



European Economic and Social Committee

Subject: Report on the reimbursement of travelling expenses and allowances paid to members of the EESC in 2014

FOR INFORMATION

In line with Article 9 of Council Decision 2013/471/EU of 23 September 2013 on the granting of daily allowances to and the reimbursement of travelling expenses of members of the European Economic and Social Committee and their alternates "*[t]he Committee shall, by 30 April of each year, submit to the European Parliament and to the Council a detailed report on the reimbursement of travelling expenses and allowances paid to beneficiaries in the preceding year. That report shall detail the number of beneficiaries, the number of journeys, the destinations, the travel class and the travel costs incurred and reimbursed, as well as the allowances paid*".

Beneficiaries: Following the accession of Croatia to the EU, the number of Committee members is fixed at 353 until the renewal of the mandate in October 2015. Taking account of replacements following the departure of Committee members in the course of 2014 and alternates of those members who have requested the appointment of an alternate, the number of reimbursed beneficiaries totalled 435.

Journeys: The Committee members undertook a total of 10,813 journeys in 2014, most of which (9,569) had the Committee headquarters in Brussels as their destination. 1,080 journeys were undertaken to other destinations inside the EU. 164 journeys had a destination outside the EU. For details concerning the destinations of journeys to other places than Brussels please refer to the attached report.

Travel class: The Committee's new reimbursement rules entered into force on 1 January 2014. In 2014, the Committee did not systematically collect any detailed information on travel classes. For travel under option B (flat-rate reimbursement) information on travel classes is not available. However, it can be presumed that the majority of journeys to Brussels reimbursed under option A and within the EU were undertaken in business class and that business class was used for virtually all journeys to destinations outside the EU. Detailed information on travel class is collected since the beginning of 2014 for those members who have not made use of the possibility to opt for the application of the previous rules until the end of the mandate in September 2015. For these members, the highest reimbursable travel class is a restricted business class (normally class "D").

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Costs and allowances reimbursed: As no distinction between ticket costs and travel allowances is possible for journeys reimbursed under option B (flat-rate reimbursement, which can only be chosen for meetings in Brussels), ticket costs and travel allowances have been lumped together (EUR 9,867,537 for Brussels, EUR 1,464,282 for the rest of the EU and EUR 479,925 for destinations outside the EU). The costs for meeting days are broken down into sub-totals for Brussels (EUR 4,676,327), the rest of the EU (EUR 761,724) and outside the EU (EUR 126,069).

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Appendix: 1

**Yearly report for 2014 on the
reimbursement of travelling expenses and allowances paid to EESC beneficiaries**

Venue	Number of journeys	Cost in EUR	Number of meeting days	Cost in EUR	Total EUR
Brussels	9.569	9.867.537	16.915	4.676.327	14.543.864
Option A	3.075	2.710.053			
Option B	6.494	7.157.484			
EU not Brussels	1.080	1.464.282	2.661	761.724	2.226.006
Austria	18	18.925	37	10.320	29.245
Belgium	12	8.767	39	11.274	20.041
Bulgaria	14	21.856	45	13.372	35.228
Croatia	54	75.354	116	33.589	108.943
Cyprus	13	23.870	36	9.713	33.583
Czech Republic	13	19.758	42	12.045	31.803
Denmark	2	1.041	2	466	1.507
Éire-Ireland	4	4.470	9	2.698	7.168
Estonia	3	1.544	8	1.932	3.476
Finland	9	15.058	26	6.551	21.609
France	98	131.346	220	62.753	194.099
Germany	85	90.990	171	47.274	138.264
Greece	211	304.919	541	162.758	467.677
Hungary	6	6.699	17	4.737	11.436
Italy	269	391.240	637	184.679	575.919
Latvia	3	3.308	21	5.644	8.952
Lithuania	3	5.902	22	6.431	12.333
Luxembourg	16	10.851	29	8.361	19.212
Malta	3	8.056	10	3.072	11.128
Netherlands	13	8.190	23	5.968	14.158
Poland	60	78.430	189	51.860	130.290
Portugal	14	15.863	34	9.513	25.376
Romania	9	13.741	23	6.189	19.930
Slovakia	12	13.626	22	5.694	19.320
Slovenia	3	2.447	10	2.711	5.158
Spain	25	35.182	80	21.572	56.754
Sweden	12	12.980	20	5.057	18.037
United Kingdom	96	139.872	232	65.491	205.363
Outside EU	164	479.925	451	126.069	605.994
Algeria	2	2.197	6	1.626	3.823
Argentina	4	18.944	16	4.204	23.148
Belarus	1	1.419	1	466	1.885
Brazil	16	83.011	35	10.135	93.146
China	1	6.086	3	767	6.853
El Salvador & Guatemala	3	19.595	16	2.675	22.270
FYR of Macedonia	2	3.326	5	1.403	4.729
Georgia	6	6.645	14	4.954	11.599
Iceland	1	2.479	1	435	2.914
India	4	21.116	27	7.653	28.769
Japan	6	31.695	21	5.709	37.404
Jordan	5	13.059	11	3.204	16.263
Kenya	1	3.380	5	1.595	4.975
Kosovo	1	1.787	4	1.068	2.855
Lebanon	1	2.129	2	568	2.697
Moldova	1	3.223	4	1.171	4.394
Montenegro	7	12.053	18	5.062	17.115
Morocco	6	12.805	15	4.064	16.869
Nicaragua	3	17.396	6	1.704	19.100
Norway	7	9.119	17	4.731	13.850
Peru	5	27.466	23	6.959	34.425
Serbia	4	10.414	14	4.074	14.488
Switzerland	18	26.814	34	9.184	35.998
Tunisia	9	15.265	27	7.679	22.944
Turkey	24	45.333	60	16.657	61.990
Ukraine	16	21.801	32	9.676	31.477
United States	10	61.366	34	8.646	70.012
TOTAL	10.813	11.811.744	20.027	5.564.120	17.375.864