

3.4.2024

A9-0139/9

Amendment 9

Isabel García Muñoz

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

A9-0139/2024

Isabel García Muñoz

Discharge 2022: EU general budget - Commission
2023/2129(DEC)

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 14 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

14 a. Highlights that gender equality is one of the founding values of the Union and is enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights; recalls the long-standing commitment of the Union to gender mainstreaming in its policy-making in order to identifying and redressing inequalities, as well as a necessary condition for the achievement of the Union's objectives of growth, employment and social cohesion; stresses the importance of continuing the efforts made in gender budgeting in particular, such as the pilot methodology to track gender equality expenditure in the multiannual financial framework, in order to ensure that gender mainstreaming in the Union budget is a success;

Or. en

3.4.2024

A9-0139/10

Amendment 10

Isabel García Muñoz

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

A9-0139/2024

Isabel García Muñoz

Discharge 2022: EU general budget - Commission
2023/2129(DEC)

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 55 – point ii

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(ii) ***undergo an ex-post evaluation of*** the reliability of their own estimation of the risk at closure for the financial year for which the programs were closed ***and presents the results of such an evaluation to the Discharge authority;***

(ii) ***present to the discharge authority the result of the audits performed by the internal audit service on*** the reliability of their own estimation of the risk at closure for the financial year for which the programs were closed;

Or. en

Amendment 11**Isabel García Muñoz**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**A9-0139/2024****Isabel García Muñoz**Discharge 2022: EU general budget - Commission
2023/2129(DEC)**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 69***Motion for a resolution**Amendment*

69. Calls the **Commission** to conduct a deep analysis of all amounts recovered on the basis of EPPO **notifications** and to inform the discharge authority about the results; recalls that the **Commission plays** the primary role in the follow up and recovery of damages to the EU budget, following EPPO notifications; regrets that EPPO until now is not aware of the mechanisms set up by the Commission to that effect; notes that the issue of EPPO notifications has been raised in the inter-institutional exchange of views on Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223⁵); welcomes the EPPO Working Arrangement and the set up of a working group to ensure that EPPO notifications will enable the Commission to maximize recovery to the EU budget;

69. Calls the **Commission** to conduct a deep analysis of all amounts recovered on the basis of EPPO **notifications** and to inform the discharge authority about the results; recalls that the **Member States play** the primary role in the follow up and recovery of damages to the EU budget **under shared management, including recoveries** following EPPO notifications, **and the Commission can impose financial corrections**; regrets that EPPO until now is not aware of the mechanisms set up by the Commission to that effect; notes that the issue of EPPO notifications has been raised in the inter-institutional exchange of views on Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223⁵); welcomes the EPPO Working Arrangement and the set up of a working group to ensure that EPPO notifications will enable the Commission to maximize recovery to the EU budget;

⁵ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 December 2020 amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013, as regards cooperation with the European Public Prosecutor's Office and the effectiveness of the European Anti-Fraud Office investigations (OJ L 437, 28.12.2020, p. 49–73)

⁵ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2223 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 December 2020 amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013, as regards cooperation with the European Public Prosecutor's Office and the effectiveness of the European Anti-Fraud Office investigations (OJ L 437, 28.12.2020, p. 49–73)

Amendment 12**Isabel García Muñoz**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**A9-0139/2024****Isabel García Muñoz**Discharge 2022: EU general budget - Commission
2023/2129(DEC)**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 98***Motion for a resolution*

98. Notes that the absorption rate for cohesion policy funds under the programming period 2014-2020 reached 79,2 % at the end of 2022 (86 % at the end of 2023, including newly added Recovery assistance for cohesion and the territories of Europe (REACT-EU) in 2021-2022), having a similar level at the same point in time as in the period 2007-2013; **is concerned** that this level of **absorption was only** achieved through a temporary 100% Union co-financing rate waiving any requirement for national co-financing of projects that have been a long-established principle of Union finances; notes that the 2014-2020 programmes account for over 1 million projects and that so far, they have supported 2,4 million businesses, created 370 000 new jobs, increased the energy performance of more than 540 000 households, created 6 000 megawatts of new renewable energy sources and that 6,3 million households benefited from broadband; notes that absorption in 2022 improved **for a large** part because of CRII, CRII+, CARE, and FAST-CARE for the purpose of crisis response, diminishing projects to support the structural cohesion objectives of creating convergence and cohesion in the Union;

