



ISSUE N°14

MEETING OF MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2015

15.00 - 18.30 public meeting

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

9.00 – 12.30 and 15.00 - 18.30 public meeting

Room: József Antall 6Q2

1. AGENDA

The [draft agenda](#) (in EN) was emailed to Members on 10 September 2015 and is in the [file for this meeting](#).

2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman draws attention to the following points:

Languages available

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

Webstreaming

The CONT meeting is web streamed 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.

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.

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.

Balance sheet

The Secretariat has prepared the first annual balance sheet of the 8th legislative term containing all activities of the CONT Committee over the period from July 2014 to April 2015. This will be distributed during the meeting.



3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF CONT MEETING:

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

- 8 June 2015,
- 17 June 2015,
- 13-14 July 2015, which were emailed to CONT Members on 27 August 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 17 June 2015 is attached to the corresponding minutes and were endorsed by the Committee by written procedure

MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2015

15.00 - 18.30 Public meeting

4. REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION ON PROTECTION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION'S FINANCIAL INTERESTS — FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Exchange of views with the Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for Budget and Human Resources, Kristalina Georgieva

Rapporteur: [Benedek Jávor](#) (Verts/ALE)

Administrator: Michal Czaplicki

As in previous years, the Committee on Budgetary Control decided to draw up a report on the Protection of the Union's financial interests. In the framework of the preparation of the draft report, OLAF has presented its annual report on 14 July 2015. It was followed by a row of written questions, to which OLAF has replied. The written replies by OLAF have been distributed to the Members on 15 September.

During this CONT meeting Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva will present the Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the Protection of the European Union's financial interests - Fight against fraud - Annual Report 2014 (COM(2015)386). The Commission presents, in cooperation with the Member States, the Annual Report under Article 325 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The purpose of the report is both to assess to what extent the EU funds or revenue of the EU budget are at risk of misuse due to fraudulent or non-fraudulent irregularities and to describe the actions taken to address the issue. This is the first report under the current Commission and focuses on the principles of sound financial management to which the Commission is committed.

5. ECA SPECIAL REPORT N° 2/2015 (2014 DISCHARGE) ON "EU-FUNDING OF URBAN WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS IN DANUBE RIVER BASIN: FURTHER EFFORTS NEEDED IN HELPING MEMBER STATES TO ACHIEVE EU WASTE WATER POLICY OBJECTIVES"



Presentation of the Special Report by the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, George Pufan, and consideration of a working document

Rapporteur: [Tamás Deutsch](#) (EPP)

Administrator: Hrvoje Svetić

The Danube river basin is Europe's largest, touches 19 different countries and is vulnerable to water pollution coming from various sources. The EU spending played a key role in improving the efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of the urban waste water treatment plants in the basin. The Court's audit focused on four Member States (the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia) where it analysed the progress with regard to the implementation of the urban waste water treatment directive, the performance in treating waste water, the way of handling sewage sludge produced as well as the financial sustainability of the infrastructure. . The EU contributed €7.9 billion for waste water treatment projects in the four Member States over the 2000-2006 and 2007-2013 programme periods.

The Court arrived at the conclusion that the progress the audited countries achieved was not sufficient to meet the EU deadlines for waste water treatment. Moreover, the Court noted that the countries took up the available EU funds slowly, thus risking losing EU funding or creating a need for additional money from the Member States themselves.

The Court found that around one third of the plants are oversized – even when taking into account planned future connections of households to the sewage system – and that the potential performance of the plants in the event of rain overflow cannot be assessed due to a lack of quantified information. The Court furthermore assessed compliance with EU and national regulations and found that the waste water treatment plants handled the sludge appropriately except in Romania and that they mostly complied with the effluent requirements from their discharge permits and the directive.

