is available, Agencies are given the freedom to identify those that best suit their needs at the time taking into account the nature of the recipients.

Improvement of the grant management

With regards to the concerned Agencies and the improvement of grant management, the Agencies took the following measures:

- **ECDC:** The Agency has improved its grant planning by adding a more detailed description about the objectives of the action to its annual work programme. Internally, the choice for the most appropriate mechanism – procurement or grant – is analysed in detail, based on the criteria in the Commission's Vademecum, and documented in a note to the file. ECDC has also drawn conclusions from past audit remarks on the practical grant management to ensure implementation in compliance with the rules.
- **EEA:** Since May 2014, the Agency has adopted verification policies to strengthen the procedures ensuring accuracy and eligibility of the costs claimed. In the meantime,

guidelines have been provided to beneficiaries and to the resource officers in charge of ex-ante controls of these costs.

Furthermore, the Internal Audit Capability (IAC) conducted several on-the-spot verifications ex-post to verify the costs claimed, as well as to ensure the robustness of the ex-ante checks.

A report on the financial control of grants has also been issued by the IAC to assess the results of the checks performed from 2013 to 2016.

- **EFSA:** The Agency introduced since 2015 simplified forms of grants, based on unit costs, flat rates and lump sums and introduced new type of grants based on framework partnership agreements. These tools significantly diminished the administrative burden on EFSA and the beneficiary, in all stages: application preparation/evaluation and implementation of agreement. They also diminish the risk of an error due to the very simple method of establishing the estimated / actual eligible costs.
In addition, to measure the impact of its grants, EFSA introduced into its SPD the indicators to measure the impact of its grant schemes focused at expertise exchange and capacity building.
- **FRONTEX:** The Agency applies continuous extensive ex-ante and ex-post control coverage (+50%), and has introduced unit costs where possible¹.
- **EIT:** The EIT has accepted the relevant and applicable parts of audit recommendations and has implemented them as follows. Simplified costs have been established and adopted by the Commission in 2016 for the education activities carried out by the EIT Innovation Communities (KICs). The EIT has included in its Single Programming Document 2017-2019, containing the Annual Work Programme for 2017, information on the KICs' objectives and expected results for 2017. The EIT has improved its internal procedures for the selection and designation of KICs as well as for the annual allocation of EIT contribution to established KICs respecting the principles of transparency and equal treatment and safeguarding against potential conflicts of interest. The EIT has strengthened its ex-ante verifications on grant implementation (e.g. centralised procurement of audit certificates covering more than 80% of the EIT grants each year). Finally, the EIT has introduced a new set of results-oriented KPIs for measuring the performance of its Innovation Communities.

Brexit

2. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies*

¹ Discharge 2015 follow-up report, October 2017;
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/130103/EU%20Agencies%20Network%20-%20Horizontal%20Follow-up%20report.pdf>

could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively? Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

The European Court of Auditors in its annual audits of the European Agencies and other bodies for the financial year 2016 issued *"other matter paragraphs on the possible impact of the UK's departure from the European Union on the revenue and activities of several non-London based Agencies"*. The report specifically mentioned the Agencies CPVO, EASA, ECHA, EIOPA, ESMA and EUIPO as potentially facing a decrease in fee-generating activities.

The concerned Agencies were asked to provide their assessment of the situation and to provide the amount of any future lack of payments and how it plans to work with a potential reduced budget.

EASA

EU Subsidy

No indications have been yet received from the European Commission on intentions for the post-BREXIT Multiannual Financial Framework. Even in the best case scenario, BREXIT is most likely to lead to an increased workload to maintain European Aviation Safety area standards with UK as a 3rd Country.

In a scenario where no specific agreement would be reached with the UK, the needs of the agency out of the EU budget would significantly increase so to apply 3rd country air safety standard monitoring to the UK (considering the extent of UK aviation activity and the intensity of its exchange with the EU).

This workload increase would be more limited in case a bilateral aviation safety agreement can be put in place by the BREXIT date. In the eventuality that the UK can be fully associated to the European Air Safety area (in a similar extend then is the case for Switzerland or Norway) UK would contribute to the agency budget, offsetting most probably a large part of the increased costs mentioned above. In any case, it would be critical that the number of posts granted to EASA are not reduced as a consequences of BREXIT.

Fees & Charges paid by Industry for EASA Service

The EASA Fees and Charges regulation is designed so that generated financial revenues are proportional to the demand from industrial actors.

In terms of financial revenue in the case that no specific arrangement is reached to integrate post-BREXIT UK to the European Air Safety Area, extra fee from UK actors of the order 12-20 M€ yearly are estimated to be generated (initial approval and surveillance of UK organisations) with a workload proportional to that amount. The workload generated could, in the least favourable BREXIT scenario, require a large one-off effort for recertification of existing UK product (40-60M€) above the workload associated with the usual initial and continued airworthiness of new and existing UK products.

The critical factor to be able to absorb the eventual peak and cruise situation workload resulting from BREXIT scenarios is the capability to build-up capacity through additional posts (financed by Industry) and develop EASA external partner capacity to increase outsourcing of certification tasks. The UK itself represents one of the major outsourcing capacity used by EASA. A BREXIT scenario limiting EASA capacity to rely on UK certification capacity would limit EASA ability to handle the workload consequences of BREXIT under least-favourable-conditions. Mitigation of adverse impact on EU applicants would require a significant increase of its internal

capacity, through additional positions to cope with transitory and permanent post-BREXIT UK generated workload.

EBA

The EBA budget is funded as below:

(i) The EU subsidy funds 40% of total budget; of which 5% * represents the UK % of total (approx.); i.e. the UK proportion is Eu 779,000, compared to the total EU subsidy, of Eu 15,077,000 [of the 2018 budget]

plus

(ii) National competent authorities funds 60% of total budget; of which 8% represents the UK % of total (approx.); i.e. UK proportion is Eu 1,987,000 compared to the total NCAs contribution, of Eu 24,098,000 [of the 2018 budget]

i.e. Total budget is Eu 39 875 000; of which 6.9% represents the UK % of total (approx.) or

Eu 2,766,000.

[* based on 2016 information published by the EU]

As a conservative estimate, 79% of the EBA budget is non-discretionary. In this category, the EBA includes staff costs; lease costs; maintenance, utilities and telecoms costs; software licences; translation costs; and a small amount of working group meeting costs.

We estimate that a further 19% of activities driving costs are required but where the EBA has some influence on the amount of the cost. This category includes language training; staff missions; recruitment costs; IT hardware; telecoms and communications costs; office costs (maintenance, stationery); and IT project costs.

Regarding how the EBA will want to work with a potential reduced budget, the EBA's future budget has yet to be determined.

Further, the EBA takes note of the European Commission's review of the ESAs, proposal September 2017, which proposes future funding of the EBA from fees from Industry; and the Communication from the Commission to the European Council (Article 50) of 8 December 2017, https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/1_en_act_communication.pdf, that noted that the "UK will contribute to, and participate in, the implementation of the EU annual budgets for the years 2019 and 2020 as if it had remained in the Union".

ECHA

Presently, it is impossible to estimate the exact impact of the UK withdrawal from the European Union on ECHA's financing. Measured statistically, the subsidies from the EU budget to ECHA could decline to the order of 14% (based on the UK contribution to the budget, without considering the UK rebate). However, as ECHA has mixed funding, the EU subsidy is a "balancing subsidy" required to balance the expenditure after accounting for the fee income. As from 2019 onwards, EU subsidy will be ECHA's main source of financing to more than 70% and currently, it is unknown how the UK withdrawal will impact the overall EU contributions to the Agencies.

In recent years, the share of the UK has been about 12% of ECHA's REACH/CLP fee income. As a mitigating factor to the UK withdrawal, it is pointed out that the main income stemming from registrations has already been cashed by the time UK withdrawal enters into force. The current registrations and authorisations will remain valid after the UK withdrawal but the UK companies will have to find an EU representative. If the cooperation between UK authorities and ECHA would continue, the UK withdrawal might not lead to significant loss of fee income to ECHA in future years. Moreover, if the UK authorities would remain under REACH/CLP, Biocides and PIC Regulations, UK would be expected to make a special financial contribution.

EIOPA

The exact amount of the future lack of payments is not known yet and will depend on the upcoming changes of EIOPA's regulatory framework (the Founding regulations of the ESAs are currently under review, including the funding models). At the moment EIOPA is financed by EU contributions (40%) and by Member States contributions (60%). The UK contributions represent approximately 5% or 1,180,567€ of the total EIOPA budget in 2017. In the future EIOPA will be funded by the EU and through industry contributions. The possible decline in revenue will need to be absorbed by the new funding arrangements and/or by a further reprioritisation of the activities in the Work Programme.

EMA

EMA confirms that we receive an annual contribution from the EU budget, but the Agency at this time has no means of assessing how or to what extent the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the EU will influence how the European Union budget will in future be apportioned. Our current working assumption is that the existing 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework ceilings will continue to apply between 2018 and 2020, and revised ceilings will be allocated from 2021 onwards as part of the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

The main source of revenue for EMA is fee income charged to the pharmaceutical industry for services provided, so future revisions of the Fee Regulations will also influence the capacity of the Agency to carry out its activities.

Finally, it should be noted that the principal operational and budgetary impact of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union is not a potentially reduced EU budget contribution, but is rather the planned relocation of the Agency from London to Amsterdam entailing significant human and financial resource requirements during the transition period.

ESMA

If the UK would not directly contribute to the ESMA budget anymore, this would represent 1.7 MEUR or 8% of the National Competent Authorities (NCAs) contribution in 2020 (first year of "full Brexit"), which represents approx. 2% of the ESMA total estimated budget for 2020.

EUIPO

The EUIPO is not to be included in the discharge procedure of the decentralised agencies as it is not subject to article 208 of the GFR. It does not receive any subsidy from the EU budget and has its own Budget Authority. However, for information purposes EUIPO would like to share that the specific impact stemming from a scenario where the EU IP law ceases to be applicable to "leaving MS" as from the date on which withdrawal from the EU takes effect would lead to a reduction of the level of revenue following the reduction of the number of EUTM and RCD applications.

Assuming that 20% of the UK based SMEs may decide not to enter the EU market because of trade barriers and administrative burden (some 1500 fewer EUTMs and the proportional part of RCDs) and the fact that the “break-even” point where it is more cost-effective to apply for an EUTM rather than a national TM will change for some companies (although it is impossible at this stage to quantify this impact), a drop of revenue in the area of € 2 Mio (representing less than the 1% of revenue budget) could be envisaged for the EUTM and RCD applications. For analogue reasons a drop of 10% can be expected in the volumes of EUTM and RCD renewals coming from the UK proprietors, amounting to some additional €0.5 Mio of loss in revenue (representing less than 0.25% of revenue budget). However, within the intrinsic volatility of the number of EUTM and RCD applications and renewals, the resulting figure in terms of decrease of revenue would seem to be immaterial compared to a budget in the area of €250 Mio revenue.

Conflicts of interest and transparency

5. *Could the agencies ensure easy access to the declarations of absence of conflicts of interests and the CVs of their respective management and senior management board members?*
6. *According to the report "EU Agencies Network report to the European Parliament on the follow-up to the 2015 budgetary discharge", published in October 2017, only 60% of the agencies check at least once a year the factual correctness of the declarations of interest submitted by experts, the management board and staff. For the agencies that do not check the factual correctness at least once a year, do those agencies plan on checking?*

Publication of DOIs and CVs of respective management and senior management board members

The Declarations of Interest (DoI) of Management Board members, management staff and in house experts are published by 29 Agencies (94%) on their websites to ensure transparency towards the public.

The requirement to do so stems either from their Founding Regulation or from a Management Board decision.

Checks of the factual correctness of the declarations of interest

Agencies carry out checks of factual correctness of the DoI upon receipt. Additionally, in some cases checks are performed on a sample basis when a justified reason to do so is detected.

These checks occur frequently as Agencies report that they check the DoI when:

- initially signed,
- some on an annual basis, when checked against the CVs of the person concerned,
- when they receive updates from the person who has signed the DoI and
- where factual inaccuracies and inconsistencies were identified.

In the latter case the relevant steps are taken to provide clarifications.

Furthermore, 28 Agencies (90%) have a comprehensive internal “Policy on prevention and management of Conflict of Interest” in place which applies to all categories of staff, including external staff members, interim staff and seconded national experts.

Performance

7. *What measures did the agencies take in order to ensure the explanation in layman's terms and user-friendliness of the performance reports?*

The Performance Development Sub-network (PDN) is a Sub-network within the EU Agencies Network. The overall objective of the PDN is to develop the Agencies to better achieve their objectives, better serve the European stakeholders' needs, provide increased added value to European Citizens, and to be more cost-effective with emphasis on tools and methods for performance improvement and accountability. This is pursued through the development of a common set of principles for efficient and effective result-oriented management and the exchange of information, best practices, methods and reference examples.

The PDN in collaboration with the Commission has developed a common Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) template ensuring the consolidation of various reporting elements within each Agency as well as harmonisation across Agencies, which has therefore led to an improved user-friendliness. In order to make performance reporting more accessible, and in view of the constraints of the templates and guidance of the CAAR, Agencies produce additional communication materials to summarise or describe specific issues in layman's terms.

More recently, a number of Agencies are exploring new approaches in reporting that would appeal to a wider target audience, an example of which is the evolution towards the sustainability reporting (such as per the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standards).

Last but not least, the PDN is developing results-based management approaches, including performance reporting beyond the level of inputs, activities and outputs to the level of outcomes and impacts, which is more meaningful to the general public.

Other comments

10. *Each of the agencies is evaluated every five years. This evaluation includes the assessment of an agency's accountability. Can the Network explain which criteria for accountability are used for these evaluations and summarise the results of these evaluations in this respect?*

The rationale of a regular Agency evaluation is to assess and measure how an Agency has implemented its mandate.

The Common Approach aimed to introduce standard provisions that set requirements within all EU Agencies founding Regulation, which stipulate the need to conduct an evaluation of the Agencies' performance and/or of the founding act.

The constituent act of most Agencies vests the Agency itself with the responsibility to commission an independent external evaluation. The frequency of the evaluations differs among Agencies and the period from one evaluation to the next can vary between 3 to 6 years. The evaluation is performed by external companies and includes public consultations. The results are published.

The scope of the overall retrospective evaluation most often encompasses the following:

- Implementation of the constituent act;
- Agency's working methods and practices;
- Results obtained and fulfilment of mission;
- Agency's mandate, tasks, areas of activity, structure and functions defined in the Founding Regulation;
- Impact of the Agency.

The Common Approach also calls for coherence in EU Agencies governance. Part of the actions foreseen was the development of a common template, guidelines and a handbook to be used for the evaluation of EU Agencies. These documents are regularly revised to take into account changes in the regulatory framework, in particular the European Commission Staff Working Document of the Better Regulation Guidelines issued in May 2015. The Better Regulation Guidelines and the accompanying Toolbox, together with the Financial Framework Regulation of March 2014 represent the overarching framework within which this handbook is situated.

Within the framework of the Better Regulation, the concept of a “fitness check” is now also integrated into EU Agencies’ evaluations which looks at improved performance (simplification, lower costs, reduced burdens) or inefficiencies (e.g. excessive burdens, overlaps, gaps, inconsistencies and/or obsolete measures). These help to identify the cumulative impact of the Agency and include both costs and benefits. This contributes to answering the questions of how a policy would work in the absence of an Agency and helps measure real impacts – within the broader context – of an Agency’s actions.

When measuring output and outcomes, Agencies use indicators which have been developed to measure:

- Implementation of activities and mandate
- Processes
- Guidance, opinions and scientific advice
- Decisions delivered / dossier processing
- Appeal / management of disputes
- Evaluations, assessments, analysis and inspections
- Data collection
- Reports and publications
- Requests
- External visits
- Impact

Specific indicators related to evaluations, assessments, analysis and inspections include:

- Number of inspections or evaluations/ assessments/ analysis per year
- Number of reports per year
- Percentage of planned inspections or evaluations completed
- Timeliness of the evaluations/ assessments
- Number of findings per year
- Rate of findings per inspection/visit

Indicators might not be the most appropriate tools to measure the impact of policies or actions developed by Agencies. Impact is probably one of the most difficult aspects to measure, as it can rely and depend on many different factors. Attribution to one measurable factor is often difficult or even impossible. Indicators are a good tool to measure input, output and – to an extent – outcomes, but of limited usefulness to measure impact, especially to demonstrate impact in an objective/unbiased way.

