

MEETING

MONDAY 23 MARCH 2015

15.00 - 18.30 public meeting

TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2015

9.00 – 12.30 and 15.00 - 18.30 public meeting

Altiero Spinelli 1G3

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eMeeting

Voting cards

The electronic voting system will be used for the vote scheduled during this meeting and Members are reminded to bring their electronic voting card.

1. AGENDA

The [draft agenda](#) (in EN) was emailed to Members on 9 March 2015 and is in the [file for this meeting](#).

The Chairman would like to draw your attention to the following change in the draft agenda:

Item 56 - European Parliament discharge - will now take place **after item 54 - European Commission discharge**.

Members are advised that the order of the items of the agenda will take place as presented in the CONT News.

2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman draws attention to the following points:

LANGUAGES AVAILABLE

FR, DE, IT, NL, EN, ES, FI, CS, HU, LT, LV, PL, SK, SL, BG, RO

Meeting documents: In light of the European Parliament's paperless project please bear in mind that only a very limited number of paper dossiers will be available in the meeting room.

WEBSTREAMING

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

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF CONT MEETING:

The following minutes are published on the [CONT website](#):

- 26-27 January 2015, which was emailed to CONT Members on 16 March 2015 and
- 23-24 February 2015, which was emailed to CONT Members on 16 March 2015.

If no objections are received before the end of the meeting, the minutes will be deemed to be approved.

Please be aware that the summary of the recommendations concerning the CONT Coordinators' meeting held on 24 February 2015 is attached to the corresponding minutes and were endorsed by the Committee by written procedure.

MONDAY 23 MARCH 2015

15.00 – 18.30 public meeting

***** VOTING TIME *****

DISCHARGE 2013 - AGENCIES (ITEMS 4 TO 36)

Rapporteur:
[Ryszard Czarnecki](#) (ECR)

Administrator:
Hrvoje Svetic

4. REPORT ON DISCHARGE IN RESPECT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AGENCIES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2013: PERFORMANCE, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL
5. EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR COOPERATION OF

Adoption of draft reports

CONT Timetable:

Plenary vote: April II 2015

ENERGY REGULATORS

6. BODY OF EUROPEAN REGULATORS FOR ELECTRONICS COMMUNICATIONS (BEREC)
7. TRANSLATION CENTRE FOR THE BODIES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
8. EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING (CEDEFOP)
9. EUROPEAN POLICE COLLEGE
10. EUROPEAN AVIATION SAFETY AGENCY
11. EUROPEAN ASYLUM SUPPORT OFFICE
12. EUROPEAN BANKING AUTHORITY
13. EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL
14. EUROPEAN CHEMICALS AGENCY
15. EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
16. EUROPEAN FISHERIES CONTROL AGENCY
17. EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY
18. EUROPEAN INSTITUTION FOR GENDER EQUALITY
19. EUROPEAN INSURANCE AND OCCUPATIONAL PENSIONS AUTHORITY
20. EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY
21. EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
22. EUROPEAN MONITORING CENTRE FOR DRUGS AND DRUG ADDICTION
23. EUROPEAN MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY
24. EUROPEAN NETWORK AND INFORMATION SECURITY AGENCY
25. EUROPEAN RAILWAY AGENCY
26. EUROPEAN SECURITIES AND MARKETS

AUTHORITY

- 27. EUROPEAN TRAINING FOUNDATION**
- 28. EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR THE OPERATIONAL
MANAGEMENT OF LARGE-SCALE IT SYSTEM IN
THE AREA OF FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE**
- 29. EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH
AT WORK**
- 30. EURATOM SUPPLY AGENCY**
- 31. EUROPEAN FOUNDATION FOR THE
IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING AND WORKING
CONDITIONS**
- 32. EUROJUST**
- 33. EUROPEAN POLICE OFFICE EUROPOL**
- 34. EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR
FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS**
- 35. FRONTEX**
- 36. EUROPEAN GNSS SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY**



The 33 draft reports concerning the 2013 decentralised agencies discharge were presented by the Rapporteur, Mr Ryszard Czarnecki, to the CONT Committee on 24 February 2015.

The amendments to the draft reports focus on, inter alia, the

following topics:

- Emphasising the need for further improvements in the agencies' policies on prevention and management of conflicts of interests and transparency;
- The visibility and democratic accountability of the agencies;
- Budgetary management and planning accuracy;
- Improvements in procurement planning and monitoring as well as in internal controls systems;

- Increasing further collaboration between the agencies in order to achieve additional synergies:

Out of the 32 agencies, the Rapporteur is in favour of granting the discharge to 31 agencies and is in favour of postponing the discharge procedure for the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT).