The Court concluded that the financial sustainability of EU co-financed infrastructure was often questionable. In 90% of cases, waste water tariffs charged to users were too low. They did not allow full recovery of costs by the plants and were below the commonly accepted affordability level of four percent of household income. In addition, the auditors noted a lack of information on whether the infrastructure owners had built up sufficient financial reserves to allow adequate maintenance and the eventual renewal of plants

The Rapporteur welcomed the Court's Special Report and in particular stressed that more adequate reporting is needed both for smaller and larger agglomerations given the requirements of the urban waste water treatment directive. He highlights the need to encourage the Member States to establish clear legal obligations for households to connect to existing sewage networks and insists on the necessity to expedite the absorption of the EU funds by the Member States for investments in the field of waste water. The environmental performance of EU funded water utilities needs to be improved and the European Commission should make bigger efforts to monitor the implementation of the related legislation. Finally, the Rapporteur believes that the Member States should be encouraged to explore and disseminate information on the possibilities of cost savings, and encourages the Member States to implement a responsible waste water tariff policy and to adapt, where necessary, the legal provisions in the area of water pricing in order to avoid tariffs lower than the commonly accepted affordability ratio.

The Rapporteur's working document will be available on the [CONT website](#).

The Rapporteur's conclusions will form part of the Commission's discharge report for the financial year 2014. Amendments may be tabled in this context and the deadline will be the same as the Commission's discharge.

6. ECA SPECIAL REPORT N° 8/2015 (2014 DISCHARGE) ON "IS EU FINANCIAL SUPPORT ADEQUATELY ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF MICRO-ENTREPRENEURS?"



Presentation of the Special Report by the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, Iliana Ivanova, and consideration of a working document

Rapporteur: [Inés Ayala Sender](#) (S&D)

Administrator: Tereza Pinto de Rezende

In the Special Report on EU financial support to micro-entrepreneurs, the Court of Auditors observed that the EU provided support mainly through the European Social Fund (ESF) and the European Progress Microfinance Facility (EPMF). The Court concluded that the ESF financial support to micro-entrepreneurs had weaknesses in the programming and design of the support and lack sufficient and reliable monitoring information on performance. In addition, the Commission and the Member States did not have sufficient information available on the administrative cost for each Member State and for each funding mechanism.

In order to improve the situation, the Court recommended that for the 2014-2020 programming period, Member States consistently perform needs assessments when designing funding instruments and preparing operational programmes and the Commission carries out a comparative analysis of the implementation costs of the ESF grants, ESF financial instruments and the Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) financial instruments. The Commission should make the use of the ESF financial instruments by the Member States conditional not only on compliance with regulatory requirements but also on the existence of a robust risk management system to avoid fund oversizing. In order to improve the outreach, the Commission together with the Member States should design ESF financial support measures for micro-entrepreneurs and define eligibility criteria with aim at reaching the unemployed and vulnerable persons.

The Rapporteur noted that microcredit is steadily growing in the EU and stressed that the ESF and the EPMF are substantially different programmes and their comparison in the Court's audit can misrepresent the results reached. These instruments are complementary and provide for three equally relevant financial instruments – grants, loans and guarantees. The Rapporteur is concerned that the Court has privileged the compliance to the performance in this particular audit. She also showed some concern to the relatively little focus of the financial instruments in improving the conditions of vulnerable groups and to the lack of complementarity between the two instruments, in particular in the provision of training and mentoring services.

The working document was sent to Members on 3 September 2015 and is available on the [CONT website](#).

The Rapporteur's recommendations will form part of the Commission's discharge report for the financial year 2014. Amendments may be tabled in this context and the deadline will be the same as the Commission's discharge.



7. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN PROGRESS MICROFINANCE FACILITY



Consideration of draft opinion

Main committee: EMPL

Rapporteur for the opinion: [Inés Ayala Sender](#) (S&D)

Administrator: Tereza Pinto de Rezende

The CONT committee is giving an opinion to the EMPL committee on the implementation of the European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion in 2013. This opinion was produced in parallel with the working document on the ECA Special Report N. 8/2015 which assesses the EU financial support to micro-entrepreneurs and analyses the performance of that same instrument.