Whilst it is not possible to summarise all the results of the evaluations of the Agencies (bearing in mind that it is the Agency's founding Regulation that is assessed), to date, Agency evaluations have been favourable, whether they were carried out by an Agency's Management Board or by the European Commission. Recent examples are the evaluation of the EEA within the context of EU environmental legislation as part of REFIT; the ongoing evaluation of the EMPL Agencies (Eurofound, EU-OSHA, Cedefop and ETF) where the Agencies are deemed to be performing well.

Typically, the conclusions of an Agency's evaluation lead to additional responsibilities as well as recommendations related to the Agency's strategic focus within its policy context. This is partly because the Agency and the European Commission follow up the recommendations, and partly because the Agencies are partly evaluated by their stakeholders, who strongly value their work.

11. In the case of EASA a pilot project was started promoting fee-funded agencies. What is the Network's appraisal of this project? Should it guide other agencies as well to rely more heavily on fees for their resources?

The EASA pilot project was not set up to promote fee-financed Agencies but was proposed by the European Commission to experiment a model linking dynamically verifiable industry-paid services request to the number of posts granted by the Budget Authority while maintaining the overall objective of increased efficiency. It was required as the effects of a flat 5% posts cuts, plus the additional 5% staff cuts for the "redeployment pool" had a negative impact on EASA's capacity to respond to Industry demand (e.g. delay in EU aviation innovations reaching international markets) even if it had no impact on the EU budget.

As such, the EUAN welcomes this initiative, however wishes to highlight the need to take the focus away from sole establishment plan posts and move towards considering the resources globally.

The EASA pilot has proven its value and relevance as recognised by the Commission for adjusting the number of establishment posts. It has demonstrated that some resource management flexibility can be warranted for Fee-financed Agencies while maintaining focus on efficiency.

EUAN is keen on continuing the dialogue with EU Budgetary Authorities with the view to assess the value and the follow up to the EASA pilot as well as the possible introduction of more holistic models. Following the conclusions of the IIWG2, the model may be extended to other fee-financed Agencies if the Commission sees benefits in doing so.

In the context of the upcoming Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) preparations and deliberations EUAN is willing to pro-actively contribute to the debate. Additional funding sources could possibly mitigate the potential negative impact that the current political challenges, priorities or other events (e.g. BREXIT) may have on the EU Budget and ensuing proper resources allocation to EU Agencies.

The European Parliament has launched a study to identify areas where Agencies could receive additional funding from outside the EU budget and EU Agencies are exploring the possibility for Agencies to rely on additional funding sources for their operations.

In the context of the Performance Management and Result-based budget methodologies the EUAN is developing a model that will allow Agencies and their stakeholders (Management Board, the EU Budget Authority) to monitor the use of resources in a consistent way. The aim is to increase credibility, visibility and accountability for the benefit and value of the citizens.

12. How does the Network view in this respect the danger of conflicts of interests for agencies relying on fees from their clients? Would it be a solution to follow the example of the position of testing institutions in the case of type approval of motor vehicles, following Dieselgate? In their case, Parliament considered that it would be better to collect the fees centrally, instead of the testing institutions collecting these. Would it be a solution if fees of agencies were collected by the Commission, so that agencies would remain fully funded from the EU budget?

Agencies play a key role in implementing the Single Market. A group of Agencies collect fees from industry sectors that would like to place products or operate in the EU. This is the case for medicines, aviation, chemicals, plant variety, intellectual property registrations etc.

The issue of independence of EU Agencies and potential conflicts of interests between an Agency and the industry that operates in the relevant sector has been raised on previous occasions within the context of the Budgetary Discharge process.

If the requisite checks and balances are not in place, there is a danger that a dominant fee-paying entity will abuse its position and try to gain influence over the actions of an EU Agency. With the proper oversight through the Agency's governing structure and by the EU Budgetary Authority, these situations are avoided.

With regards developing standards, monitoring the work of EU Member States inspection and certification bodies and assessing type-approval certification systems, a number of EU Agencies already carry out these tasks as part of their founding Regulation. This model could be extended to sectors which do not currently have oversight at EU level, if the EU Legislator sees benefits to this.

Moreover, among the Agencies collecting fees from industry sectors that would like to place products or operate in the EU, there is a type of fee-receiving Agencies where what is referred to as "the industry" is in reality a set of several thousands of individual applicants or professional representatives, none of them representing more than 1-1.5% of the revenues of the Agency. In such cases, the atomization of "the industry" is such that the Agencies

have even an interest in finding “aggregated interlocutors” (always at the level of associations and not at the level of individual clients) so as to discuss practical aspects of the Agency business. In these cases, there is no reason to tackle via a centralized collection of fees a danger of conflict of interest which hardly exists.

13. EU institutions and bodies are major consumers. By using their purchase power (translation services, IT services, etc) to choose environmentally friendly goods, the agencies can make an important contribution to sustainability or Green Public Procurement. The GPP is a voluntary tool. Do agencies include additional green criteria in tender specifications? Have the agencies developed any circular economy strategies? Have the agencies used or planning to use the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS)?

The EU Agencies have set up the Greening Network to exchange best practice on the implementation of measures that agencies can introduce to reduce their carbon footprint, save energy and reduce waste.

The issues that the Greening Network looks at include:

- Green building planning & designing (green Data Centres, green buildings);
- Greening practices (green procurement, office space optimization & teleworking);
- Creation of a voluntary expert pools within the Greening Network to provide advice on GPP, EMAS and new building projects.

In 2014 Court of Auditors Carbon Footprint Report found that the EU institutions and bodies do not make full use of the environmental management tools promoted by the Commission, such as:

- the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS),
- Green procurement,
- Green building standards for energy performance.

The Groupe Interinstitutionnel de Management Environnemental (GIME), set up by the Commission to support and report on EMAS implementation, invited the EU Agencies to participate to its activities in June 2015. This coordination with the other EU Institutions and bodies has helped raise awareness of all aspects of environmental management, and has allowed EU Agencies to benefit from the experiences of other Institutions.

EU Agencies contribution to the EU circular economy action plan

The circular economy strategies of the EU are aimed at economic actors, such as business and consumers. The role of local, regional and national authorities is to enable the transition.

The decentralised Agencies carry out legal, technical and scientific activities and tasks in various areas, ranging from transport to security, from energy to health or from financial services to telecoms. They coordinate and pool together scientific and technical expertise and resources from European Institutions, national governments, authorities and industry.

As such no specific strategies are adopted by EU Agencies, nevertheless they contribute to the EU Action Plan for the Circular Economy through GPP and help create economic incentives for suppliers to work with innovative producers who develop greener products for the market and who support recovery and recycling schemes.

Green Public Procurement (GPP)

The EU Agencies are committed to the implementation green procurement since 2004 and have progressively introduced green criteria to their public procurement and follow, where applicable, the European Commission guidelines for Green Public Procurement published in 2004.

In 2009 the EUAN Network of Agencies Procurement Officers (NAPO) began an analysis of how GPP had been implemented and to see what lessons could be learnt. Here, it was noted that despite a willingness to introduce green criteria in tender specifications by EU Agencies, there was insufficient experience for many concerned. Most Agencies typically lacked legal expertise in applying environmental criteria and had limited environmental criteria for products/services. The need for systematic implementation and integration into procurement planning was also recognised as was the need for training. These issues were addressed by seeking support from the Commission and adapting the work carried out by the Commission in the previous years.

More recently, when contacted about the use of additional green criteria in public procurement most EU Agencies replied stating that they apply them depending on the type of tender. Agencies focus on contracts where environmental requirements are particularly relevant. Where applicable green criteria are indicated in the procurement documents and additional points for the award are given to tenderers who respect them.

Some of the actions undertaken by the EUAN prior to launching a call using the JPP include:

- In the planning stages, the procurement teams and/or responsible project officers assess whether the call is being launched in a sector with mandatory green obligations under EU legislation (e.g. Energy efficiency requirements for Office IT equipment, EU Reg. 106/2008) in order to ensure such requirements are reflected in the procurement documents.
- Even if a call is in a sector with no mandatory requirements, procurement checks if there are any GPP award criteria & contract clauses which have been developed by EU for use on a voluntary basis for a call in certain sectors (e.g. cleaning products; electricity etc.)
- The above checks are documented on the routing slip, to be signed by the responsible project officer from the operational unit prior to the launch of the call, in order to evidence that environmental considerations have been taken account of in the preparation of procurement documents.
- When planning procurement calls, it is considered to use an environmental title for the call;
- Whether the call could be launched as in inter-institutional procurement procedure (to pool resources and achieve economies of scale which also contributes positively to GPP);
- Use of selection criteria (whether EMAS certification or equivalent could legitimately be required for contract performance);

- Award criteria which award additional points for environmental considerations (e.g. recent travel services call had one award criteria rewarding additional points for the efforts of the service provider to reduce carbon emissions);
- Contractual clauses which compel the contractor to apply environmentally friendly measures.

In 2017, the European Parliament has launched an inter-institutional open call for tenders with the aim to purchase the services of a Green Public Procurement Helpdesk. EU Agencies are not part of the initial call for tenders, but have expressed an interest to participate.

EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS)

Through the GIME, EU Agencies have reported their adherence (or intentions) to eco management systems and audit schemes (EMAS).

EU Agencies, which have fewer than 150 staff, do not intend to introduce an eco-management scheme. The main causes cited that prevent smaller Agencies to introduce EMAS are related to human and financial resources, include:

- Difficulty to guarantee continuous allocation of resources and management support;
- Financial resource constraints for further costly investments;
- Technical limitations in the rented premises;
- Ensuring compliance with a constantly evolving complex environmental regulatory framework.

Annex I. Individual Agencies replies

ACER

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

N/A

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

The Agency tried to improve its estimate of the amounts it carries over from one year into the next year by calculating more rigorously the estimates it makes for the expenditure not invoiced at year-end. This is ensured through the justification received from the budget managers for every amount that is requested to be carried over.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	25,562.06	Amount cancelled because of trainings booked but not attended, less than expected claims from recruitment procedures	159,221.62	Amount cancelled because of less than expected charges for interim services, less than expected charges for utilities consumption, less than expected legal expenses, decision not to charge the Agency for the use of specialised database, less than expected charges for telecommunication services and less than expected claims received from the participants to Agency's

				meetings.
Comments	From the total amount of 2 736 510 EUR representing payment appropriations carried over from the year 2014 into 2015, an amount of 198 294 EUR, representing 7.25%, has been cancelled.	From the total amount of 2 736 510 EUR representing payment appropriations carried over from the year 2014 into 2015, an amount of 198 294 EUR, representing 7.25%, has been cancelled.	From the total amount of 2 736 510 EUR representing payment appropriations carried over from the year 2014 into 2015, an amount of 198 294 EUR, representing 7.25%, has been cancelled.	From the total amount of 2 736 510 EUR representing payment appropriations carried over from the year 2014 into 2015, an amount of 198 294 EUR, representing 7.25%, has been cancelled.

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	38,454.19	Amount cancelled because of less than expected claims from booked operational missions and less than expected charges for the organised workshops.
Comments	From the total amount of 2 736 510 EUR representing payment appropriations carried over from the year 2014 into 2015, an amount of 198 294 EUR, representing 7.25%, has been cancelled.	From the total amount of 2 736 510 EUR representing payment appropriations carried over from the year 2014 into 2015, an amount of 198 294 EUR, representing 7.25%, has been cancelled.

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	New stock of 500 leaflets on ACER leaflets to be distributed at ACER events: 188 EUR 500 branded anti-stress bulbs and 500 key chain holders with the ACER logo to be distributed at ACER events: 1,750 EUR. Market Monitoring Report proofreading: 1540 EUR Graphic design: 3,640 EUR	The general public, persons attending ACER conferences and events. The Market Monitoring Report targets stakeholders, national regulatory authorities and all those interested in the energy market.
Comments	The Agency has mostly discontinued paper reports and publications, opting in most cases for their digital distribution. In the area of market monitoring the Agency is tasked with monitoring of the EU energy markets in general. The main product of this research is the Agency's Annual	

	Report on the Results of Monitoring the Internal Electricity and Natural Gas.	
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5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

- ACER participates every year in the London Energy Consumer's Forum where it engages with the EU consumers organisations both at national and European level.

- ACER organises an Annual Conference where the topic is usually of interest for a wider audience (for example the role of ACER in the Energy Union).

- The REMIT Forum, held for the first time in 2017, is organised with the collaboration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the host country (Slovenia) having a deeper impact in the local generalist media and therefore in the society as a whole.

- The Agency strives to improve the readability and accessibility of its website also to the general public.

- The Annual Report on the Results of Monitoring the Internal Electricity and Natural Gas contains data on prices for households across the EU. The report is widely known among consumer organisations in Europe as it provides excellent data to monitor the effects of the common energy market on the citizens' pockets.

- ACER participates every year in the London Energy Consumer's Forum where it engages with the EU consumers organisations both at national and European level.

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- The Agency strives to improve the readability and accessibility of its website also to the general public.

- The Annual Report on the Results of Monitoring the Internal Electricity and Natural Gas contains data on prices for households across the EU. The report is widely known among consumer organisations in Europe as it provides excellent data to monitor the effects of the common energy market on the citizens' pockets.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Citizens can express their opinions on the Agency's reports and publications through an online feedback tool. They can also express opinion on the Agency's Annual Work Programme, which is presented publicly via webinar when it is still in the draft phase.

BEREC Office

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

The agency has put in place all the requirements needed in order to achieve a complete overview of the expenditure incurred and to be incurred. The contract managers and all staff concerned are trained regularly with the aim of better understanding the responsibilities, of calculating the fees and the expenses in place that are expected to happen for the smooth functioning of the BEREC Office. The reporting is performed on a weekly basis to the management and records are kept for achieving an elaborate follow-up of the budget implementation.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	15,459.50		8,622.04	
Comments	- The mission expenses were based on the average amount paid to mission performers during 2015. The actual spending was lower by EUR 3,506.86; the unused appropriations have been cancelled; - The estimate of expenses for training delivered by the EC services		- The implementation of the Activity based costing/activity based budgeting (ABC/ABB) project was delayed and the contract for customisation of the application had to be extended until 2017. The non-expenses had to be cancelled (EUR 4,528.40); - The estimates of the needs for telecommunication	

	<p>was based on the average amount paid to the EC in 2014. However, the actual spending was lower by EUR 1,012.5. Therefore, the unused appropriations had to be cancelled; - Part of the amount of the travelling expenses for an on-site coaching for the year-end closure needed to be cancelled as the travel costed with EUR 1,892.25 less than expected; - The BERE Office has planned missions for the ICC assistant from ENISA for ex-post controls (under a SLA for sharing the ICC capacity) but the control activities were performed remotely and the amount planned for the travel was lower by EUR 4,502.25 and needed to be cancelled; - Carry-forwards for interim staff contracts were based on the contracts' amount. The actual expenditure was lower by EUR 2,820.78 and unused appropriation had to be cancelled; - Small amounts related to training had to be cancelled as the invoices received were of lesser amounts owed.</p>		<p>services (that in accordance to contracts were in place until October – November 2016) were done on the basis of expenses incurred in the previous period. The actual spending on these services was lower by EUR 2,442.58. Therefore, the unused appropriations had to be cancelled; - small amounts were cancelled for utilities, postal services, publications.</p>	
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	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	20,784.65	
Comments	- Reimbursement of participants/experts/speakers to EWGs (workshops included),	

	Article 7 and 7a EWGs, Chair's and Vice-Chairs' travel were based on the number of people invited and eligible to receive reimbursements and average costs per expert. However, the final costs depend on the actual participation and the number of applications received and actual costs incurred. These costs were lower than estimated by EUR 13,356.23 and were cancelled. Also participation to regulatory trainings sessions was less than expected and the amount cancelled was of EUR 7,428.42.	
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Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	BEREC promotional materials: 4000 EUR Publications: n/a BEREC Annual Reports 2015 and BEREC Work Programme 2017: 2300	BEREC Stakeholders - National Regulatory Authorities, EU institutions, EU information centre, academia. General public for events like, Open doors day, in Riga.
Comments	In 2016 BEREC office has organised various events to inform general public on the work and mission of BEREC Office in Latvia, as well as fulfill its commitment of professional and administrative support to BEREC by organising public briefings, press events and Stakeholder Forum meeting. The promotional materials were created and distributed only if needed. BEREC Office is aiming to become paperless organisation and to reduce printing. Instead the publications are in electronic format, published on BEREC website and/or recorded on USB drives.	

