



**MEETING OF THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2016**

09:00 - 12:30

Room: Paul-Henri Spaak (1A002)

**1. AGENDA**

The draft agenda (in EN) was emailed to Members on 12 January 2016 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 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.

**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.

**THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2016**

09.00 - 09.30

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**\*\*\* VOTING TIME \*\*\***

**3. ANNUAL REPORT 2014 ON THE PROTECTION OF THE EU'S FINANCIAL INTERESTS - FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD**



**Adoption of the draft report.**

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

Administrator: Michal Czaplicki

As a basis of the CONT report, OLAF presented its Annual Report on 14 July 2015 and then replied in writing to further questions on 15 September.

On 21 September 2015 the Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for Budget and Human Resources, Ms Kristalina Georgieva, presented the "Protection

of the European Union's financial interests - Fight Against Fraud - Annual Report 2014 (COM(2015)386)" and also replied to written questions submitted by CONT Members.

In his report, Mr Jávör welcomes the fact that all of the Commission's services developed and implemented their anti-fraud strategies in 2014; he invites the EU Agencies, Executive Agencies and Joint Undertakings to do so as well. The Rapporteur asks the Commission to add a chapter about the performance of the EU institutions in the upcoming European Union Anti-Corruption report.

The Rapporteur reminds the Commission of its competencies and responsibilities and believes that the latter should assume full responsibility for the recovery of funds unduly paid from the EU budget, make full use of its executive powers regarding VAT fraud, work more closely with Member States on collecting accurate data and maintain its strict policy on interruptions and suspension of payments.

On the other hand, the Rapporteur welcomes the successful outcomes of numerous joint customs operations (JCOs) as well as the fact that the Commission adopted a new decision on Early Warning Mechanism concerning precautionary measures.

Lastly, the Rapporteur insists on the point that Member States shall take the same measures to counter fraud affecting the financial interests of the European Union as they take to counter fraud affecting their own financial interests. In this sense, the Rapporteur believes that completing the follow-ups to recommendations issued by OLAF is crucial and, therefore, supports procedures rights for OLAF in national legislations in order to ensure that those recommendations are respected and taken into account.

90 amendments were received by the deadline of 30 November 2015. Four Committees – LIBE, AFCE, INTA and REGI have issued opinions to be incorporated in the report. The draft report and the amendment are available in all languages on the [CONT website](#).

The final voting list will be sent to the Members shortly.

#### **CONT Timetable:**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Body</b>	<b>Date</b>
Consideration draft report	CONT	<b>09/11/2015</b>
Deadline for amendments	CONT	<b>30/11/2015</b>
Adoption in CONT	CONT	<b>28/01/2016</b>
Adoption in Plenary	Plenary	<b>March I (Strasbourg)</b>

## **4. EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK (EIB) - ANNUAL REPORT 2014**

### **VOTE POSTPONED TO 23 FEBRUARY 2016**

#### **New CONT Timetable:**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Body</b>	<b>Date</b>
Consideration draft report	CONT	<b>09/11/2015</b>
Deadline for amendments	CONT	<b>30/11/2015</b>
Adoption in CONT	CONT	<b>23/02/2016</b>
Adoption in Plenary	Plenary	<b>April II (Brussels)</b>

**\*\*\* END VOTING TIME \*\*\***



**THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2016**

**09.30 - 12.30**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

## **5. 2014 DISCHARGE TO THE AGENCIES**



**Exchange of views with the Representatives of eight invited Agencies in the presence of the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, Louis Galea, and the Director of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living & Working Conditions (EUROFOUND), currently responsible for the coordination of the Agencies' network.**

Rapporteur: [Derek Vaughan](#) (S&D)  
Administrator: Hrvoje Svetic

The number of decentralized agencies which are subject to discharge has constantly grown over the last number of years, and for the last two years it amounts to 32 agencies. The Rapporteur has selected eight agencies to be invited to the hearing:

- European Foundation for the Improvement of Living & Working Conditions (EUROFOUND),
- European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA),
- Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM),
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT),
- European Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (EU-LISA),
- European Asylum Support Office (EASO),
- European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA),
- European Environment Agency (EEA),
- European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (FRONTEX).