Amendment

98. Notes that the absorption rate for cohesion policy funds under the programming period 2014-2020 reached 79,2 % at the end of 2022 (86 % at the end of 2023, including newly added Recovery assistance for cohesion and the territories of Europe (REACT-EU) in 2021-2022), having a similar level at the same point in time as in the period 2007-2013; **notes** that this level of **absorption was** achieved through a temporary 100% Union co-financing rate waiving any requirement for national co-financing of projects that have been a long-established principle of Union finances; notes that the 2014-2020 programmes account for over 1 million projects and that so far, they have supported 2,4 million businesses, created 370 000 new jobs, increased the energy performance of more than 540 000 households, created 6 000 megawatts of new renewable energy sources and that 6,3 million households benefited from broadband; notes that absorption in 2022 improved **in** part because of **the flexibility and simplification measures included under** CRII, CRII+, CARE, and FAST-CARE for the purpose of crisis response, diminishing **disparities and funding crucial** projects to support **regions to reach the people most in need faster due to the ongoing crisis, which is aligned with** the structural cohesion objectives of

creating convergence and cohesion in the
Union;

Or. en

3.4.2024

A9-0139/13

Amendment 13

Isabel García Muñoz

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

A9-0139/2024

Isabel García Muñoz

Discharge 2022: EU general budget - Commission
2023/2129(DEC)

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 104 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

104 a. Notes that the Commission accepts all recommendations of the Court under MFF heading 2 ‘Cohesion, resilience and values’, although divergences persist in the classification of the errors identified by the two institutions; calls on the Commission to work closely with the Court, and all relevant stakeholders, to further clarify the applicable rules and reduce divergences while ensuring that audits do not lead to an excessive administrative burden on beneficiaries;

Or. en

Amendment 14**Isabel García Muñoz**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**A9-0139/2024****Isabel García Muñoz**Discharge 2022: EU general budget - Commission
2023/2129(DEC)**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 195***Motion for a resolution**Amendment*

195. Recalls the Union strategy to promote and ensure quality education for children across the world, especially when specific Union financial support is provided; condemns the problematic and hateful contents encouraging violence, spreading antisemitism and inciting hatred in *Palestinian* school textbooks *drafted by Union-funded civil servants as well as in supplementary educational materials developed by UNRWA staff and taught in its schools*; reaffirms in the context of the despicable terrorist attacks carried out by Hamas on 7 October 2023, that education to hatred have direct and dramatic consequences on the *security of Israelis as well as on the perspectives of a better future for young Palestinians*; therefore requests the Commission to closely *scrutinise* that no funds are allocated or linked directly or indirectly to the use of *such* educational materials *and that* the Palestinian Authority *modifies the* full curriculum *expeditiously as repeatedly requested in the discharge decisions in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the Union for the financial years 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021*; stresses that financial support from the Union to the Palestinian Authority in the area of education shall be provided on the condition of a national Palestinian curriculum, with reference textbooks and

195. Recalls the Union strategy to promote and ensure quality education for children across the world, especially when specific Union financial support is provided; condemns the problematic and hateful contents encouraging violence, spreading antisemitism, and inciting hatred in school textbooks; reaffirms in the context of the despicable terrorist attacks carried out by Hamas on 7 October 2023, that education to hatred have direct and dramatic consequences on the *conflict*; requests the Commission to *keep* closely *scrutinising* that no funds are allocated or linked directly or indirectly to the use of *problematic* educational materials; *calls on* the Palestinian Authority *to align its* full curriculum *to the UNESCO values and standards*; stresses that financial support from the Union to the Palestinian Authority in the area of education shall be provided on the condition of a national Palestinian curriculum, with reference textbooks and educational material, that is free from anti-Semitic contents and incitement to violence and complies with quality education; calls in that regard the Commission and Member States to provide expertise, share knowledge, guidance and technical support to empower Palestinian teachers, trainers and experts towards the implementation of education that fully complies with

educational material, that is free from anti-Semitic contents and incitement to violence and complies with quality education; calls in that regard the Commission and Member States to provide expertise, share knowledge, guidance and technical support to empower Palestinian teachers, trainers and experts towards the implementation of education that fully complies with UNESCO standards;

UNESCO standards;

Or. en

3.4.2024

A9-0139/15

Amendment 15

Isabel García Muñoz

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

A9-0139/2024

Isabel García Muñoz

Discharge 2022: EU general budget - Commission
2023/2129(DEC)

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 234

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

234. ***Is concerned by*** the Court's findings in SR 26/2023 that milestones and targets vary in ambition between Member States ***and considers this is yet another example where the Commission does not treat Member States equally***; notes that the Commission confirmed the differences ***and will try to enhance equal treatment during the implementation phase***; considers that Member States ***by default should be treated equally and regrets this has not been the case when negotiating the RRP***s; ***insists that equal treatment should be ensured*** when evaluating the completion of milestones and targets;