The Rapporteur welcomes the instrument as being a first necessary measure to promote employment and social inclusion and underlines the growing importance of the microfinance business in the EU. On the other hand, there were some shortcomings in the Facility that need to be identified and should be overcome in the next instrument (EaSI). Firstly, the new instrument should develop a strategic assessment of the targets and should ensure full geographical coverage. The Facility was present in 20 out of 28 Member States. Secondly the Commission should ensure that the microcredit intermediaries comply with the principles of responsible lending and avoidance of over-indebtedness. The social and employment impact was scarcely assessed in the Facility and the Commission should ensure that in the EaSI the intermediate institutions actively have the most vulnerable groups involved in the programme. The Rapporteur also stressed the need to improve synergies between the European Social Fund (ESF) programmes and the Facility (and EaSI) and regretted that the employment creation impact was less than initially expected. Finally, the Rapporteur regrets the high number of rejected applications for microfinance and asks the Commission to assess the reasons and resolve the problem, and points out that the implementation report was too general and lacking detailed information.

CONT Timetable:

Event	Body	Date
Deadline for amendments	CONT	25/09/2015
Adoption of the report	CONT	19/10/2015



8. JOINT CONT/BUDG STUDY ON "COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION'S EXPERT GROUPS AS WELL THE STATUS OF THE REGISTER OF EXPERT GROUPS"

Presentation of the study and exchange of views

Rapporteurs:

[Dennis de Jong](#) (GUE/NGL) and [Helga Trüpel](#) (Vert/ALE)



Administrator: Rudolfs Verdins

Commissioning of the study was recommended by CONT and BUDG coordinators, and endorsed by both committees in December of 2014. The Members responsible for the study are Mr Dennis de Jong for CONT and Ms Helga Trüpel for BUDG. Study was awarded to "Blomeyer & Sanz" after reopening of framework contract procedure. The study report will be presented by Mr Roland Blomeyer.

This study aims to provide insights into the development, since 2012, of the Commission's system of Expert Groups (EGs), including the Register of EGs. The specific focus of this study is an assessment of the Commission's compliance with a set of Parliament conditions attached to repeated Parliament budget reserves for the EG budget. Parliament's conditions aim to strengthen the balanced representation of interests in EGs, address conflicts of interest, and ensure transparency, in terms of open access to the working and outputs of EGs. The study finds that the Commission, despite some progress, continues to fall short of full compliance with Parliament's conditions on balance and transparency. Based on this study's findings, it is considered that a more systematic approach to balance would help overcoming information asymmetries and contribute to throughput legitimacy. Enhanced transparency also has potential to enhance EG outputs. This study therefore recommends a systematic approach to balance, the promotion of full transparency, more resources for Secretariat General oversight and enforcement, and the systematic evaluation of EG performance at the level of the system of EG and for all individual EGs.

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

9.00 - 11.30 Public meeting

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



9. DISCHARGE 2013: EU GENERAL BUDGET - COUNCIL AND EUROPEAN COUNCIL



Adoption of draft report

Rapporteur: [Ryszard Czarnecki](#) (ECR)
Administrator: Tereza Pinto de Rezende

The Rapporteur presented his draft second report in July and just one amendment was tabled within the deadline of 2 September. The amendment was circulated to Members on 7 September and the voting list will be sent as soon as possible.

If Members adopt the Rapporteur's proposal for decision, the Council and European Council's discharge for the financial year 2013 will be refused. However, if Members vote against the Rapporteur's proposal for decision, this will mean that discharge will be granted to the Council and European Council.

CONT Timetable:

Event	Body	Date
Adoption of the draft opinion	CONT	22/09/2015
Adoption in plenary	Plenary	October II 2015

10. 2013 DISCHARGE - EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY (EIT)



Adoption of draft report

Rapporteur: [Ryszard Czarnecki](#) (ECR)
Administrator: Hrvoje Svetic

The Rapporteur, Mr Ryszard Czarnecki, presented his draft second report on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology discharge for 2013 to the Committee at the meeting of 14 July 2015.

By the deadline of 4 September 2015 Members tabled 10 amendments to the EIT discharge report.

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

The final voting will be sent to the Members as soon as it is available.

CONT Timetable:

Event	Body	Date
Adoption of the draft opinion	CONT	22/09/2015
Adoption in plenary	Plenary	October II 2015



11. DISCHARGE 2013: ARTEMIS - EMBEDDED COMPUTING SYSTEMS



Adoption of draft report

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

Administrator: Michal Czaplicki

The Rapporteur, Mr Ryszard Czarnecki, presented his draft second report on ARTEMIS JU discharge for 2013 to the Committee at the meeting of 14 July 2015.

