



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

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*Committee on Transport and Tourism*

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**2014/2106(DEC)**

26.2.2015

# **OPINION**

of the Committee on Transport and Tourism

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) for the financial year 2013  
(2014/2106(DEC))

Rapporteur: Dominique Riquet

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Transport and Tourism calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the finding of the Court of Auditors that the accounts of the European Aviation Safety Agency ('the Agency') for the 2013 financial year are in order;
2. Notes that the Agency's annual budget for 2013 was EUR 151,2 million, of which EUR 34,9 million came from the Union and EUR 116,3 million from other sources, including income from fees and charges (EUR 83,8 million), and that the implementation rate was 98 %;
3. Highlights the Agency's vital role in ensuring the highest possible level of aviation safety throughout Europe; notes also that the current review of the Single European Sky legislation could lead to greater powers being granted to the Agency; stresses that should this be the case, the Agency will need to be given the necessary financial, material and human resources to perform its tasks successfully;
4. Welcomes the fact that further to the request made by Parliament in the 2012 discharge procedure, the Agency has proceeded to complete the publication of the Annual Declarations of Interests and CVs of the Agency's managers, members of its Management Board and members of its Board of Appeal on its website, thereby demonstrating its progress in eliminating its conflicts of interests;
5. Welcomes the revision of the EASA Regulation and underlines the need to revise the code of conduct of the Agency's employees in order to avoid any potential conflict of interest; proposes that in this regard, there should be a regular screening of the implementation of the code of conduct and the cases themselves by the Court of Auditors;
6. Notes that the Agency further reduced the overall level of carry-overs of committed appropriations from EUR 10,1 million (11 %) in 2012 to EUR 7,2 million euro (8 %) in 2013; invites the Agency to continue in its effort to reduce carry-overs in order to fully comply with the budgetary principle of annuality; notes, however, that half of this carry-over is due to title III (operational spending) and that this is justified by the multiannual nature of the Agency's operations;
7. Recalls Parliament's position in the budgetary procedure that staff financed by fees paid by the industry and consequently not financed by the Union budget should not be affected by the 2 % yearly cut applied by the Union; considers that the Commission should treat agencies financed primarily by the Union budget as a separate case and put forward a specific framework for agencies financed mainly by operators fees, which should be in proportion to the services provided by the agency concerned.
8. Regrets the fact that despite the Agency's efforts, it has not yet been possible, 14 years after the Agency was set up, to conclude the agreement on the Agency's headquarter;

recalls that according to the Common Approach on EU decentralised agencies agreed between the Council, Parliament and the Commission, “all agencies should have headquarters agreements, which should be concluded before the agency starts its operational phase;” notes in this regard that another agency, the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority, signed a headquarter agreement with the German Government in 2011; urges the host country to conclude an agreement with the Agency as quickly as possible with a view to clarifying relations between national judicial authorities and enabling the Agency to perform its legal task without hindrance; calls on the Commission to take the opportunity available this year to amend the act establishing the Agency with a view to securing a headquarters agreement, allowing the Agency to operate unimpeded; calls, therefore, to be notified of the final decision on the Agency’s headquarters;

9. Proposes that Parliament grant the Executive Director of the European Aviation Safety Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency’s budget for the financial year 2013.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	24.2.2015
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 38 -: 5 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Lucy Anderson, Marie-Christine Arnautu, Georges Bach, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Deirdre Clune, Michael Cramer, Luis de Grandes Pascual, Andor Deli, Karima Delli, Isabella De Monte, Ismail Ertug, Jacqueline Foster, Bruno Gollnisch, Tania González Peñas, Dieter-Lebrecht Koch, Merja Kyllönen, Miltiadis Kyrkos, Bogusław Liberadzki, Peter Lundgren, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Georg Mayer, Gesine Meissner, Cláudia Monteiro de Aguiar, Jens Nilsson, Markus Pieper, Gabriele Preuß, Christine Revault D'Allonnes Bonnefoy, Dominique Riquet, Massimiliano Salini, Claudia Schmidt, Claudia Tapardel, Keith Taylor, Pavel Teli ka, István Ujhelyi, Wim van de Camp, Elissavet Vozemberg, Janusz Zemke, Roberts Z le, Kosma Złotowski, El bieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Rosa D'Amato, Werner Kuhn, Jörg Leichtfried