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

Organisation of regular public events such as public debriefings (at least 4 times a year), annual BEREC Stakeholder Forum, Open doors day and hosting the study visits to the BEREC Office. The events are complemented with visual bearers of the BEREC Office.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

BEREC public events are open for participation, the list of event sis published on the website. Most of the public events are live streamed on BEREC' s website (except the study visits and Open doors day), so that the citizens can watch and interact immediately. The citizens can take active part during the public events - asking questions, making remarks directly while participating or via social media. Citizens can reach the BEREC Office by telephone and email to ask their questions.

CdT

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Not applicable.

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

Since the cancelled carryovers in 2016 represent less than 1% of the Translation Centre's budget, the Centre will keep the existing budget controls in place in order to continue to ensure a low level of cancellations.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	EUR 82 103	Mainly concerns the cancellation of provisional commitments for recruitment costs	EUR 225 990	Concerns cancellations of provisional commitments for energy consumption and telecommunications which were made based on estimates.
Comments	0.3 % of the budget appropriations in Title 1		11% of the budget appropriations in Title 2	

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	EUR 174 552	Mainly concerns cancellations of specific commitments for unused consultancy man-days and invoicing

		changes for the hosting fee for some IT services.
Comments	1 % of the budget appropriations in Title 3	

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications		
Comments	Promotional material relating to publications (Highlights of the year report, leaflets, etc.) are usually produced in-house, published as PDFs on the Centre's website, and printed on demand in-house for specific purposes (management board meetings, meetings with clients, interinstitutional events, etc).	management board, clients, interinstitutional stakeholders etc.

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

In 2016, the Centre embarked on redesigning its public website (www.cdt.europa.eu) which was launched in April 2017. Since reaching out to EU citizens in their own language is one of the Centre's key values, the new website can be browsed in the 24 EU official languages. A timeline features key milestones in the Centre's history and highlights our commitment to multilingualism since 1994. A clear focus has been placed on the role the Centre plays in the EU landscape and on the wide range of language services it offers to its 65 clients spread across the EU. The new website also focuses on the Centre's mission within the framework of interinstitutional cooperation. In addition, it offers the possibility to explore the network of EU Agencies of which the Centre forms part. The website outlines the Centre's cooperation with its external language service providers. Job seekers and tenderers may also find the latest news about recruitment and procurement procedures on the Centre's website.

From the public website, management board members can access the restricted management board website which was fully redesigned and launched in June 2017. In addition, the Centre's clients can access the client portal from the public website, and external language service providers can access the freelance portal from the public website.

Throughout 2016, the Centre continued managing the interinstitutional terminology database IATE (www.iate.europa.eu) on behalf of the EU institutions and continued working on targeted terminology projects for the EU agencies with the aim of making this terminology available in IATE. During 2016, the Centre started developing the first features of the new version of the IATE database (IATE2) which will be made available in 2018. With over 8.6 million terms

covering the 24 EU official languages, nearly 40 million queries per annum and visitors from over 200 countries, IATE has become a reference in the terminology and linguistic field not only for language professionals, but also for national experts, policy advisers, public administrations, academia and private sector companies operating across different specialist areas.

As part of the EU agencies' Heads of Communication and Information Network (HCIN) annual work programme, the Centre conducted a follow-up survey in 2016 on the EU agencies' approaches to multilingualism, as it had done in 2015. The response rate in 2016 was 53.5%. A total of 74% of the responding agencies indicated that they have a multilingual policy and 43% of the responding agencies indicated that they have a multilingual website. Some 13% of the responding agencies are currently reviewing their multilingual policy and many agencies are extending the translated content on their websites. For the future, the Centre suggested that the Network focus on joint multilingual projects to promote the Network. In this context, follow-up surveys on the EU agencies' approaches to multilingualism will be organised every two to three years, based on the consolidated file compiled by the Centre, which consists of the responses to the 2014, 2015 and 2016 surveys.

In 2016, the Centre contributed to the update of the EU agencies' brochure "The EU Agencies working for you", which was released by the EU Agencies' Network (EUAN) on the occasion of the EU Agencies' Forum held in December 2016 at the European Parliament in Brussels. The brochure can be downloaded from the Centre's website.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

The Centre regularly explains its mission and activities to visitors, participates in joint interinstitutional events (such as Europe Day or language fairs), and delivers presentations at conferences organised by translation organisations or academia.

The interinstitutional terminology database IATE, which is managed by the Centre on behalf of the EU institutions, allows citizens to ask questions and provide feedback on terminology entries.

Cedefop

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

Cedefop has taken actions over many years to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs as can be witnessed by the exceptionally low level of unused appropriations. Cedefop employs an internal system of budget monitoring which is constantly tracked and analysed to ensure efficient utilisation of our budget. Also, this high level of budget execution is additional evidence of the Agency's need of additional and vital funding to ensure that its mandate and increased tasks are achieved.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	25,324	Very low figure. Committed amounts for items which eventually were never delivered or at a lower cost etc.	25,879	Very low figure. Committed amounts for items which eventually were never delivered or at a lower cost etc.
Comments	0.25% of appropriations		1.6% of appropriations	

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	0	Differentiated appropriations for Title 3
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	Publications: EUR 276 000 Translations: EUR136 000 Video production and CedefopPhotoAward: EUR 15 000.	Policy makers and social partners at European and national level, researchers, VET providers, practitioners and the wider public via press/media.
Comments	Publication types are 'reference publications', 'research papers', 'booklets', 'flyers and brochures', 'briefing notes', 'newsletters' and corporate publications like 'work programme', 'annual report' and 'Cedefop magazine'. A notable focus is also put on social media communication and audio-visual projects like regular video production and an annual CedefopPhotoAward.	Cedefop's communication strategy provides guidance for use of specific publication types and channels by specific target groups. A consolidated corporate communication planning process ensures an efficient implementation of Cedefop's communication strategy, taking into account the available budgetary and human resources of the agency.

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

The CedefopPhotoAward, an initiative started in close cooperation with the European Commission (DG EMPL) in 2016 and successfully continued in 2017, targets to engage EU residents in education and training (theme: tell your story) and to raise the visibility of Vocational Education and Training. Since 2016 the CedefopPhotoAward social media campaigns reached more 1 million individuals. About 380 learners from 20 EU member states sent valid contributions only last year. Exhibitions and award ceremonies at European Youth Event in Strasbourg (2016), the Thessaloniki International Film Festival (2016 and 2017) and the European Vocational Skills Week in Brussels (2016 and 2017) promoted the attractiveness of VET among citizens of EU member states and beyond.

Europass is a European tool with the objective of helping (a) citizens communicate their skills and qualifications effectively when looking for a job or training (b) employers understand the skills and qualifications of the workforce and (c) education and training authorities define and communicate the content of curricula.

Between February 2005 and August 2017, 100 million Europass CVs were created online through Cedefop's Europass editor. This means that 1 CV is generated online every 1.5 second. Users' feedback is globally very positive and many of them point out the user-friendliness of the editor and the good structure of the CV.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Citizens can follow video streams and live tweets of selected Cedefop events and interact with Cedefop experts via social media. Cedefop welcomes and hosts delegations of interested citizens and stakeholders from all over the world. Individual information requests and questions can be addressed via Cedefop web portal or email.

CEPOL

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

In order to reduce the cancellation of carry-overs and the carry overs themselves the Agency has further improved its budget management and commits to maintain compliance with the budgetary principle of annuality provided in the Financial Regulation. Certain elements for the carry-over are due to legal obligations such as service contracts with start date close to year end, grant based projects and high level of travel expenses related to training activities. The unusual service contract start date is a legacy from Agency removal taken place in October 2014. The Agency is working on possible alignment of those service contract periods to the accounting year.

We would like to remark that the measures introduced in the recent years lead to improvements in the payment forecast and significantly reduced the cancellation rate for carried over funds (from 43% for 2011- 2012, 18% (303k) in 2012-2013, 14% (129k) for 2013-2014, 10% (129k) in 2014-2015, 14%(200k) in 2015- 2016, 12% 9 (200k) in 2016-2017).

It should be noted that in the last 2 years (2016-2017), the poor quality of the services received from the travel service provider had an impact also on the amount to be carried forward, as the invoices for services provided were received at least with 2 months delay after the services have been provided.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	21 109.80	The cancellations for Title 1 refer to recruitment and medical expenditure. For the carry forward exercise, in relation to recruitment the amount was estimated based on the number of candidates to be invited	14 440.57	The main reason for the cancellation was out of CEPOL's control. Big part of the cancelled amount refers to a legal case where the court has postponed the hearing to 2018, therefore the funds

		for interview. The number of candidates participating in the interview and their place of origin are not yet known at the moment of the carry over. The amount of medical expenditure was estimated based on the number of staff eligible for annual medical check-up, the actual number going through medical checkup was not known at the moment of the carry-over.		reserved for legal expenses have to be de-committed and will need to be committed again next year. Telecommunication services covering 1 year period with start date in the middle of the year.
Comments		The 12% cancellation in Title 1 is not a result of lack of prudent budgetary management but it is linked to the nature of expenditure. The amount in absolute term is not high.		

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	136 451.13	For activities organised in the last few months of the year implemented through a grant system, the cancellation can be done only upon reception an acceptance of the final payment request, which is normally due at year N+1, therefore funds are carried over. In the last 2 years, the quality of the services received from the travel service provider had an impact also on the amount to be carried forward, as the invoices for services provided were received at least with 2 months delay.
Comments		Given the fact that the proportion of travel arrangements (27%) and grants for the organisation of residential training activities (46%) is relatively high in the budget for Title 3, the impact of invoices and cost claims not received before the end of the year is very significant.

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	50 000	* EU Law enforcement officers * EU citizens * CEPOL course

		participants
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

CEPOL went through an in depth rebranding that involved its stakeholders and allowed to better connect with EU citizens.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Yes. CEPOL has in place two functional mailboxes, the CEPOL communications and CEPOI Info mailboxes.

These mailboxes are monitored daily and citizen's questions and/or contributions are handled right away. Additionally, since 2015 CEPOL has been using social media channels to inform EU citizens pro-actively on CEPOL activities and services.

EASA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

EU Subsidy

No indications have been yet received from the European Commission on intentions for the post-BREXIT Multiannual Financial Framework. Even in the best case scenario, BREXIT is most likely to lead to an increased workload to maintain European Aviation Safety area standards with UK as a 3rd Country.

In a scenario where no specific agreement would be reached with the UK, the needs of the agency out of the EU budget would significantly increase so to apply 3rd country air safety standard monitoring to the UK (considering the extent of UK aviation activity and the intensity of its exchange with the EU).

This workload increase would be more limited in case a bilateral aviation safety agreement can be put in place by the BREXIT date. In the eventuality that the UK can be fully associated to the European Air Safety area (in a similar extend then is the case for Switzerland or Norway) UK would contribute to the agency budget, offsetting most probably a large part of the increased costs mentioned above. In any case, it would be critical that the number of posts granted to EASA are not reduced as a consequences of BREXIT.

Fees & Charges paid by Industry for EASA Service

The EASA Fees and Charges regulation is designed so that generated financial revenues are proportional to the demand from industrial actors.

In terms of financial revenue in the case that no specific arrangement is reached to integrate post-BREXIT UK to the European Air Safety Area, extra fee from UK actors of the order 12-20 M€ yearly are estimated to be generated (initial approval and surveillance of UK organisations) with a workload proportional to that amount. The workload generated could, in the least favourable BREXIT scenario, require a large one-off effort for recertification of existing UK product (40-60M€) above the workload associated with the usual initial and continued airworthiness of new and existing UK products.

The critical factor to be able to absorb the eventual peak and cruise situation workload resulting from BREXIT scenarios is the capability to build-up capacity through additional posts (financed by Industry) and develop EASA external partner capacity to increase outsourcing of certification tasks. The UK itself represents one of the major outsourcing capacity used by EASA. A BREXIT scenario limiting EASA capacity to rely on UK certification capacity would limit EASA ability to handle the workload consequences of BREXIT under least-favourable-conditions. Mitigation of adverse impact on EU applicants would require a significant increase of its internal capacity, through additional positions to cope with transitory and permanent post-BREXIT UK generated workload.

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

Careful scrutiny and challenging of carryover requests submitted by Authorising Officers has consistently ensured that only amounts with a high degree of payment certainty are carried over. This, along with regular in year monitoring and financial training on the importance of limiting carry overs to what is absolutely necessary, has enabled the Agency to continually remain below the 5% target.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	11,083.74	Amounts cancelled were not material and relate to very small cancellations spread across a number of commitments.	264,926.27	Cancellations mainly relate to IT Time and Means contracts where the supplier's estimates were higher than the actual man days required to complete the task resulting in de-commitments.
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	170,952.10	In a limited number of cases, contractors/experts did not complete the services or perform the work to the level of quality required. Based on the principle of sound financial management the Agency decided to limit payments to a level appropriate to the actual work performed in line with contractual agreements.
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	10000 euros spent on promotional material and 50000 on all publications	Aviation stakeholders and general public.
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

EASA is constantly working to improve its visibility among the general public. In particular a lot of effort is put on an active presence in the social media (Twitter, Facebook and You Tube). The latest developments have included the live streaming on You Tube of the main conferences organised by the Agency.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Any citizen can contribute to the work of the Agency by commenting Notice of Proposed Amendments (NPA) to the regulations which are proposed by the Agency. The recent NPA on drones received a very large amount of contribution from the European citizens. Moreover, EASA has set up a reporting procedure allowing European citizens to bring to the attention of the Agency their safety concerns.

EASO

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

n/a

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

Budget performance improvements:

- New user-friendly and interactive budget reporting tools has been implemented and made available to all the manager (Power BI)
- The planning function has been reinforced with a new Unit.
- A Senior Budget Officer post has been created and the selection process is under-going.
- A new ABB/ABC is under construction and will be implemented in 2018

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	66,589.93	these cancellations were mainly in the area of recruitment where funds were not used due to less candidates being eventually invited than planned, pre employment medical checks were not necessary or other. Corrective measures have been put in place including monitoring tables for budgetary	275,587.04	The main reason for the cancelation is the cancelation of C2 funds for the new EASO building. As the project for reasons out of the agency's control was not completed on time the payment appropriations were cancelled.

		follow up.		
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	162,826.62	The amount is small (only 4%) hence no further analysis was carried out.
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	264.851,69	General public, Applicants for international protection, EU Stakeholders, National asylum authorities
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

- Regular meetings with Civil Society Organisations and NGOs;
- Increased EASO's presence in the press, in comparison to 2015, with around 900 mentions of EASO in 2016;
- 23 Press Releases issued;
- Dozens of presentations to visitors groups from the general public (including students);
- Organisation of the EASO Info days, in cooperation with the National Communication Multipliers, with activities in most EU Member States, such as Information desks, talks, presentations, videos and quizzes;
- Organisation of a photo exhibition at EASO's headquarters and the European Parliament;
- Organisation of a Consultative Forum plenary meeting with approximately 180 participants;
- Attendance and interventions at workshops/forums/conferences;
- Provided replies to more than 1500 information requests from EU and non-EU citizens received via the INFO mailbox;

Publications:

- Management and dissemination of 94 publications;
- Dissemination of 10 editions of the public EASO Newsletter;
- Publication of the Annual Report on the Situation of Asylum in the EU.

Web & Social Media:

- Launched a revamped website - increased visibility on the website by 200% compared to 2015;
- Maintained and enhanced EASO's presence on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram;
- Produced 7 videos on EASO activities (In addition to video on EU Emergency Relocation Scheme);
- More appealing infographics: Relevant maps and charts were created and added on the website;

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Yes. EASO considers transparency and interaction with the public to be a cornerstone of its work.

- Citizens may get involved in the work of our Agency primarily through the Consultative Forum. The Consultative Forum is a mechanism for the exchange of information and pooling of knowledge created to ensure that a close dialogue is established between the Agency and civil society. The Forum is open to civil society organisations and competent bodies operating in the field of asylum policy at local, regional, national, European or international level. Members of the Forum include e.g. representatives from NGOs, IGOs, academia, MS authorities, EU institutions as well as also individuals/citizens interested in the topic of asylum and wanting to be involved in the debate on and implementation of asylum policy.
- Consultative Forum members can participate and be involved in EASO's work through Consultative Forum Meetings, consultations on key EASO documents and can also be invited to take part in thematic workshops, working parties, expert meetings, etc.
- EASO welcomes visits from private citizens as well as groups;
- EASO has an functional Information 'INFO' Mailbox where private citizens can ask questions and propose ideas. A policy of replying to incoming mail is strongly enforced;
- Citizens can request EASO documents under Regulation 1049/2001 on Public Access to Documents. This is facilitated by a dedicated area on the EASO website;
- EASO holds an Info Day in the majority of EU Member States wherein the public is welcome to find out about the Agency's activities, as well as contribute suggestions. The goal for 2018 is to hold such an event in every Member State;
- EASO has an open Social Media policy, wherein the general public is welcome to engage/discuss with the Agency, including via e-Messaging;
- All EASO governance documents are available on the Agency's website (including budgetary documents, work programmes, annual activity reports, establishment plans, annual accounts and Operational Plans);
- All Country of Origin Information (COI) Reports are published in order to serve as a public resource;
- EASO publishes an extensive monthly Newsletter detailing all major activities carried out, as well as providing monthly asylum data to the general public.