By the deadline of 3 September 2015 Members tabled 2 amendments to the ARTEMIS JU report.

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

The final voting will be sent to the Members as soon as it is available.

CONT Timetable:

Event	Body	Date
Adoption of the draft opinion	CONT	22/09/2015
Adoption in plenary	Plenary	October II 2015

12. DISCHARGE 2013: ENIAC - EUROPEAN NANOELECTRONICS INITIATIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL



Adoption of draft report

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

Administrator: Michal Czaplicki

The Rapporteur, Mr Ryszard Czarnecki, presented his draft second report on ENIAC JU discharge for 2013 to the Committee at the meeting of 14 July 2015.

By the deadline of 3 September 2015 Members tabled 2 amendments to the ENIAC JU report.

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

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

CONT Timetable:

Event	Body	Date
Adoption of the draft opinion	CONT	22/09/2015
Adoption in plenary	Plenary	October II 2015

13. THE ROLE OF THE EU WITHIN THE UN - HOW TO BETTER ACHIEVE EU FOREIGN POLICY GOALS



Adoption of draft opinion

Main committee: AFET

Rapporteur for the opinion: [Ryszard Czarnecki](#) (ECR)

Administrator: Olivier Sautière

In his draft opinion, the Rapporteur Mr Czarnecki called for improving the UN efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency in particularly when EU funding is channelled through the UN.

The Rapporteur also advocated for bringing closer the two governance systems and for further exchanging on their risk management frameworks and audit functions by comparing their data, methods and outcomes.

Beyond the continued reinforcement of good governance practices, the Rapporteur recalled the need to ensure the highest level of transparency and accountability with access to exhaustive and sound budgetary information while also strengthening the EU visibility in case of EU funding.

Furthermore the Rapporteur underlined both to achieve a better stewardship of EU money and the development of an effective result-oriented approach in light of the focus on the performance and sustainability of results achieved of the Union assistance.

Deadline for amendments was 4 September 2015. 15 amendments were tabled. The draft opinion and the amendments are available in all languages on the [CONT website](#).

14. GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN UNION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2016 - ALL SECTIONS

Adoption of draft opinion

Rapporteur for the opinion: [Ingeborg Gräßle](#) (EPP)

Administrator: Philippe Godts

Main committee: BUDG



In her draft opinion CONT Chair urges in particular the Commission to prepare and publish annually a long range cash flow forecast that would assist stakeholders in assessing future payment requirements and budgetary priorities. She asks the Commission that the budget of OLAF Supervisory Committee be specified in a separate line of the OLAF budget for 2016 and to report to the European Parliament on measures and achievements to combat youth unemployment implemented with European financial means. She also asks the Commission to be more transparent as to the use of financial engineering instruments.

The mixed language version of the amendments was circulated to CONT Members on 7 September 2015 and in all languages on 16 September.

The voting list will be sent as soon as available.

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



15. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH THE DIRECTORS OF IMI, ITER, FCH JOINT UNDERTAKINGS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE FOLLOW-UP ON 2013 DISCHARGE PROCEDURE AND IN THE LIGHT OF THE UPCOMING 2014 DISCHARGE PROCEDURE

Exchange of views

Rapporteurs: [Ryszard Czarnecki](#) & [Anders Primdahl Vistisen](#) (2013 Discharge) (ECR)
and [Marian-Jean Marinescu](#) (2014 Discharge) (EPP)

Administrator: Michal Czaplicki

Upon request of Mr Marinescu, the Rapporteur of the 2014 discharge reports for the Joint Undertakings, the Committee will hold an exchange of views with the directors of three Joint Undertakings which were granted discharge for 2013, but to which the Committee had some reservations and remarks. The exchange of views will allow seeing what progress has been achieved by the Joint Undertakings in question since the report was adopted.