234. ***Notes*** the Court's findings in SR 26/2023 that milestones and targets vary in ambition between Member States; notes that the Commission confirmed the differences ***as M&Ts are tailored to each reform and investment decided by the Member State***; considers that Member States should be treated equally when evaluating the completion of milestones and targets ***and notes the publication of the framework for the assessments***;

Or. en

3.4.2024

A9-0139/16

Amendment 16

Isabel García Muñoz

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

Isabel García Muñoz

Discharge 2022: EU general budget - Commission
2023/2129(DEC)

A9-0139/2024

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 250

Motion for a resolution

250. Notes with concern, that EPPO's responsibility in investigating crimes involving RRF funds is being put into question in 9 cases in a Member State; notes that the European Court of Justice was asked via a preliminary question to give an opinion in one of these cases;

Amendment

250. Notes with concern, that EPPO's responsibility in investigating crimes involving RRF funds is being put into question in 9 cases in a Member State; notes that the European Court of Justice was asked via a preliminary question to give an opinion in one of these cases; ***recalls that in the case of disagreement on competence between the EPPO and the national prosecution authorities, the EPPO Regulation stipulates that the decision is taken by the national authorities in charge of attributing prosecution competences at the national level;***

Or. en

Amendment 17**Isabel García Muñoz**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**A9-0139/2024****Isabel García Muñoz**Discharge 2022: EU general budget - Commission
2023/2129(DEC)**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 257***Motion for a resolution*

257. *Criticises that in contradiction to the main goals of the facility the definition of “resilience” is insufficient to ameliorate the preparedness of future crisis situations; notes that very little emphasis is placed on resilience or added-value in contributing to resilience when milestones and targets are emphasised; urges the Commission to create a ‘contribution to resilience’ indicator for the RRF scoreboard and to present the impact in the area of resilience in a table; further urges the Commission to consider contribution to resilience when considering new milestones and targets that are introduced into revised national recovery and resilience plans; encourages the Court to look more closely at RRF impact of resilience in all the pillars in a future study;*

Amendment

257. *Recalls that the RRF Regulation defines ‘resilience’ as the ability to face economic, social and environmental shocks or persistent structural changes in a fair, sustainable and inclusive way; notes that an emphasis is placed on resilience in the criteria for assessing the RRFs submitted by the Member States and thus, it has to be present in the milestones and targets to monitor the implementation; notes that the contribution to resilience is cross-cutting across all pillars and thus, is reflected in all common indicators of the RRF scoreboard, particularly in those referred to the ‘institutional resilience’ pillar; further urges the Commission to keep considering the contribution to resilience when assessing new milestones and targets that are proposed by Member States into revised RRFs; encourages the Court to look more closely at RRF contribution to resilience in all the pillars in a future study;*

Or. en

Amendment 18**Isabel García Muñoz**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**A9-0139/2024****Isabel García Muñoz**Discharge 2022: EU general budget - Commission
2023/2129(DEC)**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 272***Motion for a resolution**Amendment*

272. Notes that the Court found that, concerning reporting on the common indicators, quality and underlying methodologies *are* not checked by national audit authorities in any *visited* Member State; *is astonished that in a Member State, for expenditure under MFF heading 3, the indicated planting of trees did not exist when the Court made an on-the-spot check*; notes that the Commission does not require supporting evidence or explanations on the reported data, *except* in cases where *estimates* are reported; notes that the Court concludes that this poses a risk to data reliability and comparability across member states; concludes that data reliability in the absence of audits might affect the performance information reported on common indicators *to a larger extent than information based on milestones and targets*; *considers this, given the issues identified in the milestones and targets by the Court, a worrying situation and* calls on the Commission to improve its assurance on the reporting on common indicators; *notes the differing practices among* audit authorities *regarding the timing of the checks on the fulfilment of targets and reforms*; *believes that such* checks should be better harmonised and should *include a compulsory check on* the reliability and accuracy of the data on *milestones and*

272. Notes that the Court found that, concerning reporting on the common indicators, quality and underlying methodologies *were* not checked by national audit authorities in any *of the five sampled* Member State *visited by* the Court *at the time*; notes that the Commission does not require supporting evidence or explanations on the reported data *by the Member States but it performs plausibility checks* in cases where *estimated figures* are reported; notes that the Court concludes that this poses a risk to data reliability and comparability across member states; concludes that data reliability in the absence of *quality* audits might affect the performance information reported on common indicators; calls on the Commission to improve its assurance on the reporting on common indicators; *believes that national* audit authorities' checks should be better harmonised and should *cover* the reliability and accuracy of the data on *M&Ts* included in a payment request;

targets before those milestones and targets are included in a payment request; points out the risks of an approach that uses mostly ex-post checks and calls on Member States to avoid such practices;

Or. en