



2015/2156(DEC)

4.3.2016

AMENDMENTS

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Draft report
Ryszard Czarnecki
(PE571.517v01-00)

Discharge 2014: EU general budget - Council and European Council
(2015/2156(DEC))

Amendment 1

Igor Šoltes

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Citation 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- whereas transparency and the scrutiny of public accounts are overarching democratic principles which also apply to the EU;

Or. en

Amendment 2

Igor Šoltes

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Citation 3 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- whereas the discharge procedure is part of the concept of representative democracy;

Or. en

Amendment 3

Igor Šoltes

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Citation 3 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- whereas, under the terms of Article 319 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the European

Parliament, has the sole responsibility to grant discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union;

Or. en

**Amendment 4
Tamás Deutsch**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 a (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8 a. Insists that the Council must be accountable and transparent, as are the other institutions;

Or. en

**Amendment 5
Tamás Deutsch**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 b (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8 b. Calls on the Council to join the EU transparency register;

Or. en

**Amendment 6
Tamás Deutsch**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 a (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12 a. States that the annual reports of the

EU institutions and agencies could play an important role in compliance regarding transparency, accountability and integrity; calls for the EU institutions and agencies to include a standard chapter on these components in their annual reports;

Or. en

Amendment 7
Tamás Deutsch

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

13 a. Considers it regrettable that the Council has still not adopted a code of conduct; is of the opinion that all the EU institutions and agencies should agree on a common code of conduct, which is indispensable to the transparency, accountability and integrity of those institutions; calls on those EU institutions and bodies which still do not have a code of conduct to develop such a document as soon as possible;

Or. en

Amendment 8
Ingeborg Gräßle

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

14 a. Calls for a clear declaration of financial interests of Members of the Council of the European Union to be published on the Internet;

Amendment 9
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

14 a. Notes with concern that there are no integrity rules, conflict of interest declarations and detailed biographical information for the President of the European Council and his Cabinet members; further notes that there are no common integrity rules for national representatives in the Council; calls on the Council to put in place measures that will remedy the situation and to report on this to the discharge authority;

Or. en

Amendment 10
Ingeborg Gräßle

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

14 b. Welcomes the Council's draft regulation determining the emoluments of EU high-level public office holders and the savings planned under that regulation;

Or. de

Amendment 11
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

14 b. Calls on the Council to develop detailed anti-corruption guidelines and independent policies within its structures;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

14 c. Notes with concern that there is a worrying lack of transparency with regard to legislative process, negotiations, Member States' positions and meetings; urges the Council to disclose relevant documents and to put in place clear reporting system that will enable the public to follow the legislative procedures in an open and transparent manner;

Or. en

Amendment 13
Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

14 d. Is concerned by the lack of transparency of the trialogues and conciliation meetings; calls on the Council to systematically increase transparency and integrity with regard to the negotiations;

Amendment 14

Igor Šoltes

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

15. Reiterates that the Council ought to be transparent and fully accountable to Union citizens for the funds entrusted to it *as a* Union *institution*; stresses that this implies that the Council take part fully and in good faith in the annual discharge procedure, just as the other institutions do; considers, in this regard, that effective supervision of the Union's budget implementation requires cooperation between Parliament and the Council through a working arrangement; regrets the difficulties encountered in the discharge procedures to date;

Amendment

15. Reiterates that the Council ought to be transparent and fully accountable to Union citizens for the funds entrusted to it *by taking part in the annual discharge procedure just as the other* Union *institutions do*; stresses that this implies that the Council take part fully and in good faith in the annual discharge procedure, just as the other institutions do; considers, in this regard, that effective supervision of the Union's budget implementation requires cooperation between Parliament and the Council through a working arrangement; regrets the difficulties encountered in the discharge procedures to date;

Or. en

Amendment 15

Inés Ayala Sender

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

15. Reiterates that the Council ought to be transparent and fully accountable to Union citizens for the funds entrusted to it as a Union institution; stresses that this implies that the Council take part fully and in good faith in the annual discharge procedure, just as the other institutions do; considers,

Amendment

15. Reiterates that the Council ought to be transparent and fully accountable to Union citizens for the funds entrusted to it as a Union institution; stresses that this implies that the Council take part fully and in good faith in the annual discharge procedure, just as the other institutions do; considers,

in this regard, that effective supervision of the Union's budget implementation requires cooperation between Parliament and the Council through a working arrangement; regrets the difficulties encountered in the discharge procedures to date;

in this regard, that effective supervision of the Union's budget implementation requires cooperation between Parliament and the Council through a working arrangement; regrets the difficulties encountered in the discharge procedures to date; *stresses the need to improve the capacity for dialogue between the two institutions in order to find a solution as soon as possible that will enable compliance with the Treaty mandate and accountability to citizens;*

Or. es

Amendment 16

Igor Šoltes

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15 a. Emphasises that since 2009 the Council has refused to cooperate with the discharge procedure as implemented by Parliament, failing to provide the necessary information, answer written questions and attend hearings and debates on the implementation of its own budget, and that, as a result, more than EUR 3 billion in public funds have been spent without proper scrutiny;

Or. en

Amendment 17

Igor Šoltes

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15 b. Regrets about poor cooperation on scrutiny of the implementation of the budget between the Parliament and the Council last years and considers it as a negative sign sent to the citizens of the Union;

Or. en

Amendment 18

Igor Šoltes

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15 c. Takes the view that this constitutes a serious failure to comply with the obligations laid down by the Treaties, in particular the principle of sincere cooperation between the institutions, and that a solution must be found quickly so that the whole of the Union budget can be scrutinised; in this respect refers also to Article 15 TFEU which stipulates that each Union institution, body, office or agency shall ensure that its proceedings are transparent;

Or. en

Amendment 19

Tamás Deutsch

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 18 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

18 a. Believes that the discharge

procedure is an important instrument of democratic accountability to the citizens of the Union; recalls the difficulties repeatedly encountered in the discharge procedures to date, owing to a lack of cooperation on the part of the Council; insists that an effective budgetary control exercise and the democratic accountability of the institution requires the cooperation of Parliament and the Council;

Or. en

Amendment 20

Igor Šoltés

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 22 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

22 a. Calls on the Council to enter into negotiations with Parliament with a view to ensuring that the latter can exercise its right of access to information concerning the implementation of the Council's budget ; believes that it entails an obligation by the Council to deliver the requested information;

Or. en

Amendment 21

Tomáš Zdechovský, Patricija Šulin

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 22 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

22 a. Calls on the Commission to amend the Financial Regulations in order to clarify the objectives of the discharge

procedure and to clearly define sanctions for not respecting the regulations; highlights that this should be done in order to hold the European institutions accountable with the aim to protect the financial interests of the Union's citizens; stresses that there should be no exceptions;

Or. en