



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

2014/2120(DEC)

26.2.2015

OPINION

of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European
Banking Authority for the financial year 2013
(2014/2120(DEC))

Rapporteur: Markus Ferber

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Recalls that the European Parliament was a key driver in the efforts to set up a new and comprehensive European System of Financial Supervision (ESFS) in the aftermath of the financial crisis, and in creating – as part of this – the European Banking Authority (EBA) in 2011;
2. Takes note of the observation made by the Commission, in its recent report on the operation of the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) and the ESFS, that in spite of difficult circumstances, the ESAs have quickly established well-functioning organisations which, overall, have performed well against their broad range of tasks, while facing increasing demands with limited human resources;
3. Underlines that EBA's role in promoting a common supervisory regime across the Single Market is essential to ensure a better integrated, more efficient and safer banking sector in the Union, thus contributing to economic recovery and the creation of jobs and growth in Europe and the prevention of future crises in the financial sector; calls for coordination with the European Central Bank in its banking supervisory function in order to avoid overlap and the build-up of excessive capacity;
4. Acknowledges that, in the opinion of the European Court of Auditors, EBA's transactions underlying the annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2013 are legal and regular in all material respects;
5. Takes note of the European Court of Auditors' special report 2014/05 and the shortcomings outlined regarding the functioning of the new arrangements in respect of cross-border banking supervision, the assessment of the resilience of European banks and the promotion of consumer protection; urges EBA, with respect to those parts of the recommendations that are not exclusively addressed to the Commission or to the co-legislators, to take appropriate measures aimed at tackling these shortcomings;
6. Takes note of the conclusion of the European Court of Auditors, in its special report 2014/05, that overall, EBA's resources during its start-up phase were insufficient to allow it to fulfil its mandate; acknowledges that the ESFS is still in a setting-up phase and stresses that the tasks already entrusted to EBA, as well as future tasks envisaged in on-going legislative work, require an adequate level of staff and budget to allow for high-quality supervision; emphasises that the need to combine additional tasks with additional resources should always be carefully considered; stresses however that any potential increases in its means should be preceded and/or complemented by adequate rationalisation efforts, wherever possible; highlights EBA's coordinating role and the need to closely cooperate with national supervisory authorities to fulfil its mandate;
7. Stresses that, given its limited resources, EBA must stick to the tasks assigned to it by the Union co-legislators; underlines that EBA should carry out those assignments in full, but

that it must not seek to de facto broaden its mandate beyond them, and that it must remain independent; highlights that EBA should check the necessity of drafting guidelines and recommendations;

8. Highlights that EBA should make full use of its powers in the area of consumer protection that are granted to it by its existing mandate; underlines that in this area, the EBA should coordinate more closely with the other ESAs through the Joint Committee;
9. Concludes that EBA's mixed financing arrangement is inflexible, burdensome and a potential threat to its independence; calls therefore on the Commission, if proven by the Commission's assessment, to propose a financing system by 2017 that:
 - is solely based on the introduction of fees by market participants, or
 - combines fees by market participants with basic funding from a separate budget line in the general Union budget.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	24.2.2015
Result of final vote	+: 46 -: 11 0: 2
Members present for the final vote	Burkhard Balz, Hugues Bayet, Pervenche Berès, Esther de Lange, Anneliese Dodds, Markus Ferber, Jonás Fernández, Elisa Ferreira, Sven Giegold, Neena Gill, Sylvie Goulard, Roberto Gualtieri, Brian Hayes, Gunnar Hökmark, C t lin Sorin Ivan, Petr Ježek, Othmar Karas, Georgios Kyrtos, Alain Lamassoure, Philippe Lamberts, Werner Langen, Sander Loones, Bernd Lucke, Olle Ludvigsson, Ivana Maleti , Fulvio Martusciello, Marisa Matias, Costas Mavrides, Bernard Monot, Lud k Niedermayer, Patrick O’Flynn, Stanisław O óg, Dimitrios Papadimoulis, Dariusz Rosati, Alfred Sant, Molly Scott Cato, Peter Simon, Renato Soru, Theodor Dumitru Stolojan, Paul Tang, Sampo Terho, Ramon Tremosa i Balcells, Ernest Urtsun, Marco Valli, Tom Vandenkendelaere, Cora van Nieuwenhuizen, Miguel Viegas, Steven Woolfe, Pablo Zalba Bidegain, Marco Zanni, Sotirios Zarianopoulos
Substitutes present for the final vote	Richard Corbett, Ashley Fox, Eva Kaili, Syed Kamall, Barbara Kappel, Thomas Mann, Siegfried Mure an
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Gesine Meissner