EBA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

The EBA budget is funded as below

(i) The EU subsidy funds 40% of total budget; of which 5% * represents the UK % of total (approx.); i.e. the UK proportion is Eu 779,000, compared to the total EU subsidy, of Eu 15,077,000 [of the 2018 budget]

plus

(ii) National competent authorities funds 60% of total budget; of which 8% represents the UK % of total (approx.); i.e. UK proportion is Eu 1,987,000 compared to the total NCAs contribution, of Eu 24,098,000 [of the 2018 budget]

i.e. Total budget is Eu 39 875 000; of which 6.9% represents the UK % of total (approx.) or Eu 2,766,000.

[* based on 2016 information published by the EU]

As a conservative estimate, 79% of the EBA budget is non-discretionary. In this category, the EBA includes staff costs; lease costs; maintenance, utilities and telecoms costs; software licences; translation costs; and a small amount of working group meeting costs.

We estimate that a further 19% of activities driving costs are required but where the EBA has some influence on the amount of the cost. This category includes language training; staff missions; recruitment costs; IT hardware; telecoms and communications costs; office costs (maintenance, stationery); and IT project costs.

Regarding how the EBA will want to work with a potential reduced budget, the EBA takes note of the European Commission's review of the ESAs, proposal September 2017, which proposes future funding of the EBA from fees from Industry; and the Communication from the Commission to the European Council (Article 50) of 8 December 2017, https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/1_en_act_communication.pdf, that noted that the "UK will contribute to, and participate in, the implementation of the EU annual budgets for the years 2019 and 2020 as if it had remained in the Union".

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

In general, the EBA is planning its year-end closure earlier and working to reduce the year-end workload by e.g. ensuring that the anticipated budget and the next year's full budget are in place earlier.

With regard to reducing the impact of foreign exchange movements, the EBA has ensured that where the value of a legal commitment is not in euros we reduce the budgetary commitment to match the relevant year-end exchange rates.

With regard to over-estimations of value, the EBA is improving its training of, and support to, financial circuit actors on year-end matters and has implemented stronger checks of legal commitment calculations.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	€ 17,842	Approximately 46% of de-commitments due to exchange rate fluctuations (increase in EUR:GBP exchange rate). Balance due to: overestimation of PMO charges; lower than anticipated take-up of language courses.	€ 258,319	Approximately 37% of de-commitments due to exchange rate fluctuations (increase in EUR:GBP exchange rate). 30% due to overestimation of business rates for Canary Wharf offices, resulting in part from a lack of information provided by UK authorities. 11% resulting from negotiations with Canary Wharf group giving lower cost for fit-out and lease interest. Balance due to lower than planned utilisation of IT services and delay court case with European Dynamics.
Comments	Since 2016, the EBA has put significant efforts into improving the accuracy of the carry-forward. As a result, the carry-forward from 2016 to 2017 was the lowest ever for the EBA, both		Since 2016, the EBA has put significant efforts into improving the accuracy of the carry-forward. As a result, the carry-forward from 2016 to 2017 was the lowest ever for the EBA, both as a	

	as a percentage and in nominal terms.		percentage and in nominal terms.	
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	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	€ 37,086	Approximately 7% of de-commitments due to exchange rate fluctuations (increase in EUR:GBP exchange rate). 34% due to lower than planned usage of Oracle services. 17% due to lower than anticipated cost for translations. Balance due to overestimation of reimbursement claims for missions, BSG meetings and Board of Appeal meetings.
Comments	Since 2016, the EBA has put significant efforts into improving the accuracy of the carry-forward. As a result, the carry-forward from 2016 to 2017 was the lowest ever for the EBA, both as a percentage and in nominal terms.	

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	Publications for the general public are Eu 60,000. Promotional material for stakeholders Eu10,000. Publications for stakeholders Eu950,000.	The target audience for EBA publications are primarily competent banking and other financial supervisory authorities, press, financial industry, EU institutions, academia, analysts, and EU consumers. Further, branded goods are targeted to EBA Board of Supervisors Members/visitors/staff.
Comments	Publications for the general public are Eu 60,000. This includes the printing of hard copies of the EBA's Annual Report and its summary. Promotional material for stakeholders Eu10,000. Namely, branded good distributed to EBA Board of Supervisors Members/visitors/staff Publications for stakeholders Eu950,000. This is the cost for	All EBA publications are published on the EBA's website; in addition, for the EBA's Annual Report, this is published on the website and also hard copies are produced; further, the summary of the EBA's Annual report is published in all the EU

	the publication of all EBA's products from its core activities, including proofreading and translation (and production for the EBA's Risk Assessment Report, http://www.eba.europa.eu/risk-analysis-and-data/risk-assessment-reports)	official languages.
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5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

The European Banking Authority is an agency that is mandated, as per its founding Regulation, to bring about convergence of the regulation and supervision of financial institutions across the 28 Member States in the EU.

Its output is therefore primarily, if not exclusively, addressed, not to citizens and consumers but to financial institutions. Some EBA products such as consumer warnings can be addressed directly to citizens.

Further, the EBA does not have the power directly to supervise financial institutions in any given Member State, including in respect of their conduct towards consumers, which remains a responsibility of the national authorities in the 28 Member States.

The EBA does not have the power to deal with, and resolve, individual consumer complaints, which remains a responsibility of national authorities.

The composition of the EBA's Banking Stakeholder Group, includes consumer representatives, as mandated by the EBA's Founding Regulation, which allows those consumer representatives, direct insight and input into the work of the Agency. (See more details under the next question.)

The EBA has taken a number of steps that have increased its visibility in the course of its normal work, such as the following:

One of the legal instruments made available to the EBA through its Founding Regulation is a "Warning", which is the EBA's tool to communicate directly with consumers on issues that are pertinent and urgent for the EBA's mandate of protecting consumers.

Warnings are written by the EBA in deliberately simple and non-legalistic language that are easy to understand for consumers. So far, the EBA has issued two of them, one in relation to virtual currencies (VC), the other one in relation to so-called 'contracts for difference'. The former, in particular, was reproduced in hundreds of mainstream media outlets across the EU, and ensured a significant reach of the EBA's messages of discouraging consumer to buy, hold or sell these topics.

Many of the Technical Standards and Guidelines that the EBA has been developing are disclosure documents that financial institutions are required to make available to existing and/or prospective customers.

These documents contain information about the features, costs, and/or risks of financial products such as for payment accounts, mortgages, and/or packaged retail investment products. In order to assess various options for the design of these documents against criteria such as 'ease of use' and 'comprehensibility', the EBA carried out extensive consumer testing with a representative sample of consumers across a large number of EU Member States, through surveys and focus-

groups. The EBA has also developed a common symbol for these disclosure documents, which will identify these documents, containing the EU yellow and blue colours, and will be displayed on millions of hard copies and thousands of websites across the EU, enhancing not necessarily the visibility of the agency, but that of the EU more widely.

The EBA has an easily accessible “consumer corner” on its website [<http://www.eba.europa.eu/consumer-corner;jsessionid=C67CF904DF40A430A21FD203DE061A4E>], displayed in plain English, that provides useful information to consumers, such as how to complain at a national-level, the names and addresses of the national supervisory authorities, amongst others.

In 2016, the EBA marked its first five years of activity by organising a 5th Anniversary conference, which significantly contributed to enhancing the visibility of the Authority and of its work. In addition, the EBA has continued to boost its visibility and accountability through its regular engagement with stakeholders (consultations and public hearings), which precedes the publication of every single deliverable of the Authority.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Yes.

The legal instruments of the EBA (i.e. regulatory technical standards and implementing technical standards and, guidelines and recommendations) are subject to consultation periods, typically of three months, during which external stakeholders can contribute to the policy development process. These consultations are open to everyone, including individual consumers, although their contributions have been more the exception than the rule.

The EBA also has a Banking Stakeholder Group, its major advisory group, which is established in accordance with the requirements under the EBA's Founding Regulation. This Group is composed of 30 members appointed to represent in balanced proportions credit and investment institutions operating in the Union, their employees' representatives as well as consumers, users of financial services, academics and representatives of SMEs. The Group's role is to help facilitate consultation with stakeholders in areas relevant to the tasks of the EBA. In particular, the Group shall be consulted on actions concerning the legal instruments of the EBA, to the extent that these do not concern individual financial institutions. The Group may also submit opinions and advice to the Authority on any issue related to the tasks of the Authority, with particular focus on common supervisory culture, peer reviews of competent authorities and assessment of market developments. The Group may also submit a request to the Authority, as appropriate, to investigate the alleged breach or non-application of Union law.

The Consultation Papers that the EBA issues in relation to requirements that are aimed at protecting consumers regularly benefit from responses by EU consumer associations, such as BEUC, COFACE, Better Finance and others. The EBA subsequently publishes in its “feedback tables” to its consultations, feedback as to how respondents, such as consumers' responses, are or are taken on board, and why, which the EBA views is a major component to ensure transparency on how the EBA develops its requirements/policies.

For some of EBA's publications, such as its annual EBA Consumer Trends Report, the EBA has made an effort in the past to get closer to the concerns of consumers on the grounds, by seeking input, from not only EU consumer association but also their constituent national consumer association members. The responses received have been good but the EBA remains looking at ways to improve this in future years.

ECDC

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

ECDC has analysed the level of cancelled carryovers over the past 7 years per budget line and has been taking specific measures based on this analysis. ECDC will continue its strict approach to carryovers with the necessity for each carryover request to provide specific justifications and clear planning for its implementation. For projects with implementation cycles over one calendar year, we are limiting the implementation period and allow exceptional situations will require approval from the Director. ECDC also focused on improving contract management skills in order to better deal with potential contractual and performance issues early in the process not to affect ECDC ability to implement potential funds carried over. In addition, ECDC is planning to communicate its planned carryovers to the Court of Auditors as part of its annual planning. As part of its continuous improvement activities and introduction of the Lean methodology, ECDC is also reviewing its planning preparation activities. The use of differentiated appropriations has been considered, and will still be considered in the future for some specific activities but this approach still need to prove to be effective in relation to reducing the level of cancelled carryovers.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	167.875,02€	100.419€ was cancelled on interim services	124.327,83€	funds were cancelled on Governance, telecommunications and some funds on ICT lines
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	661.552,02€	multi-annual projects
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	The overall publications budget in 2016 was EUR 51,000 and additional EUR 90,000 for translations, mainly for technical scientific publications. The only promotional material / publication in 2016 was the summary version of the Director's Annual Report (print EUR 400, distribution EUR 200 and translation EUR 46,500). The report is available on the ECDC website in all EU languages.	Stakeholders within public health; i.e. health professionals, policy makers, health communicators & media
Comments	Less and less material is being printed. Instead we are using the ECDC web portal and social media channels for dissemination of publications and awareness raising audiovisuals. This work is done by in-house staff and is thus not reflected in the budget figures.	

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

Visibility to citizens in Europe is ensured via the ECDC website and through social media channels, as well as through ECDC support to Europe-wide public health campaigns, The new ECDC Communication Strategy was approved by the ECDC Management Board in 2016 and outlined the vision and the objectives for ECDC communication up until 2020. Based on this strategy, ECDC worked on an annual communication plan in collaboration with its disease programmes. In 2016, the main communication outputs were the following:

- EU Laboratory Capability Monitoring System (EuLabCap report)
- World TB Day
- European Immunisation Week (EIW)

- Summer season – mosquito-borne diseases
- European Antibiotic Awareness Day (EAAD)
- World AIDS Day (WAD)

In 2016, EAAD received the European Health Award from the European Health Forum Gastein which added recognition and visibility to ECDC and its activities.

ECDC released a policy briefing on last-line antibiotics. ECDC worked on the usability tests for the new ECDC website that was launched the following year, in mid-2017.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Direct involvement of citizens took place through public consultations. In 2016, ECDC consulted the public and stakeholders on several topics related to the mandate of the agency:

- 1) In February 2016 on the expert Opinion on neuraminidase inhibitors for prevention and treatment of influenza (<https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/expert-opinion-neuraminidase-inhibitors-prevention-and-treatment-influenza-feb>)
- 2) In July 2016 on the proposals for draft EU guidelines on the prudent use of antimicrobials in human medicine (<https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/public-consultation-proposals-draft-eu-guidelines-prudent-use-antimicrobials>)
- 3) In October 2016 on the expert opinion on rotavirus vaccination in infancy (<https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/expert-opinion-rotavirus-vaccination-infancy-public-consultation-opens>)

For each of the above mentioned consultations, ECDC has taken into account the comments received from the scientific community and stakeholders and addressed them in the final version of each document, in line with ECDC's commitment to openness and transparency.

ECHA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Presently, it is impossible to estimate the exact impact of the UK withdrawal from the European Union on ECHA's financing. Measured statistically, the subsidies from the EU budget to ECHA could decline to the order of 14% (based on the UK contribution to the budget, without considering the UK rebate). However, as ECHA has mixed funding, the EU subsidy is a "balancing subsidy" required to balance the expenditure after accounting for the fee income. As from 2019 onwards, EU subsidy will be ECHA's main source of financing to more than 70% and currently, it is unknown how the UK withdrawal will impact the overall EU contributions to the Agencies.

In recent years, the share of the UK has been about 12% of ECHA's REACH/CLP fee income. As a mitigating factor to the UK withdrawal, it is pointed out that the main income stemming from registrations has already been cashed by the time UK withdrawal enters into force. The current registrations and authorisations will remain valid after the UK withdrawal but the UK companies will have to find an EU representative. If the cooperation between UK authorities and ECHA would continue, the UK withdrawal might not lead to significant loss of fee income to ECHA in future years. Moreover, if the UK authorities would remain under REACH/CLP, Biocides and PIC Regulations, UK would be expected to make a special financial contribution.

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

In order to reduce the amount of cancelled carry-overs, the Agency has put more emphasis on training the project managers to estimate the amounts carried over as closely as possible, taking into account the best available information. At the same time, it has been emphasised that no contingencies should be included in the amounts to be carried over and, that for provisional commitments, a very prudent approach for estimating the required amount should be applied. Furthermore, the Agency has extended the use of differentiated budget lines for contracts with the Member States, in order to mitigate the risk of cancelled carry-overs stemming from these. These measures have already had effect in 2017 with the aim of further reducing the cancelled carry-over in 2018.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	€154.176,00	In Title 1, the amount of cancelled C8 appropriations totalled €154k, consisting of various budget lines, principally related to training and interim staff contracts. The main reasons behind in the case of interims were related to holidays taken after the carry-over assessment, which resulted in lower payments than anticipated in the following year. In some cases the cancellation of C8s was also due to cancellation of the activity/contract. Finally, in case of trainings, often the final costs were lower than originally estimated either due to lower travel costs or fewer days provided.	€182.844,00	Many of the contracts in Title 2 are time and means contracts i.e. they are consumption based and the final invoices are based on the realised consumption, which is difficult to estimate at the time of estimating the carry-overs. The largest individual items are related to IT consultancy and provision of web conferencing services where the services finally invoiced were lower than estimated at the time of the carry-over exercise. In addition, there were several smaller amounts mainly in the area of IT and legal services, where the amount needed based on resource/ consultants availability and demand for the services was finally lower than originally estimated.
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	€624.434,00	On a budget line level, the largest individual cancelled amount (€235k) stemmed from the contracts with the MS for Substance evaluation, where the amounts invoiced based on actual hours worked were below the maximum hours covered by the contract. Clearly these types of cancellations could not have been foreseen at the time estimating the carry-overs. There were also rapporteur contracts for Annex XV dossiers where one had to be cancelled and a minor amount was paid (resulting in a cancellation of almost €50k) on the other contract. Similarly to Title 2, part of the cancelled amounts related to IT services like testing and consultancy, where the consumption is based on resource/consultants availability and demand for the services, which is sometimes difficult to

		estimate in advance before invoice is received.
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	€35.134,50 (publications €28.500, promotional material €6.634,50)	Mainly ECHA Stakeholders, occasionally/rarely general public.
Comments	The cost for publications is relevant to their printed version.	The target group for both items has been mainly ECHA stakeholders (e.g. publications distributed at ECHA's events, workshops or conferences attended by ECHA staff. To the general public on Europe's Day events.