The amendments were sent to Members on 9 March 2015 in mixed language versions.

The language versions of the amendments, opinions and draft reports are published on the [CONT website](#).

The Court of Auditors' reports and other relevant information (including annual reports, final accounts, etc.) can be found on the [CONT website](#).

The final voting lists will be sent to the CONT Members as soon as available.

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DISCHARGE 2013 - JOINT UNDERTAKINGS (ITEMS 37 TO 43)

Co-Rapporteurs:

[Ryszard Czarnecki](#) (ECR)

[Anders Primdahl Vistisen](#) (ECR)

Administrator:

Hrvoje Svetic

Adoption of draft reports

CONT Timetable:

Plenary vote: April II 2015

37. ARTEMIS - EMBEDDED COMPUTING SYSTEMS

38. CLEAN SKY - AERONAUTICS AND ENVIRONMENT

39. EUROPEAN NANO-ELECTRONICS INITIATIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL - ENIAC

40. FCH - FUEL CELLS AND HYDROGEN

41. IMI - INNOVATIVE MEDICINES

42. ITER - FUSION FOR ENERGY

43. SESAR - SAFETY OF AIR NAVIGATION



Ryszard Czarnecki

Co-Rapporteur



Anders Primdahl
Vistisen

Co-Rapporteur

The Co-Rapporteurs, Ryszard Czarnecki and Anders Vistisen presented the seven draft reports on the European Joint Undertakings to the CONT Committee on 24 February 2015.

The amendments to the draft reports focus on, inter alia, the following topics:

- Issues identified in the three Joint Undertakings which received a qualified opinion of the Court of Auditors (ARTEMIS, ENIAC and IMI), as well as actions the Joint Undertakings took in order to resolve the identified issues;
- Policies on prevention and management of conflicts of interest and transparency;
- Effective budgetary and financial management, procurement procedures, project implementation timetables and identification of potential risks and future developments;

In addition to the amendments tabled to the draft reports, the TRAN Committee provided an opinion on the SESAR Joint Undertaking 2013 discharge.

The amendments were sent to Members on 9 March 2015 in mixed language versions.

The final voting list will be sent to the CONT Members as soon as available.

The draft reports, the Court of Auditors' reports and other relevant information (including annual reports, final accounts etc.) can be found on the [CONT website](#).

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DISCHARGE 2013 - OTHER INSTITUTIONS(ITEMS 44 TO 51)

Rapporteur:
[Ryszard Czarnecki](#) (ECR)

Administrator:
Tereza Pinto de Rezende & Olivier Sautière

44. COUNCIL AND EUROPEAN COUNCIL

45. EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE

46. COURT OF JUSTICE

47. COURT OF AUDITORS

48. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Adoption of draft reports

CONT Timetable:

Plenary vote: April II 2015

49. COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

50. EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN

51. EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION SUPERVISOR



The draft reports were presented in the Committee on 24 February and the presentation was followed by an exchange of views between the Members and the EEAS representative.

The secretariat received the following amendments:

- European Council and Council – 15 amendments;
- European External Action Service–37 amendments;
- Court of Justice – 22 amendments;
- Court of Auditors – 33 amendments;
- Economic and Social Committee–20 amendments;
- Committee of the Regions – 23 amendments;
- European Ombudsman – 12 amendments;
- European Data Protection Supervisor – 8 amendments.

Opinions were delivered by the LIBE Committee to the EDPS discharge draft report and by the AFET Committee to the EEAS discharge draft report.

The original versions of the amendments were sent to Members on 9 March, the English versions were delivered on 17 March 2015 and other language versions are available on the [CONT website](#) after 19 March.

The final voting list will be sent to the CONT Members as soon as available.

***** END OF VOTING TIME *****

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Rapporteur for the opinion:
[Michael Theurer](#) (ALDE)

Administrator:
Philippe Godts

Consideration of draft opinion and exchange of views in the presence of the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, Lazaros S. Lazarou

CONT Timetable:

Deadline for amendments: 24/03/2015, 12.00

Adoption in CONT: 13/04/2015

Adoption in main committees ECON and BUDG:
20/04/2015

Plenary vote: June I 2015

52. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ON THE EUROPEAN FUND FOR STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS AND AMENDING REGULATIONS (EU) No 1291/2013 AND (EU) No 1316/2013



The abovementioned proposal creates the necessary legal framework and provides the budgetary allocations to mobilise 315 Billion in additional investment over the next three years and to target initiatives to make sure that this extra investment meets

the need of the real economy.