16. ECA SPECIAL REPORT N° 7/2015 (2014 DISCHARGE) ON "THE EU POLICE MISSION IN AFGHANISTAN: MIXED RESULTS"



Joint presentation CONT/AFET co-chaired by Ingeborg Gräßle and Elmar Brok, in the presence of the Member responsible of the European Court of Auditors, Hans Gustaf Wessberg

Rapporteur: [Jens Geier](#) (S&D)

Administrator: Michal Czaplicki

Following the overthrow of the Taliban regime, the EU and its Member States committed themselves to support the new Afghan authorities. The EU police mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL) is a civilian mission developed in 2007 in the context of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), aimed at contributing to the establishment of a sustainable and effective civilian police force under Afghan ownership.

The three main lines of operation of EUPOL were: advancing institutional reform of the Ministry of Interior, professionalising the national police and connecting the national police to the wider justice system. The EUPOL's mission will end on 31 December 2016.

In light of its findings the ECA recommended that the EEAS should work with the Member States to ensure that future CSDP missions receive sufficient logistic, technical and human resources to be able to operate at close to full authorised capacity. The EEAS and the Commission should develop support functions to assist with the rapid, efficient and consistent deployment of CSDP missions. Measures should involve: pre-deployment training for all staff on EU procedures and policies, comprehensive guidelines on operational tasks, making maximum use of the lessons learnt from previous missions, setting up, on a cost-benefit basis, a shared service centre for all CSDP missions and optimising the use of the CSDP warehouse to manage the assets of ongoing missions. The EEAS and CSDP missions should work together to further improve the effectiveness of each activity: training, monitoring/mentoring/advising and project implementation.



To ensure that the CSDP missions are phased out and related assets liquidated smoothly, the EEAS and the Commission should work out a common and comprehensive strategy defining roles and responsibilities for the downsizing and closure of CSDP missions. The strategy would provide for sufficient mission support from headquarters and would highlight measures to mitigate specific risks inherent in the downsizing and closure process; the EEAS and the Commission should work closely with CSDP missions from well before the end of the mandate, to avoid assets being accumulated in a way that entails financial risks.

The Rapporteur's working document will be available on the [CONT website](#).

The Rapporteur's conclusions will form part of the Commission's discharge report for the financial year 2014. Amendments may be tabled in this context and the deadline will be the same as the Commission's discharge.

*
* *

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

11.30 - 12.30 In camera

17. COORDINATORS' MEETING - IM CAMERA

*
* *

TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

15.00 - 16.00 Public meeting

18. ECA SPECIAL REPORT N° 6/2015 (2014 DISCHARGE) ON "THE INTEGRITY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EU ETS"



Joint presentation CONT/ENVI co-chaired by Ingeborg Gräßle and Giovanni La Via , in the presence of the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, Kevin Cardiff

Consideration of a working document

Rapporteur: [Markus Pieper](#) (EPP)

Administrator: Olivier Sautiere



The European Union's Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) is the EU's flagship policy to combat climate change. It is the world's largest cap-and-trade system for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, its objective being to promote reductions of greenhouse gas emissions in a cost-effective and economically efficient manner. This scheme also belongs to the climate and energy package with its well-known '20-20-20 targets'.

The EU ETS is often quoted as the reference model for emerging climate change policy and emissions trading schemes elsewhere in the world. This innovative scheme introduced in 2005 was organised and progressively improved through three trading periods (2005-2012, 2008-2012 and 2013-2020). At European level, the environmental goal of the EU ETS is not just reducing emissions in line with the cap from high-emitting industry sectors, but also putting a price on carbon and giving a financial value to each tonne of CO₂ saved and determined by the market in allowances. The ETS is thus a market based instrument on which large investment decisions are taken and that needs to be predictable and reliable for the participants to avoid legal uncertainty, bureaucratic burden and additional costs.

For the EU ETS to work as intended, Member States are required to set-up the necessary systems and administrative arrangements to implement the EU ETS at national level whilst the Commission is responsible for ensuring a coordinated functioning of the system. However, as the scheme foresees the creation of a market for emissions allowances, both Member States and the Commission are responsible for ensuring the integrity of the system and its correct implementation in order to achieve its environmental objectives.