Other agency representatives are also welcome to attend the hearing if they so wish.

The written questions by the Rapporteur, the Shadow Rapporteurs and other Members, addressed to the agencies network as well as to the individual agencies, were submitted to the agencies on 20 November 2015.

The deadline for replies was set for 8 January 2016 and they were sent to the CONT Members on 15 January 2016 and are published on the [CONT website](#).

It is proposed that the hearing shall proceed as follows:

- Introduction by the Members of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) Louis Galea, who will present the findings of the respective Annual Reports 2014,
- Director of European Foundation for the Improvement of Living & Working Conditions (EUROFOUND), Juan Menéndez-Valdés, will reply to this introduction on behalf of the agencies' network,
- The CONT Rapporteur, Derek Vaughan, will present his introduction on key issues in the 2014 agencies' discharge and put questions to the agencies' network, individual agencies and the Court,
- The Chair, Shadow Rapporteurs and other Members will question the agencies' network, individual agencies and the Court,
- Closing remarks by the EUROFOUND Director,
- Closing remarks by ECA,
- Closing remarks by the CONT Rapporteur.

**CONT Timetable:**

Event	Body	Date
Consideration draft report	CONT	<b>22/02/2016</b>
Deadline for amendments	CONT	<b>04/03/2016</b>
Adoption in CONT	CONT	<b>23/03/2016</b>
Adoption in Plenary	Plenary	<b>April II (Brussels)</b>

## 6. 2014 DISCHARGE TO THE JOINT UNDERTAKINGS



**Exchange of views in the presence of the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, Louis Galea, with the Representatives of three invited Joint Undertakings.**

Rapporteur: [Marian-Jean Marinescu](#) (PPE)  
Administrator: Michal Czaplicki

For the financial year 2014, the eight Joint Undertakings (JUs) subject to the discharge procedure by the Parliament are the following: IMI, ARTEMIS, ENIAC, ECSEL, SESAR, CLEAN SKY, FCH and F4E. Artemis and ENIAC have been merged on 27 June 2014 forming ECSEL JU.

The Rapporteur has selected three Joint Undertakings to be invited to the hearing:

- Electronic Components & Systems for European Leadership (ECSEL Joint Undertaking), also on behalf of Artemis and ENIAC JUs,
- Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI Joint Undertaking),
- Fusion for Energy (F4E Joint Undertaking).

Other Joint Undertakings representatives are also welcome to attend the hearing if they so wish.

The written questions by the Rapporteur, the Shadow Rapporteurs and other Members, addressed to the Joint Undertakings were submitted to the JUs on 26 November 2015.

The deadline for replies was set for 8 January 2016 and they were sent to the CONT Members on 13 January 2016 and are published on the [CONT website](#).

It is proposed that the hearing shall proceed as follows::

- Introduction by the Members of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) Louis Galea, who will present the findings of the respective Annual Reports 2014,
- Presentation of each of the respective Joint Undertakings by the respective representative,
- Presentation of the rapporteur,
- The Chair, Shadow Rapporteurs and other Members will ask questions to the invited guests,
- The Joint Undertakings will reply to the questions posed,
- Closing remarks of the Rapporteur.

### CONT Timetable:

Event	Body	Date
Consideration draft report	CONT	<b>22/02/2016</b>
Deadline for amendments	CONT	<b>04/03/2016</b>
Adoption in CONT	CONT	<b>23/03/2016</b>
Adoption in Plenary	Plenary	<b>April II (Brussels)</b>



### **NEXT MEETINGS**

- **4 February 2016, 9.00-11.30 (Strasbourg)**
- **22 February 2016, 15.00-18.30 (Brussels)**
- **23 February 2016, 09.00-12.30 and 15.00-18.30 (Brussels)**
- **29 February 2016, 15.00-18.30 (Brussels)**

### **WATCH LIVE**

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### **PAPERLESS PROGRAMME (INTERNAL USERS ONLY)**

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### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

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