At the meeting on 10 February 2015 of the Conference of Committee Chairs of the European Parliament, the leading committees ECON and BUDG agreed, in addition to the association of the ITRE and TRAN Committees under Rule 54, to associate under the so-called Rule 53+ those committees whose remit is affected by certain provisions of the proposal and in particular CONT. The reinforced Rule 53 status will permit Rapporteurs of the opinion-giving committees to attend shadows meetings and trilogues in line with the negotiations related to article 14 of the regulation.

The Rapporteur held a meeting with the shadow Rapporteurs on 11 March 2015.

The English version of the draft opinion was circulated to CONT members on 16 March 2014. It focuses on sound financial management and accountability issues and in particular on the mandate of the Court of Auditors.

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TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2015

9.00 – 11.30 public meeting

***** VOTING TIME *****

Rapporteur:
[Ingeborg Gräßle](#) (EPP)

Administrator(s):
Philippe Godts, Christian Ehlers & Michal Czaplicki

Adoption of draft report

CONT Timetable:
Plenary vote: April II 2015

53.DISCARGE 2013: EU GENERAL BUDGET - EUROPEAN COMMISSION

54.COURT OF AUDITORS SPECIAL REPORTS ON 2013 COMMISSION DISCHARGE



The 2013 Commission discharge reports were made available in all languages in time for the CONT meeting on 23/24 February 2015. The Rapporteur invited the shadow Rapporteurs from the political groups for an in-depth discussion of the

main messages of the discharge report on 25 February.

The Rapporteur is of the opinion that the Parliament cannot politically ensure that the control procedures put in place in the Commission and the Member States give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of all underlying transactions in the areas of agricultural policy and rural development, in regional and social policy and also in the area of gross national income contributions. From the Rapporteur's point of view Member States should considerably step-up their vigilance when spending and accounting for European Funds.

The amendments tabled were sent to Members, in the original language version, on 6 March. The translations became available as of 17 March and were put on the [committee's website](#).

Political groups received a first draft voting list (without indications) on 12 March.

The Rapporteur met the shadow Rapporteurs from the political groups on 18 March with a view to establishing common ground and facilitating the vote.

The final voting list together with possible compromises, oral amendments and the Rapporteur's preferences will be circulated as soon as possible.

Rapporteur:
[Gilles Pargneaux](#) (S&D)

Administrator:
Mauro de Oliveira

Adoption of draft report

CONT Timetable:
Plenary vote: April II 2015

56.DISCHARGE 2013: EU GENERAL BUDGET - EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



The draft report was presented by Mr Pargneaux and discussed in the CONT meeting of 23 February 2015.

110 amendments were received and emailed to Members on 9 March in a mixed language version.

The final voting list will be circulated as soon as available.

The Court of Auditor's report and other background documents (including DG's annual activity reports, final accounts, etc.) can be found on the [CONT website](#).

Rapporteur:
[Martina Dlabajová](#) (ALDE)

Administrator:
Olivier Sautière

55.DISCHARGE 2013: EU GENERAL BUDGET - 8TH, 9TH AND 10TH EDFs

Following the exchange of views with Commissioner Mimica on 11 December 2014, and with Mr Laloux on 2 December 2014, CONT had a discussion on the draft report on 23 February 2015.

Adoption of draft report

CONT Timetable:

Plenary vote: April II 2015



The Rapporteur, Ms Dlabajová, recalled the need for EDFs actions to remain closely linked to the strategic and political priorities and to value for money principles particularly to economic and financial efficiency criteria

and also emphasized the need to better identify activities where most errors and the highest level of vulnerability are.

As regards budget support, the Rapporteur insisted on the strict respect of eligibility conditions linked to the effective progress achieved by recipient countries while ensuring an appropriate policy dialogue and steady monitoring of reforms and programmes achieved by measuring real performance.

On the EIB Investment Facility, the Rapporteur considered the results measurement framework as a useful tool to evaluate not only EIB added value but also to contribute increasing the effectiveness of projects and to ensure consistency with Union priorities.

The cooperation with international organisations is another key domain for which further level of approximation of oversight and governance systems has to be pursued.