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

A dedicated section of the ECHA website (called "Chemicals in our life") is aimed at the general public and translated in 22 languages. It was further developed in 2016. On 09/05/2016, in the context of the Europe Day ECHA participated to a local event in Helsinki to celebrate Europe, marking its presence with a roll-up and distributing the official brochure of the Agency. In 2016, ECHA posted actively on social media – Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn - where there is the possibility to engage with citizens. The number of followers has been steadily increasing. ECHA promoted its activities together with other European and national multipliers, approaching wider audiences and therefore enhancing its visibility. Citizens have been reached through the active media work of the Agency, which ensures a constant presence and visibility in the main specialised media. ECHA often hosts (as it was in 2016) general visitor groups (e.g. schools, academies, local institutions) interested to get to know the Agency's work. In cooperation with the other EU Agencies, a dedicated website (<https://euagencies.eu/>), a brochure translated in all EU languages and an animated video were produced to enhance the visibility of EU Agencies. ECHA's premises have two new info screens facing the street, informing passers-by about the Agency's core activities in Finnish, Swedish and English.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Citizens can be directly involved in ECHA's work by participating to the Agency's public consultations, organised to get feedback from all interested parties and to gather the widest possible range of scientific information for the regulatory processes. Moreover, everybody has the possibility to contact the Agency through its Helpdesk to ask questions about ECHA' work or to provide feedback, which are registered and followed up. ECHA also issues periodic surveys where everybody can express the level of satisfaction on a specific process/product. Finally, the online Newsletter provide a commenting feature for readers where they can express their feedback. Every year more citizens consult the ECHA website to verify whether substances that they buy in products are dangerous.

EEA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

At the current point in time it has not been possible to initiate a thorough preparation of the Agency's activities following Brexit as the consequences on resources and mandate has not been clarified.

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

The level of cancelled carry-overs is below 1% of the total budget and no particular action has been taken further reduce this amount.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	EUR 60,800.04		EUR 89,668.12	
Comments	n/a		n/a	

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	EUR 194,443.13	
Comments	The cancelled carry-overs primarily stem from partnership framework agreements (grants). The control and follow-up on costs statements are	

	done rigorously throughout the year.	
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Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	EUR 292,431.68	For the target groups and audiences, promotional materials are distributed at events, conferences, launches, meetings and MEP visiting groups. We also distribute promotional materials to stakeholders at in-house meetings (such as Eionet meetings), and by EEA staff taking part in external events and meetings. The EEA continuously strive to enhance the knowledge of the EEA web address and logo, and strengthening ties with the Agency. Please find a list of the main selected intergovernmental, institutional and public events where the EEA was present and displayed our promotional materials at our exhibition stands in 2016. - Sustainable cities conference in Bilbao 27-29 April - Poster and publications at Czech youth art contest, Prague, 16-18 May - Naturmødet, Hirtshals 26-28 May - UNECE ministerial conference in Batumi, Georgia, 8-10 June - Resilient Cities conference in Bonn, 5-8 July - Green economy conference (T2GE) in Bratislava, 6-7 September - GEO conference in St Petersburg (part of joint EU stand) 6-7 November For the dissemination of our reports and newsletters we use our Client relations management tool. We have over 8000 persons who have actively subscribed to receiving our reports and newsletter. Our reports are also available in the EU bookshop or downloadable via the EEA website (free of charge). We also distribute reports at conferences and events where EEA staff are invited as speakers. The annual report Signals has also been distributed to schools in Sweden via the Swedish National Focal Point.
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

In 2016 the EEA has again put efforts into Citizen Communication – in a continuing context of declining resources. The 2016 Signals publication “Towards clean and smart mobility” is our flagship product towards citizen. It was launched in June and produced in several languages and disseminated widely across Europe. Another activity is the annual EEA photo competition, in 2016 addressing the topic of ‘My City’, gathering 1,200 photos from all over Europe on how European citizens see their urban environment. The EEA continues to develop its online channels. We reached 46181 Twitter followers and 25439 Facebook Fans in 2016 and registered 9937 media articles, an 26% increase compared to 2015.

We also strive to continuously improve our website. In 2016 we undertook a thematic restructuring of the homepage with thematic clusters put in place. Design and tagging, content update work was set in motion.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Citizens can and do approach the EEA through our enquiry service and a public forum at <https://community.eea.europa.eu/>. In total we receive around 800 requests per year.

EFCA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

N/A

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

EFCA implemented a procedure few years ago under which carry overs are estimated/planned early in the second half of each year. Each project manager reports any planned carry forward and accrual well in advance. This has increased the awareness on the relevance of the procedure and the need to identify any potential cancellation. In addition, the requirement of a sound legal basis during the carry forward has been reinforced.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	7,296 EUR	Minor adjustments due to lower final invoice amount	14,079 EUR	Related to SLAs with the EC which are invoiced 1st-2nd Quarter of year N+1. There are differences between the estimated amount and final amount of the invoice.
Comments	0.1% of Title 1 budget 2016		1.1% of Title 2 budget 2016	

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	32,219 EUR	Around 35% of it is due to an overestimated offer by one provider. The rest is mainly related to missions (real expenses lower than estimated) and meetings (lower attendance) legally committed before CF but organised during the first weeks of year N+1.
Comments	0.5% of Title 3 budget 2016	

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	8,098 EUR	They address both stakeholders that are involved in the fisheries sector as well as the general public
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?
Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?*

The EFCA celebrated Europe Day with local stakeholders and public in Vigo. The event was attended by prominent regional and local authorities as well as other fisheries stakeholders and representatives of the civil society and was widely covered in the regional press. The EFCA also participated to the European Maritime Day 2016 in Turku, Finland.

Moreover, the EFCA sponsored a mural in Vigo. Addressed to the citizens, this piece of public art helps convey a message of the sustainability of the ocean. This initiative was made possible thanks to the agreement of the City Council, in line with the aim to develop cooperation at a local level. The paintings were inaugurated in October at the same time that a corporate video was released, which was filmed during the making of the mural.

To correspond with World Oceans Day, a photo contest under the theme "Wonders of the Ocean" was organised. The contest took place on 8 June. EFCA temporary agents, contract agents, national experts, external service providers and trainees, as well as their families, participated in the event.

Several visits were organised to EFCA, inter alia a group of students from the University of Alicante's International Master in Sustainable Fisheries Management on 12 May.

As agreed in the Annual Communication Plan for 2016, the Annual Report, Multiannual Work Programme and Annual Work Programme were printed and distributed. Additionally, the “mission and objectives” page of the website was translated into all EU languages.

Citizens can get involved in EFCA work by visiting EFCA or by getting information from their website, social media platform and publications. Moreover, citizens gathered in civil society organisations participate in EFCA work through the representation of the Advisory Councils in EFCA Advisory Board.

EFSA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	82 K or 9% of the amount carried over	Mainly related to services cancelled or lower invoicing than expected	60 K or 3 % of the amount carried over	Mainly related to lower invoicing than expected in the field of building & telecommunication consumption
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	147 K or 3 % of the amount carried over	Mainly related to reduced costs than expected in the field of experts meetings & conferences
Comments		

The above figures are still provisional. All-in, the cancellation of carry-over represents 4% of the amounts carried over from 2016 and 0.4% of the non-differentiated budget 2016.

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	Amount spent = 6,773.47 €	Materials are distributed at conferences/meetings in which EFSA as an institution or individual staff members participates, both in the EU and worldwide. Target audience: main stakeholders (i.e.: risk assessors and risk managers, national authorities, members of Parliament, journalists, etc.), scientist and in the case of the corporate brochure also general public.
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

- Openness and transparency are fundamental aspects of EFSA's work (they are enshrined in the Authority's founding regulation 178/2002/EC in articles 38 and 39). These core values are critical as they provide a framework that promotes confidence in and visibility of the work of EFSA among citizens. Enhancing openness and transparency allows EFSA to better attract expertise and data from the external world, and this improves the quality of its output. A risk communication policy that integrates societal concerns helps building public trust in the organization. The latter is essential notably since it allows mitigating risks and enhancing the efficiency of the Authority's work.
- In this context, recourse to social science became increasingly important in EFSA's daily work. This allows EFSA increasing its presence on social media (mainly on Twitter and LinkedIn) while also renewing the visual contents available on its website, producing more videos and infographics. The purpose is to increase citizens' knowledge of the Agency's work and explain the comprehensive approach it follows to ensure food safety.
- EFSA has also established the Communications Experts Network, which is one of EFSA's scientific networks. It makes communication departments of the national food safety agencies and EFSA work together to share best practices on communicating risks in the food chain and to promote coherence of messages across the EU, especially during food-related emergencies. This increases the knowledge of EFSA in each Member State and strengthens its visibility throughout Europe.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

- To maximise transparency, EFSA broadcasts important meetings and events through its website. Moreover, it regularly opens meetings of its Scientific Committee and Panels to observers. Citizens hence may follow EFSA's meetings in person or via webcast, in order to see first-hand how EFSA's Scientific Committee and its Scientific Panels discuss and adopt their scientific assessments. Attendees are also encouraged to pose questions to EFSA's

scientific experts. The calendar of upcoming events and scientific meetings is published on EFSA's website at the following address: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/advanced-search>.

- All Management Board meetings are open to the public, who can participate as observers or follow on demand via webcast. All relevant documents are also posted on the website prior to meetings. Audio recording of each Management Board meeting is made available on the website after the meeting (same day or day after at the latest).
- The Agency has established the Ask EFSA Service, which is the main entrance door for citizens that aim to interact, ask questions or provide feedbacks to EFSA. The Service provides individual responses to every single question in the original language of the request. EFSA commits to reply within 15 working days at the latest from the receipt of a question; statistics for 2017 confirm that most of the times responses are provided in less than 5 working days. EFSA takes in great consideration what citizens think about the organization,
- Since 2016, EFSA has set up innovation prizes for fostering new ideas, technologies and services that solve specific challenges. Prizes are awarded to entrants who have proposed cutting-edge innovative solutions to a given problem. The first edition was Hackathon, an innovation prize for developers and designers from all over Europe aimed to create an app that gives easy access to the Authority's work.
- EFSA also regularly consults the scientific community and other stakeholders on its guidance documents and scientific outputs of keen public interest. EFSA publishes a public consultations planner whereby details of all the public consultations EFSA expects to hold over the coming months are given (<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/consultationsplanner>). Furthermore, where appropriate, it incorporates the information gained into the final output. At the end of a consultation, EFSA always reports on the feedbacks received. By getting insights, data and other feedbacks from citizens, the Agency takes in consideration the widest possible range of views and scientific information, ensuring a continuous improvement in its outputs.
- Since 2015 EFSA has launched a number of actions to respond to new societal demands and technological opportunities and further embed transparency and engagement into its scientific work. As an example, among initiatives undertaken under the Information Management Programme, EFSA developed the Knowledge Junction Community where structured/unstructured evidence that EFSA collects and uses in its risk assessment can be openly shared and published.

EIGE

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

N/A

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

Closer monitoring of Title III introduced

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	17 766.71		6 977.23	
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	19 386.70	Cancelled carry-overs in all titles amounted to EUR 44 130.64 or 1.86 % of the carry-over amount or 0.58 % of the total budget (C1) of EIGE.
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	83 432	Policy-makers and knowledge-brokers (civil society organisations, social partners, academia) at EU and national level.
Comments	EIGE is increasingly moving towards digital publications.	Special focus was given to policy makers outside of the gender equality community, with an aim to get them interested and engaged in EIGE's work.

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

Active presence in two social media platforms, resulting in 3,500 new followers on Facebook and 1,800 on Twitter and a total outreach of almost 2 million. EIGE's videos viewed altogether 52,700 times. Citizen's views represented through civil society organisations, such as European Women's Lobby, Social Platform and MenEngage. Two public events in Vilnius in 2016 (International Women's Day and on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women). Five public events in Member States.

Wider circulation of the monthly newsletter; translation of the content of the web site into multiple languages of at least the main themes; Member State Visits (min 5 per year) where – in cooperation with the Ministries and Authorities of the Member States we reach out to Civil Society and Academic organisations and hold information sharing sessions.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Directly: through social media and Member Consultations and public events.

Indirectly: through civil society organisations.

EIOPA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

The exact amount of the future lack of payments is not known yet and will not only depend on withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union but also on potential upcoming changes of EIOPA's regulatory framework. The Founding regulations of the ESAs are currently under review, including the funding models. According to the proposed amendments EIOPA is supposed to be funded by the EU and through industry contributions. At the moment EIOPA is financed by EU contributions (40%) and by Member States contributions (60%). The UK contributions represent approximately 5% or 1,180,567€ of the total EIOPA budget in 2017. Accordingly, the possible decline in revenue will need to be absorbed by the new funding arrangements and/or by a further reprioritisation of the activities in the Work Programme.

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

In EIOPA's case the cancelled carry-overs relate mostly to staff expenses such as for socio-medical items, training and missions. The agency has already introduced a very prudent planning and control process to limit the future cancellation of carry-overs. Furthermore the agency has aligned the renewal of the contracts for its running services to the financial year and aims to have the budget of year n+1 adopted by mid-December to enable initiating the related commitments under n+1 to limit the carry overs.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	88.739,39	Cancellation of external services, training expenditure and socio-medical services.	31.697,63	Lower telecommunication costs and meeting expenditure.
Comments				

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	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	58.351,45	Reduced maintenance costs for operational software & hardware, missions expenditure and legal advice under the operational budget.
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	<p>Annual Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design by Imprimerie Centrale: EUR 4,124 • Translation of the Executive Summary by Centre de traduction: EUR 15,334 • JCT booklet EUR 859.63 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority target group: EU Institutions • Accessible to all Stakeholders via EIOPA's Website – see link: https://eiopa.europa.eu/publications/annual-reports
Comments	EIOPA publishes via its Website publications, such as the Annual Work Programme, Annual Report, Financial Stability Report, Consumer Trend Report, etc. For further information see link to the relevant section on EIOPA's Website: https://eiopa.europa.eu/publications	All stakeholders: • Industry (Insurance and Pensions) • Governmental organisations • Non-Governmental organisations • Policy makers • EU institutions • Academia • Media • Analysts • Public at large

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

- As a body of the European Union with the mandate carrying out specific legal, technical or scientific tasks and giving evidence-based advice to help shape informed policies and laws at the EU and national level.
- However, the citizens are represented through EIOPA's stakeholder groups (which include consumer organisations, etc. – see link to section on EIOPA's Website:

<https://eiopa.europa.eu/about-eiopa/organisation/stakeholder-groups>). The two stakeholder groups are regularly called upon to participate in EIOPA consultations.

- Similarly all our consultations are open to everyone via EIOPA's Website – see link: <https://eiopa.europa.eu/Pages/Pressroom/Calendar/Consultations.aspx> including to consumer organisations not represented in our stakeholder groups. On legislative files public hearings are regularly held engaging all stakeholders in the dialogue and exchange. Moreover, on occasions surveys are run online on EIOPA's website seeking input on various consumer protection related activities with a view to gathering direct input from citizens.

- In addition our Chairman, Executive Director and members of EIOPA's management are invited by the European Parliament to report regularly on achievements and actions.

- Basic information about EIOPA's activities can be obtained via EIOPA's Website in all EU languages in an effort to make our work more accessible – see link: <https://eiopa.europa.eu/publications/annual-reports>.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

See above explanation.

EIT

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

EIT has increased the frequency of the monitoring of consumptions and improved its internal controls on carried over amounts.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	18,704.25	The execution rate on trainings was lower than expected due to the fact that fewer staff members attended trainings than planned (due to the very high workload in 2017).	35,518.91	Primarily derives from expenses related to the security, postal and telecommunication costs, and travel costs of EIT Governing Board members, which by nature are difficult to estimate.
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs		
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	49,418.00	EIT Award Winners, EIT Award Nominees, visitors to the EIT Headquarters and participants in EIT workshops and conferences as well as stakeholders interested in new technologies, innovation and entrepreneurship
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

The EIT has continued to focus its external communications activities on one overarching objective, namely to increase the level of awareness, visibility and understanding of the EIT Community (EIT and its six KICs), its activities and achievements across the European innovation landscape.