The Court focused on the fundamental issues of the system's integrity and implementation, the objective of the audit was to answer the question 'Is the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme managed adequately by the Commission and the Member States?' This was done by addressing the following sub-questions:

- Is there an appropriate framework for protecting the integrity of the EU ETS?
- Is the EU ETS correctly implemented?

Regarding the framework, the Court observed that overall the management of the EU ETS by the Commission and Member States was not adequate in all respects as it was hindered by certain issues related to the robustness of the framework for protecting its integrity and by significant weaknesses in the implementation of phase II of the EU ETS. On the implementation, the Court concluded that the Commission has had a limited role in ensuring the harmonisation of key controls in the implementation of the EU ETS by Member States and has not duly monitored and assessed risks such as the distortion of competition or potential impact of diverging implementation practices among Member States on the functioning and integrity of the EU ETS. The Court also reported significant weaknesses in Member States' and in the Commission's guidance and monitoring of Member States' implementation of the EU ETS control framework in phase II (2008-2012) that have to be addressed during phase III (2013-2020) in order to reach sufficient assurance that the system is operating as intended.

The Rapporteur regrets (i) that it was not possible to obtain a complete analysis of the efficiency of the various implemented allocation systems, that would have helped to take the political recommendations on the basis of the ECA's audit results and (ii) the lack of transparency of the implemented systems and the subsequent possibilities opened for fraud.

He also highlights that the Commission should keep a close monitoring on the implementation in Member States and assist more thoroughly throughout the process to ensure predictability of legal decisions and legal certainty, especially for prospective adjustments of the ETS system, such as the market stability reserve mechanism. Furthermore, the Rapporteur considers as a priority to take all the necessary measures to avoid carbon leakage and to ensure a fair international competitiveness existing measures for free allocation of emissions allowances.

The Rapporteur's working document (EN) is available on the [CONT website](#). The Rapporteur's conclusions will form part of the Commission's discharge report for the financial year 2014.



TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

16.00 - 18.30 Public meeting

19. WORKSHOP ON FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF HARASSMENT CASES IN THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

The decision to organise this workshops stems from CONT coordinators recommendations of 5 May 2015, as endorsed by CONT committee and attached to the minutes of its meeting of 4-5 May 2015.

Several recent judgments of the Court of Justice in the domain of harassment, notably the judgments F-26/14 and F-129/12, resulted in the European Institutions bearing the cost of approximately EUR 100 000 in paid reparatory damages. Whistle-blowers within the European Institutions could as well be subject of harassment, discrimination and other acts of vindictiveness, either direct or indirect which could, if proven, have similar financial consequences on the institutions as the cases mentioned in the Court's judgement. This workshop aims to put into a broader perspective the issues of financial consequences in such cases, both for the European Institutions and the persons taking any form of retaliation against whistle-blowers and in harassment cases.

The workshop is divided in two panels:

I. State of play as regards harassment cases: Institutions' perspective

Speakers: Mr Marco-Umberto Moricca and Ms Karen Williams, Directors, DG HR, Commission (on behalf of Vice-president Kristalina Georgieva), Marta Hirsch-Ziembińska, European Ombudsman's Office, and Mercedes Janssen Cases, European Commission Mediator

II. European Court of Justice judgements: Lessons to learn

Speakers: Maria Isabel Rofes i Pujol, Judge at the ECJ Civil Service Tribunal, and Maîtres Jean-Noël Louis and Laure Levi.

NEXT MEETINGS

1 October 2015, 9.00 – 12.30 (Brussels)

15 October 2015, 9.00 – 12.30 and 15.00 – 18.30 (Brussels)

19 October 2015, 15.00 – 18.30 (Brussels)

See also the [2015 calendar of meetings](#) for future meetings



WATCH LIVE

Watch the CONT committee meeting live on the [EP web site](#) or on [Europarl TV](#)

PAPERLESS PROGRAMME

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.

(INTERNAL USERS ONLY)

Access CONT committee meeting documents on [eMeeting](#) or any CONT committee information on [eCommittee](#)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact the [CONT Secretariat](#) or visit the [website](#) of the CONT committee