

2014 discharge

Questionnaire to the Council and the European Council

General

1. Which measures were taken during 2014 to make the Institution more cost efficient and to reduce its overall costs? How much savings were made in 2014 from which budget lines? Could it be indicated for which purpose these savings were used/ or transferred to other budget lines?
2. Could the Council outline the cost-effective and sustainable measures in place for the Council's premises?
3. How did the Institution meet the principle of green public procurement in 2014?
4. What were the expenditures in 2014 for the management/ Court sentences of harassment cases?
5. What is the rate of compliance by the Council and European Council with regard to the Ombudsman's recommendations?
6. What is the under spent rate for the year 2014 (following the cancellations and underspending of previous years)?
7. Which were the lines/topics where the underspending was higher and why?
8. In page 15 of the final financial statements 2014 of the Council it is stated that the legal commitments increased from 3.056.733 EUR in 2013 to 15.598.603 in 2014. Could the Council please explain the reasons for this increase? The provision for legal cases almost doubled in 2014 compared to 2013. Could you please explain the reasons for this increase as well?
9. Could the Council please explain the deficit of payments for stocks of leave and supplementary hours which amounts to 981.466 EUR (cf. page 16 of the final financial statements 2014 of the Council)?
10. Has the Council introduced internal whistleblowing rules?
11. What kind of media activities (print/ radio/ internet) does the Council undertake? How many staff members are employed in this area? (*Second question to be included in staff matters*)

Staff

12. The new staff regulations entered into force on the 1st of January 2014. Could you explain how the 5% staff reduction is being implemented in the Institution?
13. The new career structure was a new element after the reform of the EU Staff Regulation. Promotion for normal AD staff should only be possible until AD 12. As of AD 13, promotion

should be linked to a management position. Supposedly there will be a new category of senior experts and senior assistants who have access to AD 13 - AD 14 and AST 10 - AST 11, respectively. How many senior experts and senior assistants in which grades do you employ or plan to appoint? Will you inform the Parliament on a regular basis about new appointments?

14. Could the Council provide the Parliament with the table of all human resources broken down by nationality, gender and grade? Please specify the position of Heads of Unit, directors and Director-General.
15. Can the institution provide the details on how it recruits its staff? How many staff members were recruited following an EPSO competition in 2014? How many staff members have been recruited without passing any competition in 2014? How many staff members have been recruited by tempo working agencies in 2014? Could the institution provide detailed information on the different systems in place to recruit staff? Please specify how many recruitments of Heads of Unit, Directors and Directors' General have the Council and European Council organised in 2014 and how many women and men were selected as Heads of Unit, Director and Director-General in that year.
16. What are the costs for the staff dealing with external policies? What are their tasks and how do they cooperate with the EEAS?
17. What kind of media activities (print/ radio/ internet) does the Council undertake? How many staff members are employed in this area? (*Second question on staff only*)

Buildings

18. Have the institutions established a CO2 offsetting budget line? How much did the institutions spend in 2014 for the CO2 emission? And how much would have been needed to have a fully offset funding covering all direct and indirect emissions?
19. How much electricity did the Institutions use in 2014? How does it correlate to the usage of the previous years? Which percentage of the total usage was coming from renewable energy resources? How much did the Institutions pay for the electricity? Did the Institutions invest into solar or wind energy to support its energy needs? How much did the Institutions invest in energy efficiency in 2014?
20. Could the Council provide detailed information on the expenses incurred with the new building "Europa" and the timetable for the delivery of the work?
21. How much money was carried over from the year 2013? How the carried over money (from 2013 to 2014) was allocated?
22. Is the Europe building project concluded? If not: What parts of the project in question are still to be done? How many months is the building delayed?
23. Has the handbook for building projects been already prepared and is now ready for application?

Translation and interpretation

24. What were the costs for translation and interpretation ordered by the Council in 2014?

Missions and travels + Away days, conferences and other events

25. Could the Council provide a detailed list of expenditure with travels and missions of staff?

26. Could the Council provide the Parliament with the list of costs for away days, conferences and other events for the staff in 2014?

Pensions

27. What was the amount of the highest pension paid to officials of the institution in 2014? What was the average pension paid in 2014? What is the average pension paid to officials who retired in 2014?