To achieve this, the EIT continued to implement the recommendations put forward in its Communications Strategy. To this end, the EIT has consolidated its digital communications portfolio and engaged more pro-actively with the media. The EIT's website supported the EIT in presenting itself and its activities clearly and coherently. Supported by the deployment of latest functionalities such as the multi-lingual option presenting key EIT information in all EU official languages in 2016, the EIT website has become more user friendly by also facilitating a modern two-way interaction, thus enabling its stakeholders to increase their level of understanding of and engagement with the EIT. In addition to its website, the EIT also strengthened its presence on social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram) in order to engage more actively with its target audiences as well as reach new audiences potentially interested in EIT Community activities.

The EIT also engages pro-actively with the media and is building good relationships with high level Tier 1 media from across Europe to ensure its achievements and activities reach a broader range of citizens across the EU to further increase of the awareness of the EIT Community's results and impact.

To further engage with its stakeholders and target audiences, EIT news, achievements and activities are also disseminated via the website of Horizon2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation that the EIT is an integral part of. EIT publications are also systematically published on the EU bookshop ensuring access to all citizens.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Citizens are able to directly join EIT activities, ranging from conferences and events that are open to all interested participants: INNOVEIT, the EIT's annual stakeholder conference, information days for calls for proposals, Awareness Days co-organised together with national authorities across Europe, workshops for young women entrepreneurs (12-18 year old young women), etc. Citizens are also able to comment on EIT strategic developments, for example the recent consultation on directions for the 2021 to 2027 period.

In addition, EU citizens interested in innovation, and in particular in the innovation fields covered by the EIT Community's wide range of activities ranging from education courses (Masters, PhDs, professional and online courses) to innovation projects to business creation and acceleration support services, are able to join and apply for the different activities through different calls for applications disseminated through all of the EIT's relevant communications channels and tools. These activities are promoted at the local, regional, national and EU level to ensure as many interested citizens are aware of the opportunities.

EMA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

EMA confirms that we receive an annual contribution from the EU budget, but the Agency at this time has no means of assessing how or to what extent the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the EU will influence how the European Union budget will in future be apportioned. Our current working assumption is that the existing 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework ceilings will continue to apply between 2018 and 2020, and revised ceilings will be allocated from 2021 onwards as part of the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

The main source of revenue for EMA is fee income charged to the pharmaceutical industry for services provided, so future revisions of the Fee Regulations will also influence the capacity of the Agency to carry out its activities.

Finally, it should be noted that the principal operational and budgetary impact of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union is not a potentially reduced EU budget contribution, but is rather the planned relocation of the Agency from London to Amsterdam entailing significant human and financial resource requirements during the transition period.

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

As part of the year-end exercise all commitments are reviewed and adjusted to match as closely as possible the amounts needed to honour outstanding obligations. Initiating agents are instructed in how to calculate outstanding obligations and exchange rate provisions to ensure consistency across the agency.

An unknown factor, and the reason for a large part of the cancellations of C8 in 2016, was the volatile exchange rate between the Euro and Sterling which resulted in gains to the budget in terms of Euro, and hence to cancellations.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-	C8: EUR 132,339.07	mainly due to exchange rate	C8: EUR 641,961.22	mainly due to exchange rate

overs		gains (Sterling v/v Euro)		gains (Sterling v/v Euro)
Comments	cancelled appropriations amount to 0.13% of total appropriation and 14.88% of appropriations carried over		cancelled appropriations amount to 1.30% of total appropriations and 17.10% of appropriations carried over	

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	C8: EUR 892,971.96 C2: EUR 980,320.00	C8: exchange rate gains, over-estimate of outstanding obligation C2: inability fully to complete contracts by end of March 2016
Comments	C8: cancelled appropriations amount to 0.63% of total appropriations and 2.72% of appropriations carried over. C2: cancelled appropriations amount to 0.69% of total appropriations and 18.16% of appropriations carried over	

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	Amount budgeted = 15,000€ Amount spent = 11,127€	They are either distributed at events organised by EMA or at conferences/meetings in which EMA as an institution or individual staff members participate, both in the EU and abroad. They are targeting partners and stakeholders (i.e. patients and consumers, healthcare professionals, academia, pharmaceutical industry and national competent authorities), and also students.
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can*

citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?

- Based on its Framework strategy for external communication 2016-2020, EMA developed a communications plan for 2016 to increase public health impact by simplifying messages, by reaching out to new and less experienced audiences, by maximising the use of digital tools and channels and by strengthening collaboration and partnership in particular with national competent authorities.
- EMA developed and disseminated new communication materials such as the “Human medicines highlights 2015”, the “Veterinary medicines highlights 2015”, a leaflet on the work of EMA to provide easy to understand information also for the general public across Europe.
- EMA increased its engagement on social media, in particular on Twitter, and also produced more visuals such as infographics, videos and information sheets to raise awareness for the Agency’s work and to increase EMA’s visibility.
- Important communication activities in 2016 included for example (a) a campaign around the ground-breaking publication of clinical data (Policy 70) that entailed a press conference, a press release and an infographic, (b) the launch of PRIME, a new scheme to give early and enhanced support for the development of medicines that target an unmet medical need, and (c) communications around the safe and sustainable use of antibiotics in animals.
- EMA rewrote and reorganised most of the content of its website, its main communication channel, and also restructured its scientific guidelines. This helped users to find content more easily and increased search engine rankings of EMA information.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

- Over the years, the Agency has developed a unique model of interaction with civil society (i.e. citizens, patients and healthcare professionals). Their participation in EMA’s work has become an integral part in most activities where they play a central role.
- Representatives of these groups (citizens, patients and healthcare professionals) are involved in many Agency activities. This includes their representation in EMA’s Management Board and participation in EMA’s scientific committees, experts groups, and working parties. Patients and healthcare professionals also review of EMA communication materials and other documents. Their views and recommendations are taken into consideration during evaluations and discussion. In 2016, 770 patients or consumers were involved in different EMA activities.
- Further information on the participation of citizens in EMA activities, its value and impact can be found in the latest annual report http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Report/2017/06/WC500229514.pdf

EMCDDA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

The carry-forward at our agency is a result of structured process and procedure. The cancelled appropriations are minimal and imminent to a process which requires estimate and evaluation.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	7 436 EUR	Residual Amount	10 842 EUR	Residual Amount
Comments	Carry overs from 2015 to 2016.			

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	87 809 EUR	Some National focal points could not use fully the amounts under the Grant agreements and carry-forward amounts had to be cancelled. Some mission and meeting costs were lower than initially estimated. There were also residual cancellation of carry-forwards arising from publications, translations and external studies.
Comments		In general, the level of cancelled carry-forwards from 2015 to 2016 was eur 106 088, i.e. less than 5%. Out of this amount, only

		EUR 18 279 were associated with cancellation of payment credits.
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Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	171 128 EUR (consumption amount)	The agency's publications are distributed to the following target groups: EU institutions, national decision- and/or policymakers, professionals working in the drugs field. They are also distributed widely to interested members of the general public both in digital and print form. Each launch of a product is accompanied by a set of promotional activities to the target public in question. Promotional activities using digital channels including social media reach a wide cross-section of citizens.
Comments	The agency produced 44 publications in 2016. Promotional items were produced to support specific campaigns to draw attention of target audiences to the report.	

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

In 2016, the EMCDDA developed its Strategy 2025 which sets out clear goals for contributing to a healthier and more secure Europe. This strategy promotes an action-oriented, customer-centric approach aiming to increase the relevance of the agency's work for all its target audiences. Every year, the agency produces a report on the European drug situation and responses to it in 24 languages. In 2016, it also produced a strategic analysis of the EU drugs market as well as a study on the use of drugs among young students in Europe. The agency identifies best practices in the drugs field and disseminates them throughout the Member States. It has established multiplier networks in all key areas of the drugs domain to help bring the results of its work closer to the citizen. It also uses the media to communicate key results.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Citizens can engage with the EMCDDA via its website (interactive tools and surveys) and its social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Youtube). For example, the EMCDDA has started publishing short videos aimed at explaining more complex aspects of the drugs problem for this group. The agency also operates an information enquiry service and a visits service for citizens.

EMSA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

N/A

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

The Agency's Monthly Report on Budget, Procurement and Financial Management reports on amounts carried forward from previous year(s), reminding staff of their responsibilities of proper fund management. Further, during November and December of each year, specific reports are distributed to prompt de-commitments in order to avoid unnecessary carry-forwards.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	54,790	0.3% of the total annual title 1. The amount is marginal in comparison with the appropriations of the title. It was carried over in order to have a margin for unforeseen expenses related to staff expenditure for which the final amount cannot be known in exact terms at the moment of the carry over.	46,722	1.3% of the total annual title 2 budget. The amount was carried over in order to have a margin for unforeseen expenses related to infrastructure and operating expenditure for which the final amount cannot be known in exact terms at the moment of the carry over.
Comments				

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	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	1.5% of total budget	Decrease compared to previous years.
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	74,944.10	EMSA Main stakeholders and visitors. Publications also for wide public.
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

Various events and initiatives, in some cases in cooperation with authorities from the host state, are organised by the Agency offering the opportunity to increase public understanding of our activities. This includes participation in exhibitions and events with a clear maritime related connotation. In the course of 2016 EMSA increased also its focus on visibility in the hosting state by participating in the Portuguese' Space Week official activities.

In order to enhance its visibility EMSA is also continuously updating its website. The EMSA website contains also number of publications which are of interest to the wider public. A particular emphasis was put during 2016 on developing simple and easy to understand infographics to highlight key tasks of the Agency.

During 2016 the EMSA website received more than 200.000 visits. EMSA is also present on social media. The Agency counted 7605 followers on LinkedIn, 4361 on Twitter and counted around 2500 subscriptions to newsletters and Press releases.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

The civil society participates in the Agency's work through its various stakeholders: maritime administrations, represented on the Administrative Board, maritime industry, international regulators who represent many tens of thousands of people working either directly or indirectly in the complex industry of shipping and ports. In addition, numerous other industries rely heavily on the maritime sector: energy, vehicle manufacturing, fishing, IT and satellite communications, road and rail transport.

EMSA has also adapted its institutional planning and reporting obligations, making available to the wider communities and public more suitable versions of its Annual Work Programmes and Annual Reports.

ENISA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

N/A

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

We are having tighter budgetary controls during the year and a better planning in order to avoid cancellation of carry overs

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	24.075,78	Most related to Provisional commitments were averages were used to forecast the carry Over	2.428,30	Most related to Provisional commitments were averages were used to forecast the carry Over
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	12.111,85	Most related to Provisional commitments were averages were used to forecast the carry Over

Comments		
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Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	28.932,20	ENISA Stakeholders meetings and workshops
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

The Agency is more and more present in events as well as in social media such as Facebook and Twitter

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Our regulation is clear and we have the main stakeholders that decide of our programme.

ERA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

N/A

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

In order to reduce the amount of cancelled carry-overs (which is below 5% at ERA), the Agency has undertaken a number of actions:

- Improved business and procurement planning;
- Continued with regular budget review meetings;
- Monitored closely the implementation of contracts.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	30.582€	Provision of moving expenses planned but cancelled by the concerned staff member; purchase order for an external trainer cancelled due to non-delivery of the service	22.722€	Provision of legal expenses not used; overestimation of telecom subscription
Comments	The overall cancellation rate for 3 titles is 4.52% of the appropriations			

	carried-over			
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	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	56.715€	Overestimation of missions and meeting expenses; overestimation of translation costs; partial cancellation of IT service
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	131.699€	ERA stakeholders (working groups, events participants, etc.)
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

2016 marked the entry-into-force of the Technical Pillar of the 4th Railway Package and of the accompanying new Regulation for the Agency which consequently led to an adjusted governance structure and a re-organisational streamlining. The preparation of the transition towards the 4th Railway Package has remained the most important change initiative in the Agency.

The Agency started a rebranding (new logo and new corporate design) reflecting the new status of the Agency which was implemented in-time for the entry-into-force. The new corporate design is 100% following the corporate design guidelines (colours, naming) of the European Commission.

The European Union Agency for Railways and the European Commission have prepared a series of 6 regional debates (SERA Conferences) to take place during April-June 2017, where stakeholders can voice their opinions and doubts in their native language, and get a clear idea of the benefits of the new process – in order to win their hearts and minds. Interactive voting tools used in these conferences allow Agency and stakeholders a more interactive way of exchanging. For more information: <http://www.era.europa.eu/Communication/News/Pages/SERA-Conferences-summary.aspx>

As co-organiser of the annual ETCR Summer Course, held at the College of Europe in Bruges (BE), the Agency informed in-depth middle-management staff from the Railway sector about all facets of this process and engaged in an intensive discussion with the participants. For more information: <http://www.etc.eu/>

Following the results of the Agency's biennial stakeholder survey, the EU Agency for Railways is developing an enhanced website to allow stakeholders and all EU citizens to find the information they are looking for more easily and to be more transparent to the public on all activities.

The EU Agency for Railways is implementing a Stakeholder Relationship Management tool to allow targeted communication activities to its different audiences, e.g. newsletters, invitation to events, etc. Interested EU citizens can subscribe. This tool will also allow the Agency in the future to more professionally organize the dissemination of its activities and to collect feedback from the citizens in an even more structured way, e.g. through a questionnaire after an event.

The Agency website allows EU citizens to ask for information and documentation through a formal request. These processes are currently being optimized and integrated into the Stakeholder relationship Management tool to allow quicker response and 2-way communication.

Notable from the list of external events are the representation at the Innotrans exhibition in Berlin (world's biggest railway exhibition) including several stakeholder meetings, and two conferences organized by the Agency, one on Digital Railways in cooperation with the Florence School of Regulation (FSR), and one jointly organized with DG MOVE on Human Factors.

From a communications point-of-view, the Agency placed a strong focus on stakeholder management through its stakeholder survey, as well as the further deployment of the communications strategy.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

When implementing its mandate, the Agency closely cooperates with two groups of stakeholders: the European Commission and governmental representatives and their institutions on one side and railway sector partners, rail workers, freight customers and passengers on the other.

Working parties, networks, working groups and task forces ("workgroups") give the opportunity to the Agency to cooperate with Technical Experts of our stakeholders.

Furthermore the Agency interacts directly with EU Citizens through the above mentioned Agency website information request tool, resulting in approx. 400-500 requests and answers per year on average.

ESMA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

If the UK would not directly contribute to the ESMA budget anymore, this would represent 1.7 MEUR or 8% of the National Competent Authorities (NCAs) contribution in 2020 (first year of "full Brexit"), which represents approx. 2% of the ESMA total estimated budget for 2020.

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

ESMA differentiates the "incurred" carry overs compared to the "non-incurred" ones, based on the carry over forms processed at year-end and externally audited. We understand that a carry over which is the result of an activity fully performed in year n but with invoicing happening in year n+1 is perfectly normal and compliant with the annuality principle. These are the "incurred" carry forwards and should not be even considered in ECA's calculations for the carry over thresholds.

The "non-incurred" carry-overs are the part of the commitments initiated in year n but partly to be performed (and obviously invoiced) in year n+1. These "non-incurred" carry overs are also acceptable by the Financial Regulation but less aligned to the annuality principle. ESMA is keeping the "non-incurred" carry-overs within the thresholds of ECA for titles 1, 2, and 3. ESMA has undertaken several actions in order to diminish to minimum needs the percentage of carry forwards to the following year, by implementing the following actions:

- Launching procurements early, even the year before the commitments are supposed to take place;
- Improving the planning of annual expenditure, which results in commitments being formalised earlier in the year (and therefore paid), avoiding as much as possible "last minute" commitments;
- Better alignment of commitments with the calendar/financial year;

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	See comments below	See in comments section.	See comments in Title 1	See in comments section.
Comments	Current overall level of cancelled carry-overs (the ones from 2016 carried over to 2017) will be below the 5% indicative threshold. This rate shows the significant progress made in the last three years. As a reference, in 2015 the cancellation rate was of 9.5%; in 2014, it was of 19%, and in previous years, the cancellation rate was well above 25%. Main reason was the fact that ESMA was a young agency, set up in 2011, and in a “start-up phase” also from the budget management point of view. The decreasing cancellation figure shows that ESMA is clearly in the right trend for this indicator. In terms of justifications, approximately half of the cancelled amount (367,521 EUR) came from title 2 and the other half from title 3. Cancellations as a result of provisional commitments carried over in excess were the majority (253,104 EUR), followed by payments less than originally planned due to cancellation of all of part of activity (74,090 EUR). Finally, because of work performed by invoices never received due to administrative issues of the contractor represented 40,326 EUR.		See comments in Title 1	

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	See comments in Title 1	See in comments section.
Comments	See comments in Title 1	

Other comments

4. How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	€4,000 on production of the Annual Report	All stakeholder groups
Comments		The bulk of our communications is done via the website, a restricted budget means that the production of printed material is necessarily limited.