Separate chapters are also dedicated to blending activities where Parliament's scrutiny has to be reinforced and to the Union support to Haiti wherein humanitarian and development aid have to be better articulated.

The Committee on Development (DEVE) delivered an opinion on this CONT report on 22 January 2015 for which Ms McAvan was appointed Rapporteur.

The draft report and the amendments are available in all languages on the [CONT website](#).

***** END OF VOTING TIME *****

Rapporteur for the opinion:
[Patricija Šulin](#) (EPP)

57. ANNUAL REPORTS 2012-2013 ON SUBSIDIARITY AND PROPORTIONALITY

Administrator:
Tereza Pinto de Rezende

Consideration of draft opinion
Main committee: JURI

CONT Timetable:

Deadline for amendments: 30/03/2015, 12.00

Consideration of amendments: 14/04/2015

Adoption in CONT: 05/05/2015

Adoption in JURI: 16-17/06/2015

Plenary vote: July 2015



The Rapporteur proposes in the draft opinion the extensive application of the subsidiarity principle to the MFF programmes, in the special reports of the Court of Auditors, where appropriate, and to the EU, national and subnational budgets. The Commission is asked to fully comply with the proportionality principle to simplify the procedure for application of EU funds and particular emphasis is put in the role of impacts assessments in the preparation of legislation. The Rapporteur also stresses the importance of the Parliament's scrutiny as complementary to those principles.

TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2015

11.30 - 12.30 Coordinators' meeting in camera



58. COORDINATORS' MEETING

Meeting held in camera

TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2015

15.00 - 16.00 Public meeting

Rapporteur:

[Ingeborg Gräßle](#) (EPP)

**59.DISCHARGE 2013: EU GENERAL BUDGET -
EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Administrator(s):

Philippe Godts, Christian Ehlers & Michal Czaplicki

See Item 53.

Exchange of views on the adopted report on 2013 Discharge to the Commission, in the presence of the Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for Budget and Human Resources, Kristalina Georgieva, and the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, Lazaros S. Lazarou



TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2015

16.00 - 18.30 Public meeting

Rapporteur:
[Petri Sarvamaa](#) (EPP)

Administrator:
Philippe Godts

Exchange of views with:

- **Phil Hogan, Member of the European Commission responsible for Agriculture & Rural Development,**
- **Kersti Kaljulaid, Member of the European Court of Auditors**
- **Markus Eerola, Vice-President of the board of the Finnish Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners**
- **A representative of the COPA-COGECA, Pekka Pesonen**

CONT Timetable:

Consideration of draft report: 14/04/2015

Deadline for amendments: 15/04/2015

Adoption in CONT: 05/05/2015

Plenary vote: June 2015

63. PROTECTING THE EUROPEAN UNION'S FINANCIAL INTERESTS: TOWARDS PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTROLS OF COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY



With the CAP reform farmers should be rewarded for the services they deliver to the wider public such as landscapes, farmland biodiversity, climate stability even though they have no market value.

Therefore a new policy instrument of the first pillar (greening) is directed to the provision of environmental public goods.

As pointed out by the Court of Auditors (opinion 1/2012 on the proposals for regulations to the common agricultural policy for the period 2014-2020) "the arrangements for the common agricultural policy spending continue to be complex. In particular the new framework for cross compliance does not yet correspond to a reduction in the level of complexity of this policy for the managing authorities or for the beneficiaries".

Parliament and the Court of Auditors have often stressed the necessity to strike the right balance between less administrative burden and effective financial control.

In this particular context the European Parliament should favour innovative solutions and could explore the two following approaches:

1. Firstly, building on the new role of the certification authorities as defined by the Financial Regulation, the objective would be to put in practice the single audit scheme with only one chain of audits from the final beneficiaries to the European Union institutions.

2. The second way would be to set up a flexible organisation of checks promoting performance-based controls of Common Agricultural Policy.

At the occasion of this second exchange of views CONT has invited different speakers to comment on the subject, in particular Phil Hogan, Member of the European Commission responsible for Agriculture & Rural Development, Kersti Kaljulaid, Member of the European Court of Auditors, Markus Eerola, Vice-President of the board of the Finish Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners and a representative of the COPA-COGECA, Pekka Pesonen.



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NEXT MEETINGS (BRUSSELS)

- **26 March 2015, 9.00 – 12.30**
- **13 April 2015, 15.00 – 18.30 and**
- **14 April 2015, 9.00 – 12.30
and 15.00 – 18.30**