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

ESMA has recently relaunched its website to make it more user friendly for all users - lack of funds and personnel means the website is only available in English. In addition ESMA has a high profile in the financial press and makes in the region of 150+ appearances at public events across the European Union. It has also translated documents and warnings aimed at retail investors/citizens into all official languages, budgets allowing.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Yes, they can respond to consultations directly on all or some of the topics raised in any individual consultation. Additionally, ESMA's stakeholder group includes representatives for a number of categories of stakeholders including consumers and the users of financial services. Any interested parties can submit applications to join this group.

ETF

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

The ETF is approaching the reduction of cancelled carry-overs on different levels:

General reduction of carry overs:

- * planning of activities - the start and end date of activities are critically assessed and activities are planned so that the general carry-overs are reduced;
- * budget reallocation - out of the list of reserve activities which could receive funding if appropriations become available, the most preferred activities are the ones which generate a reduced carry-over, with the highest likelihood of payment (most certain);
- * appropriation management - the ETF is implementing its Title 3 as differentiated appropriations generating therefore "Reste a Liquider" (RAL) rather than "Carry Forward"; Unpaid RAL does not lead to cancellation of appropriations, as long as the payment appropriations allocated for them are re-assigned to other ongoing payments;
- * Raising awareness of the importance of budgetary discipline, monitoring of corporate key budgetary indicators and careful monitoring of planned and unplanned carry-over (unplanned carry-over being a signal of delayed activities as well as a factor of disturbance for the use of the year's fresh credits).

Specific reduction of cancelled carry-overs:

- * Re-evaluation of commitments - in the last months of the year (usually December) all open commitments are re-evaluated, so that only the amount actually needed is carried over.
- * risk assessment - in the case of some commitments where the uncertainty is higher (missions, events, utilities), a risk assessment is made and commitments reduced so that they cover the most likely expenditure/participation, taking the conscious risk therefore that in N+1 there might be a need for a small additional commitment.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	€ 30,954	Representing only 0.2% of Title 1 (2015), the cancelled carry forward appropriations are related mainly to overestimations for training and administrative missions.	€ 56,834	Representing only 2.9% of Title 2 (2015), it is mainly due to overestimations of telecommunication costs and cancelled activities.
Comments		The measures put in place have led to an expected reduction of the cancelled carry-overs of 2016 in 2017 in Title 1 to € 25,000 .		The measures put in place have led to an expected reduction of the cancelled carry-overs of 2016 in 2017 in Title 2 to € 15,000.

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	n/a	For Title 3, the ETF is implementing differentiated appropriations, therefore no carry-overs are generated
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	€ 15,000.00 (promotional materials) € 40,000.00 (corporate publications)	Institutional stakeholders Partner country stakeholders Events participants General public
Comments	€ 9,573.70 (OPOCE)	

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

Various initiatives have been undertaken, such as school visits or specific fairs for European days

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

The ETF makes efforts to enlarge participation to its consultation processes with stakeholders and to inform the general public of its activities. By the nature of its mandate, the ETF's events are not open to the general public, but information about events is shared widely through publications, website and social media.

It should be noted that the main pages of the ETF website have been translated into all EU languages plus Arabic and Russian.

eu-LISA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

According to Art. 32 of the Establishing Regulation of eu-LISA (Regulation (EU) No 1077/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25/10/2011), the revenue of the Agency shall consist of a subsidy from the Union entered in the general budget of the EU (Commission section), a contribution from the countries associated with the implementation, application and the development of the Schengen acquis and Eurodac-related measures and any financial contribution from the Member States. Following these definitions, eu-LISA has not received any specific contributions from the United Kingdom in the past years, nor is the Agency expecting any related, direct contributions in the coming years. Therefore, eu-LISA cannot provide specific information on a potential decrease in revenue according the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the EU.

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

The Agency operates non-differentiated appropriations for administrative expenditures in Title 1 and Title 2 and differentiated appropriations for operational expenditure in Title 3. The implementation of carry-overs are closely monitored during the budget year. For non-differentiated appropriations the Agency had a cancellation rate of 2,4%. Such level of cancellations did not require the adoption of specific actions by the Agency.

As regards differentiated appropriations, specific to operational expenditure in Title 3, the cancellation of carried forward appropriations (without the carry over of the corresponding payment appropriations) is necessary whenever the initial estimation for complex, multi-annual projects for the evolution of the systems need to be readjusted over the years. On average, operational commitments are consumed over a four-year period. Most cancellations, as explained in the following section, refer to commitments handed over by the Commission to the Agency upon financial independence in May 2013.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	Amount of cancelled carry-overs: EUR 0,03 MIO	EUR 0,3 MIO of commitment and payment appropriations had been carried-over from 2015 to 2016, representing 2,1% of the total 2015 budget for Title 1	Amount of cancelled carry-overs: EUR 0,4 MIO	Out of the total amount carried-over in Title 2,3% had been cancelled at year-end
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	Amount of cancelled carry-overs: EUR 5,2 MIO	Title 3 expenditures are differentiated appropriations. Only commitment appropriations are carried-forward. In total EUR 70 MIO of commitment appropriations had been carried-forward. EUR 4,1 MIO of the cancelled appropriations refer to commitments signed before the establishment of the Agency and transferred at the time of financial independence from the European Commission to the Agency. Due to revised business needs of the Agency, these appropriations were not required anymore. EUR 1,1 MIO of the cancelled carry-forwards refer to contracts signed by the Agency and represent 1,6% of the total cancelled appropriations in Title 3.
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	euro 505 387,38	Key partners and primary stakeholders as defined in the eu-LISA External Communication and Information Strategy: EU Institutions; Member States and

		Associated Countries, Justice and Home Affairs Agencies Network and general public
Comments	Over 80% of the costs were used to cover the editing/modifying/and translating services procured under the SLA with CdT and foreseen to issue the legally required corporate publications. In addition informative leaflets about the agency and the 3 large-scale IT systems under its responsibility as well as conference report were published in hard copies. All the corporate publications and information materials are made available for citizens online and alerts of the availability are shared on social media.	The target audiences for eu-LISA communication and information actions are clustered in line with the set specific communication goals.

5. Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?

In 2016 eu-LISA initiated several new visibility actions and followed up on the positive experiences of established visibility events by further broadening their scope and reach:

1. eu-LISA active presence with dedicated information stands and awareness-raising activities (quizzes) at the Open Doors Days of the EU Institutions in Strasbourg (in EP), in Brussels (in Berlaymont, in Tallinn (in EU House);
2. eu-LISA annual conference with VIP keynote speakers (Commissioners, national ministers) with the availability for citizens and interested parties to follow discussions via live streaming and to interactively participate with comments and questions via dedicated twitter wall
3. regular roundtables with industry and briefings to stakeholders (JHA Counsellors, members of diplomatic missions, media, stakeholder-groups of visitors to the Head Office and operational site followed by timely online cover on the website of the agency and shared via social media accounts
4. eu-LISA active participation in the social media campaign “No More Ransom!”
5. eu-LISA active participation at the EU Agencies Forum in EP, Brussels
6. active contribution (speakers, information materials from eu-LISA) at the public meetings like the “11ème Rendez-vous européens de Strasbourg”

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Citizens can get involved in the eu-LISA work and contribute to its domains indirectly through the eu-LISA website and the social media corporate accounts.

EU-OSHA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

N/A

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

In quarter 4 of year N and despite a general low level of cancellation: review of provisional commitments for group meetings/operational missions (main source of cancelled CO) and decrease of amounts committed upon actual participation or ongoing planning (operational missions).

Since the introduction of the activity based budgeting, the cost review is being carried out by activity (and no more by unit). This should lead to an even more accurate estimation before carry forward to year N+1.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	13,895 out of 126,804 (10.9%)	Mainly explained by cancellation of general provisional commitment covering training	6,120 out of 364,740 (1.6%)	Mainly explained by cancellation of general provisional commitments covering power supply and communication
Comments				Considering the % of cancellation, it should not be subject to specific comment

	Title 3	Justification
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Amount of cancelled carry-overs	125,478 out of 3,383,052 (3.7%)	Mainly explained by cancellation of general commitments expert group meetings and operational mission budget
Comments		In quarter 4 of year N, related provisional commitments for group meetings/operational missions are reviewed and decreased upon actual participation or duration. Review being carried out by activity (and no more by unit) should lead to an even more accurate estimation.

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	352,470	campaign target audiences: focal points and their national networks; intermediaries incl. campaign partners social partners sectoral federations, including associations of SMEs OSH professionals and their associations labour inspectorates and their associations
Comments	The Agency together with its network of national focal points runs the world's largest awareness raising campaign in the field of occupational safety and health. Healthy Workplaces Campaign promotional material is primarily distributed to its focal points and campaign partners to promote the campaigns at member state level. Promotional material includes - printed campaign material in 25 languages, exhibition stands and small promotional items such as cotton bags and folders. The costs given include the costs of distribution.	

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

The Healthy Workplaces campaign is the largest of its kind in the world. It runs in over 30 countries and it encourages and indeed relies on the engagement of citizens to promote its messages in workplaces across Europe.

The agency also runs several multilingual websites and was awarded in 2017 an EU Ombudsman award for excellence in public administration for its development jointly with the CDT and EUIPO of a tool that massively facilitates the management of multilingual websites. The tool is currently being made available to other agencies by the CDT.

The OSHwiki allows citizens with OSH expertise to contribute directly to the agency's information offer.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

In addition to its campaigning activities, the agency's social media presence is also attracting increasing numbers of followers.

EUROFOUND

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

n/a

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

- Strict and systematic carry-over analysis at year-end: carry over of appropriations only allowed if there is a clear justification such as a contract, order or similar. No contingency allowed to be left in the provisional commitments.
- Thorough budget monitoring and forecasting throughout the financial year.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	35,915 EUR	Work ordered but not carried out by the contractors in 2016	18,326 EUR	- Final bills for utilities less expensive than estimated; - work ordered but not carried out by the contractors in 2016
Comments	only 2.4% of title 1 appropriations were carried over (from 2015 to 2016)		18% of title 2 appropriations were carried over (from 2015 to 2016)	

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	39,560 EUR	- Work ordered / contracted but not

		carried out by the contractors in 2016; - participants attending EUROFOUND events previous year not claiming expenses they were entitled to
Comments	31% of title 3 appropriations were carried over (2015 to 2016)	1.9% of title 3 carry overs got cancelled; overall only 3.7% of all carry overs were cancelled

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	16,000 EUR on promotional items; 150,000 EUR on publications	Eurofound stakeholders
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

A revamped (multi-lingual) website with greater accessibility and more user inter-activity was developed; New and more EU-focused brand guidelines, logo and presentation tools. Enhanced Social Media outreach. Language versions disseminated of all summary documents. Contribution to dissemination and outreach of the EU Agencies' Network: Video and brochure. EU Presidency conferences and contributions in Member States. Articles and opinion pieces in national media.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Citizens are represented via the social partners and governments in Eurofound's Governing Board and thus contribute to the development of the Work Programme. Civil society is often represented and contributes to the agency's events. An annual user satisfaction and feedback programme seeks input from all interested parties in an effort to improve and develop the activities.

A campaign was run to highlight results from the European Quality of Life Survey which applies to all Member States and across all dimensions.

Recently the 2-day Foundation Forum was organised to prepare concrete input to the Gothenburg Social Summit which formally agreed on the European Pillar of Social Rights.

EUROJUST

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

N/A

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

With frequent meetings and communication between the Units/Services and the Budget Contact Points of the Budget, Finance and Procurement Unit, especially at the end of the year, the budget lines are carefully reviewed to have updated estimations as possible on the amounts still to be invoiced.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	€ 23,811	Lower than expected costs for recruitment.	€ 83,329	Lower than expected costs for ICT projects and consultancy, New Premises and building related costs.
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	€ 97,973	Unspent funds relate to lower than expected costs

		for operational missions and ICT projects and consultancy.
Comments	<p>€ 205,113 (= € 23,811 + € 83,328 + € 97,973) (5.6%) was cancelled from C8s at the end of 2016, which means that 94.4% of amounts carried forward from 2015 were used. This was a considerable improvement from the previous year since the actual amount was reduced compared to 2015 (€ 525,194) and the percentage used was higher than in 2015 (87.6%). The amount carried over from 2015 to 2016 was € 3,683,361 (which represents 12.5% of the budget for 2015). These cancellations are due to a lower than expected budget implementation of the building service costs (which are only calculated retroactively by the Host State the following year), operational missions, ICT consultancy costs, telecommunications, trainings, and administrative charges from PMO (the final reconciliation is only received in the middle of the following year).</p>	

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	€ 169,670	EU Institutions (Parliament, Commission, Council), Member States, National Practitioners in the Member States (prosecutors, judges, law enforcement practitioners), European Judicial Network (EJN) Contact Points, Genocide Network contact points, National authorities competent for investigating and prosecuting core international crimes, International Criminal Court (ICC) and other international criminal law tribunals, civil society (NGOs affiliated with the Network), participants of conferences/meetings organised by the Genocide Network, General public.
Comments	This amount includes € 70,614 spent for translating the Annual Report.	

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

In 2016, Eurojust published more than 150 press releases and corporate publications, including the Annual Report and Eurojust Newsletter (no. 15, on conflict of jurisdiction).

The President, Vice-Presidents and other National Members of the College of Eurojust participated as speakers in several media briefings and high-level meetings to illustrate Eurojust's mission, role and achievements

The European Judicial Network (EJN) promotes and co-funds EJN meetings in the Member States for the EJN Contact points and practitioners on judicial cooperation.

The EJN releases a report on its functioning and on the practices regarding judicial cooperation in the EU. The report is public and can be found in the website.

The EJN and Eurojust have released a document "Joint paper: EJN/EJ – what can we do for you" to give a better understanding to practitioners on how, when and who to request for judicial cooperation assistance.

The EJN website is one of the most complete mechanism for finding relevant information regarding judicial cooperation. The website has close to 1 million views per year. It is used daily by the practitioners and lawyers. It is public and citizens can find relevant information regarding the EU instruments in criminal matters.

EU Day Against Impunity for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes – 23 May 2016 (The EU Day against Impunity, organised in cooperation between Eurojust, the Genocide Network, the European Commission and the Presidency of the Council of the EU aims at raising awareness on the crime area, on the importance of national investigations and prosecutions in Member States and on paying respect / remembrance to victims of these atrocities).

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

A contest to design a new Eurojust logo opened to all citizens launched in 2016. The contest did not produce any outcome.

To celebrate Europe Day, Eurojust, together with the European Commission, the European Parliament and Europol, organised a joint exhibition in the Atrium of the City Hall of the Municipality of The Hague. The exhibition ran from 9 to 20 May 2016. Visitors to the exhibition had the opportunity to learn more about the role of the European Union in promoting and maintaining peace and security in Europe.

The general public can reach out to Eurojust via a dedicated email inbox, info@eurojust.europa.eu, which is daily monitored.

Civil society is directly involved in the work of the EU Genocide Network as many non-Governmental organisations (NGOs), engaged in the area of the fight against impunity for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, participate at the plenary biannual meetings of the Network.

EUROPOL

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Not applicable to Europol.

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

Centralised monitoring of expenditure on a monthly basis, including spending forecast exercises at regular intervals throughout each financial year. The cancellations of carry-forward expenditure at Europol was due to developments nearer the end of the financial year 2016, which could not be foreseen when the decisions for the carry-forward were made (at the end of the financial year 2015).

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	€ 45.000 (9% of the carried forward amount under Title 1: € 629K)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An amount of 21.400 (rounded) was cancelled for training measures which were initially planned in 2015, then postponed to 2016 and eventually did not happen to full extent. • The remaining amount of the cancelled carry-forward in Title 1 concerned small cancellations 	€ 267.000 (6% of the carried forward amount under Title 2: €4.2 M)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An amount of € 111.000 (rounded) remained unspent for construction works related to functional and technical improvements for the operational rooms within Europol's headquarters. When the

		for various commitments.		commitments were taken at the end of 2015, the original order was placed with the Host State for an amount of € 1.53 M, whereas the actual expenditure turned out to be lower than envisaged. • The remaining amount of the cancelled carry-forward in Title 2 concerned small cancellations for various commitments.
Comments	Overall comment on all titles: The final implementation rate of the carry-forward was 84.6% at the end of the year, which was 3.2% lower than in 2015. A total of € 1.6 M (rounded: exact amount: 1.612.811,35) was not used (from the overall carry-forward of € 10.5 M (rounded, exact amount: € 10.453.780,25) and was thus incorporated in the final budget result.			

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	€ 1.3 M (23% of the carried forward amount under Title 3: €5.48 M)	• € 445.000 (rounded) for the Europol Analysis System (EAS) re-mained unspent. During 2016, it turned out that the supplier could not deliver to the full extent of the original order placed. In addition more than € 21.000 remained un-spent as work did not materialise as initially foreseen and ordered. • An amount of € 255.000 (rounded) remained unspent for various other ICT

		consultancies, for which the final invoices received turned out to be lower than the amounts and hours originally planned. • € 362.000 (rounded) for Europol's use of the Trans European Services for Telematics between Administrations (TESTA) network remained unspent. The majority of this amount (€ 227.000) was a consequence of the delayed migration from the original to the new supplier. As a consequence the commitments for the new supplier were not fully used. • The remaining amount of the cancelled carry-forward in Title 3 concerned small cancellations for various commitments.
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	In total: € 76.600 (rounded): € 51.900 (rounded) from the 2016 budget and an amount of € 24.700 from the carry-forward budget (to 2016).	EU citizens, online users (in particular of the Europol website), law enforcement users in EU Member States, at EU level and in third countries/parties, especially operational cooperation partners (e.g. Interpol).
Comments	Costs for lay-out and delivery of various products, including the I-OCTA 2016, Europol leaflets, brochures and calendars, publication of the Joint Europol and EMCDDA European Drugs Market Report, publication of official notices in the Official Journal of the EU, and other publications delivered from the OPOCE (Publications Office of the European Union).	

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

Europol launched 3 key campaigns to involve citizens in the work of Europol:

1. EU Most Wanted website launched in 2016 (Christmas 2016 campaign etc.): 115 fugitives published, 41 high-profile fugitive arrests, including 13 arrests due to the launch of the website, with tips from citizens etc.). On 14 December 2017, Europol published a press release on the arrest of Romania's most wanted fugitive in Buenos Aires/Argentina, constituting the 42nd high-profile arrest who appeared on the EU Most Wanted Platform

Full press release: <https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/romania%E2%80%99s-most-wanted-fugitive-arrested-in-buenos-aires>

2. STOP Child Abuse – Trace An Object: The idea of this initiative, launched on 1 June 2017, the International Day for the Protection of Children, is to show extracts of images from investigations against child abuse. Investigative avenues have already been exhausted for all of these images shown on Europol's website. Therefore Euro-pol requests the help of citizens in the EU and elsewhere to identify the origin of the objects shown on the images published. The rationale is that by the involvement of the general public investigation leads can be identified, in order to help save children who are the victim of child abuse cases.

There have been over 1.2 Million visitors on the website to date and almost 17.890 tips have been received from the general public. The tips received by the general public meant that published images could be located to six individual countries, to support further investigative steps, while, at the same time, investigate leads to other geographical areas could be eliminated.

Link to website: <https://www.europol.europa.eu/stopchildabuse>

3. SAY NO – Public awareness campaign against sexual coercion and extortion online: Launched in June 2017, this prevention campaign generated a huge success: On the launch of the initiative, the SAY NO website page had around 15.000 visitors, generating further spreading through social media via national authorities (millions of views of the prevention videos). In addition, all EU language versions of the prevention videos have been seen more than 110 000 times in Europol's YouTube channel and on related Europol pages.

Further public awareness and prevention guides can be found at:

<https://www.europol.europa.eu/activities-services/public-awareness-and-prevention-guides>

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

Yes, citizens are directly involved, see above.

FRA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

FRA's cancelled carryovers are below 5 %. The percentage of cancelled C8s in 2017 reached 2.05 %. This is the result of close monitoring of the budgetary execution and of the carry forward requests. All requests for carry forward are checked before they are approved and a justification is provided. They are based either on signed contracts or, for provisional commitments, on known estimations.

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	14,545 representing 0.1 %	<p>This amount mainly refers to the cancellation of funds as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the services provided to the Agency by PMO as the final invoice was less than expected • the medical services of staff as less annual check-ups took place than expected, and • the legal services for contracts where a maximum amount was contracted subject to provision of services. 	13,705 representing 0.5 % of Title II budget.	<p>This amount mainly refers to the cancellation of funds as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • services for software development contracts where a maximum amount was contracted subject to provision of services (i.e. Quoted Time and Means), and • provisional commitments for administrative expenditure.

Comments				
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	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	89,316 representing 1.2 % of Title III budget	This amount mainly refers to the cancellation of funds reserved for translations. When a document is sent to CdT for translation the cost is estimated based on the number of characters. However, the final cost is based on the 'new' text. Part of the text may have already been translated in the past, therefore, this part is not charged again resulting in lower costs. Moreover, one invoice referring to the C8s will be received in Q1 of 2018. Finally, amounts were cancelled from some commitments referred to operational missions.
Comments	The amounts mentioned above are the final cancellation of carryovers as extracted on 31/12/2017 representing 0.5 % of the Agency's 2016 budget.	

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	Publications: EUR 350,603.46 Promotional material: EUR 15,841.60	Publications and promotional material: EU institutions; policymakers at national and EU levels; lawyers and bars associations in the EU-28; practitioners in the different thematic fields of FRA's Multi-annual Framework; civil society
Comments	In 2016, FRA produced two Handbooks on European law relating to access to justice and the rights of the child in 23 EU official languages. These were widely disseminated across Member States and regularly requested through the Publications Office's portal for publications, Eu-Bookshop.	

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

- The first Fundamental Rights Forum, convened on 20–23 June 2016, marks the starting point of a periodic process of bringing together key fundamental rights participants from across the EU and international organisations to debate and develop proposals on how to strengthen fundamental rights in Europe. The title of the first forum was 'Rights, respect, Reality: the Europe of values in today's world'. The forum provided space for dialogue, debate and sharing knowledge on issues of inclusion, refugee protection and fundamental rights in the digital age. Around 700 participants used this opportunity in 30 workshops and six panel debates. The Chair's statement following the forum put forward more than 100 practical ideas and policy proposals emerging from the Forum;
- Regular meetings with Civil Society Organisations and NGOs in the context of FRA Fundamental Rights Platform;
- Together with media outlets, such as The Guardian, Reuters, BBC, Le Monde and several other broadcasters and news agencies, the Agency established partnerships that facilitated joint analysis of commonly selected news examples published or broadcasted in the EU;
- FRA continues to host visitor groups as much as time and resources allow. Requests in 2016 mainly came from research institutes, universities, study visits via embassies and human rights organisations;
- In total, the Agency disseminated 13,152 print copies of its reports through the EU bookshop in 2016. Language versions of its handbooks on European law are regularly requested and frequently figure among the top 10 publications ordered;
- Further increased media and social media contacts - Number of followers: 28.100 (Twitter) 46,662 (Facebook);
- Participation and presentations at workshops, conferences and other events.

In addition, a number of stakeholders work very closely with FRA, providing valuable input to the tasks being carried out. This includes helping to steer preliminary preparations, providing feedback on interim and final results as well as aiding in the dissemination and take up of findings. Furthermore, FRA established consultative fora to engage with civil society organisations, and is forging ever closer ties to Member States through focal points in national administrations, national parliaments and corresponding national bodies. Such vital mechanisms ensure there is a constant dialogue as the basis of a strong working partnership, which guarantees that information is shared and national needs are recognised and addressed.

FRONTEX

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

1. Frontex approved a new financing scheme, introducing unit costs for the majority of its main cost components in the grant agreements. This, along with the regular monitoring of the implementation of the activities, would further enhance the budget optimization in terms of planning and implementation, especially for grant agreements, where the majority of the cancellations of carry-overs arise.
2. New principle of annuality is currently being established. This would further align the use of the different fund sources (C1, C4, C5 and C8), throughout the budgetary year, thus regulating and minimizing the cancellation rates of the amounts carried over.
3. Further improvements in the reporting and monitoring of the budget implementation are being established, in terms of frequency, readability and accessibility. This would further streamline the budget utilization, shedding additional light and giving more understanding on budget related issues to the different stakeholders within and outside the Agency.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	53 120 EUR	Cancellation of provisional commitments for missions and interim service.	268 892 EUR	Cancellation of planned works in the premises of the EURTF in Catania, as they were provided by the host State, also cancellation of provisional

				commitments for meetings and also less expenditure for litigations.
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	6 761 255 EUR	Cancellation of commitments carried over in excess due to the unpredictability of the final costs within grants: Payments less than originally planned due to the unpredictability of the final costs within grants to Member States; less material reasons are: invoices not received; cancellations as a result of an external decision by the service provider; cancellations of initially planned activities or lower implementation than foreseen (e.g. less participants at training activities claimed reimbursement as foreseen).
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	EUR 54.125 for gifts EUR 90 633 for publications	Gifts presented mainly to participants, organisers or speakers at conferences, trainers, participants of trainings, deployed officers, airport representatives/ heads of airports, Border/ Coast Guard representatives, Border Police representatives, Guest Officers, VIPs, for FX Liaison Offices; publication target group: General public, border guards, training institutes, decision makers on EU and MS level, researchers, parliamentarians, students
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

In 2017 Frontex organised press conferences in Warsaw, Brussels, Madrid, Catania, Rome and Kapitan Andreevo (Bulgaria) gathering more than 400 journalists.

Frontex press office also contributed to wider academic discussion about migration by facilitating access to information about Frontex and the role of European Institutions in general to Master and PhD students and researches from European academic institutions and beyond.

The press office handled about 500 requests from journalists and researchers each month, whiel in the entire 2017 it hosted about 600 students and researchers in Warsaw and EURTF offices in Catania. The spokespersons also participated in external meetings involving about 1000 civil society representatives and members of the general public.

As part of engagement with the citizens, representatives of top management of the agency, including the Executive Director and the Heads of Units took part in online interactive debates and direct roundtables on the role of the agency clarifying our mandate and answering questions from the public.

With the change of the mandate of the agency, Frontex press office created an information package on the new regulation as well as produced 7 short animated movies about various aspects of Frontex work, including the new regulation. Press office also produced 5 feature stories on our website and created a press room with a number of Q&As and hot topics to facilitate access to information about the way the agency operates.

In view of increasing operational transparency of the organisation, press office also facilitated access of 150 journalists to the operations organising interviews with the officers deployed. Furthermore, over 70 embedments on vessels, helicopters and aircraft during patrolling activities and search and rescue operations were organized.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

n/a

GSA

Brexit

1. *The withdrawal from the United Kingdom of the European Union will cause implications for several agencies. Some agencies are financed by the European Union and/or by direct contributions of the Member States or by relevant economic actors. The European Court of Auditor points out that the revenue of these agencies could decline as soon as the payments of the United Kingdom will stop. How much will the agencies' revenue decrease in the future, respectively?*

Could each agency please provide the Parliament with the exact amount of this future lack of payments and how they want to work with a potential reduced budget?

Commitments and carryovers

2. *After the consultation from June 2017 to establish the EU Agencies Network position on carryovers and the EUAN proposal (that the Court reports the cancelled carryovers that exceed 5 % of the total budget to the Discharge Authority), what are the steps taken by the Agencies to reduce the cancelled carryovers?*

What actions has your Agency taken to reduce the level of cancelled carry-overs?

Cancellations of carryovers of the Agency remain very low in 2016 (0.7%).

The Agency continues in thorough budget planning and continuous monitoring of commitment and payment appropriations, RAL and payment schedules, which has a direct impact on the limitation of carryovers cancellations. Management of the Agency is regularly informed via monthly budget reporting.

3. *Cancelled carry-overs seem to indicate a lack of prudent budgetary management and might signal lack of good planning. They could be more problematic than carry-overs themselves. Could Agencies provide the amounts of cancelled carry-overs by budgetary title and the justification for them?*

Cancelled carry-overs

	Title 1	Justification	Title 2	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	24,823.89 EUR	Cancellations stem from the provisional commitments for Trainings, Missions and Medical costs where amount finally paid was lower than originally estimated.	148,567.66 EUR	Major part of cancellations under Title 2 relates to the contracts where actual amount consumed was lower than the amount of the contract. (E.g. Facility Management Services, Contract for voice and video-conferencing calls, contract for IT support etc.)
Comments				

	Title 3	Justification
Amount of cancelled carry-overs	35,927.41 EUR	Title 3 cancellations stems from C2 appropriations (non-automatic carryovers), which had to be cancelled as invoices were not received in due time.
Comments		

Other comments

4. *How much each agency spent on promotional materials and publications in 2016? Could the Agencies name the target group to which they send their promotional materials and publications?*

Promotional materials and publications in 2016

	Amount spent	Target group/Audience
Promotional materials and publications	<p>In 2016, the GSA spent approximately 30,000€ materials and publications. These publications included the production and distribution of the GSA's 1st Technology Report, as well as updates to brochure that promote Galileo and EGNOS for the various sectors and a publications outlining the role and accomplishments of the agency. While these types of materials still have a place, the Agency is reducing its material/paper promotions and focuses more and more on electronic means. For example in 2016 we published 3-4 news stories per week on our very active websites, internet tools, eNewsletters and online helpdesks (gsa.europa.eu, gsc-europa.eu, egnos-portal.eu, use.Galileo.eu); produce and widely distribute many promotional and educational videos and animations; are very active on social media and focus a great deal on personal outreach through participation in over 20 conferences, workshop and exhibitions in 2016. In 2016 the GSA was also responsible for the organisation of the 4th European Space Solutions event in The Hague under the Dutch Presidency. The event featured 5 days of activities and welcomed almost 2,000 visitors. In addition, the GSA was a key partner in the annual European Seattle Navigation Competition, once again attracting the most innovative application ideas for entrepreneurs across Europe. Promotional materials and publications in 2016: €30,000 (total communications activities: in 2016 €900,000) Amount spent Target group/Audience General public – all users: 400,000 Aviation user specific: 130,000 Road transport user specific: 95,000 Rail user specific: 65,000 Maritime user specific: 30,000 Consumer device (LBS) – specific: 110,000 Agriculture user specific: 50,000 Timing</p>	EU citizens, European space industry, European space stakeholders

	and Synchronisation users: 5,000 R&D participant specific : 5,000 Institutional stakeholder specific: 5,000 Internal communications: 5,000	
Comments		

5. *Accountability of the agencies depends to a large extent on their visibility to the citizens in Europe. Which initiatives have the agencies taken to enhance their visibility? Can citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of the agencies? Which initiatives has your Agency undertaken to enhance its visibility to the citizens in Europe?*

As described above the GSA is very focused on raising awareness of the European satellite navigation programmes, Galileo and EGNOS, and the role of the agency in ensuring that the programmes deliver valuable services and benefits to users. We have a very comprehensive communication plan and implement it through a range of targeted online, offline materials and events.

For the broader public we have developed the online tool www.usegalileo.eu where citizens can find all the Galileo-enabled devices across a range of segments. The site gets daily request from citizens enquiring on the services delivered by Galileo.

In 2016 we have also revamped the GSA and GSC website, improving information architecture, search-ability and user experience. We also developed a new online image and video gallery.

Some examples of activities organised arranged to reach out to various user communities:

- 2016 European Space Solutions (including “Biking by GNSS” event)
- European Space Expo (Brussels, Belgium; The Hague, Netherlands; Paris, France) (in 2016 we reached the 1 mln visitor)
- 1st Galileo Hackathon
- Galileo Initial Service Declaration

Webinars and info days:

- Horizon 2020 Space Information Days
- Aviation second call: Project management training and financial training (2 webinars)
- Galileo: at the dawn of a new age of GNSS (webinar)
- GSA Open Days

Prizes

- ESNC master
- GEO IoT
- GNSS prize for your surveyors
- Farming by satellite prize.

Can the citizens directly or indirectly get involved in and thus contribute to the work of your Agency?

The GSA designed most of its Communications activities to encourage feedback ad interaction. In 2016 we launched the:

- EGNOS user satisfaction survey, and
 - the GSC user satisfaction survey
- to understand user expectations and performance level.
- H2020 Space Programme Stakeholder Consultation and Raise your voice

We are also active on social media where we publish daily content.

In 2016 we had

Almost 30,000 views on Youtube

1850 FB followers

2632TW followers

2752 LinkedIn followers

23321 views on Slideshare

To reach the general public GSA took the strategic decision to invest more in videos and online content and less in traditional publications. Videos and animation are able to convey a shorter and sharper message, and are easy to disseminate.

Among others and addressing the general public we created:

- European Space Programmes supports the 10 Political Priorities of the EU: 10 animations
- GSA corporate video
- GSA is ready for Initial Service (EN/FR)
- EGNOS for aviation
- GSA Today bimonthly newsletter distributed to over 8,000 contacts
-

In 2016 we published:

- 120 articles

102 web stories