

Amendment 24

Monika Hohlmeier, Petri Sarvamaa
on behalf of the PPE Group

Report**A9-0139/2024****Isabel García Muñoz**

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

Motion for a resolution**Paragraph 9***Motion for a resolution*

9. Underlines the risk of conflicts of interest in cases where actors involved in the implementation of the Union budget, at any level, might be compromised for reasons beyond economic interest, ***particularly family, emotional life, political or national affinity***; notes the highly fragmented legal framework across Member States and regions concerning conflicts of interest and ***welcomes*** the Commission's guidance ***in promoting*** a uniform interpretation and application; supports the Court's observation in its Special Report 6/2023 that "data mining, by comparing information from different sources, has the potential to help detect possible conflicts of interest";

Amendment

9. Underlines the risk of conflicts of interest in cases where actors involved in the implementation of the Union budget, at any level, might be compromised for reasons beyond economic interest; notes the highly fragmented legal framework across Member States and regions concerning conflicts of interest and ***calls on*** the Commission's guidance ***to ensure legal clarity and promote*** a uniform interpretation and application; supports the Court's observation in its Special Report 6/2023 that "data mining, by comparing information from different sources, has the potential to help detect possible conflicts of interest";

Or. en

3.4.2024

A9-0139/25

Amendment 25

Monika Hohlmeier, Petri Sarvamaa
on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

Isabel García Muñoz

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

A9-0139/2024

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 11 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11 a. Emphasises, in the context of the rule of law principle, the need to ensure clear standards and the effective separation of powers; highlights that all Union institutions and bodies should fully respect the principle of the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary and should refrain from acting as a disciplinary chamber outside of the independent judicial system; highlights that in the case of breaches of law, the relevant Union institutions or bodies or the national authorities should be responsible; emphasises the need to avoid unfair denunciation or whistle-blowing procedures and that such procedures should be based on clear rule of law standards;

Or. en

3.4.2024

A9-0139/26

Amendment 26

Monika Hohlmeier, Petri Sarvamaa
on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

A9-0139/2024

Isabel García Muñoz

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

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 18 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

18 a. Urges the Commission to ensure that contracts, payments and grant agreements with networks, companies, NGOs and all other partners funded by Union taxpayers' money do not include political and subversive interference in the legislative processes and should not undermine the proper functioning and trust of the population in European or national authorities; insists, in this context, that Union funding should be used for a successful implementation of projects and programmes and to contribute to a lively, constructive and balanced civil society dialogue; calls on the Commission to seek a fair distribution of Union funds and stresses that under no circumstances should such funds be misused to incite hate, polarisation and violence; asks the Commission to identify and review all relevant contracts, agreements and partnerships of this kind and to take the necessary measures as soon as possible, including stopping relevant payments if needed, as well as to involve the EDES Panel in cases of severe misconduct; asks the Commission to report to the CONT committee on the actions taken in the autumn of 2024;

Or. en

3.4.2024

A9-0139/27

Amendment 27

Monika Hohlmeier, Petri Sarvamaa
on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

A9-0139/2024

Isabel García Muñoz

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

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 22

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

22. Notes that after the end of the transition period following the UK's withdrawal process, the Commission estimated that, at the balance sheet date, the Union accounts showed a net receivable due from the UK of EUR 23,9 billion (2021: 41,8 billion), of which it is estimated that EUR 9,1 billion will be paid in the 12 months following the reporting date;

22. Notes that after the end of the transition period following the UK's withdrawal process, the Commission estimated that, at the balance sheet date, the Union accounts showed a net receivable due from the UK of EUR 23,9 billion (2021: 41,8 billion), of which it is estimated that EUR 9,1 billion will be paid in the 12 months following the reporting date; ***considers that any amount in excess of the estimated EUR 9,1 billion that is received from the UK should be used to reduce the debt incurred through the borrowing and lending activities of the Commission;***

Or. en

3.4.2024

A9-0139/28

Amendment 28

Monika Hohlmeier, Petri Sarvamaa
on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

A9-0139/2024

Isabel García Muñoz

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

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 55 – point viii a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(viii a) provide and fund IT infrastructure to the EPPO for as long as is necessary for the EPPO to implement an independent and adequate IT system, in order to ensure a smooth transition and to avoid loss of data;

Or. en

3.4.2024

A9-0139/29

Amendment 29

Monika Hohlmeier, Petri Sarvamaa
on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

Isabel García Muñoz

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

A9-0139/2024

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 109 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

109 a. Expresses strong concern about the recent case of alleged misuse of Union funds in contracts involving the purchase of face masks known as the “Koldo case”; is concerned that this misuse of Union funds and Union taxpayers’ money involved 14.6 million Euro from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and 3.1 million Euro from the EU Solidarity Fund; regrets that the EPPO received the relevant information from a private individual and not from the relevant national authority; urges Member States to report without delay to the EPPO any suspicion of misuse of Union funds in compliance with Article 24 of the EPPO Regulation; encourages the Commission to make use of external experts for audit purposes if a severe lack of capacity is identified in a Member State; notes that the alleged misuse of funds in the case was not discovered by the Commission despite having conducted audits; encourages the use of the four-eyes principle and a multiple step verification during the awarding of contracts in crisis situations if procurement procedures are not possible due to the crisis, in order to avoid possible misuse of Union funding; emphasises that the Commission should conduct in depth ex-post audits for contracts awarded without procurement

procedures during crises in all concerned Member States; further notes that similar situations have occurred in other Member States including in a recently uncovered case of alleged fraud in Portugal involving ERDF funds and several cases in the Czech Republic on alleged misuse of REACT-EU funds in the purchase of medical equipment;

Or. en

Amendment 30

Monika Hohlmeier, Petri Sarvamaa
on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

Isabel García Muñoz

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

A9-0139/2024

Motion for a resolution**Paragraph 191***Motion for a resolution*

191. Is concerned *by the serious allegations made by Israel that 12 employees of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) might have participated in the despicable terrorist attacks in October 2023; notes that the Agency immediately terminated their contracts and welcomes the launch of an UN investigation; notes that the allegations involve 12 out of 13 000 local members of staff of UNRWA in Gaza alone, who are themselves victims of the ongoing humanitarian tragedy while playing a critical role in distributing food, water, and medicine; notes that UNRWA has developed a specific framework to ensure the neutrality and independence of its operations in line with the UN standards, which includes vetting and due diligence measures, and shares the list of all its staff with the host countries, including Israel, on an annual basis; calls for full transparency regarding the conclusions of the UN investigation;*

Amendment

191. Is concerned *about credible reports that Union taxpayers' money or funds of other donors could have been partially misused by the terrorist organisation Hamas; emphasises that the relevant Union funds should benefit the Palestinian civilian population and provide food, medical supplies, housing and basic infrastructure to the suffering population and notably to children, women, elderly and disabled persons; urges the Commission, in the context of delivering support and humanitarian aid to the Palestinian population, to diversify trusted partners, such as the WHO, UNICEF or different Red Crescent organisations; furthermore, is worried about other credible reports that certain employees of UNRWA could have been involved in or associated with acts of terror by the Hamas terrorist organisation; urges the Commission to guarantee independent controls of the UNRWA by external experts, the European Court of Auditors and experienced international partners, such as, but not limited to, Global Affairs Canada or AusAid;*

Or. en

3.4.2024

A9-0139/31

Amendment 31

Monika Hohlmeier, Petri Sarvamaa
on behalf of the PPE Group

Report

A9-0139/2024

Isabel García Muñoz

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

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 196 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

196 a. Expresses shock over the terrorist attacks of 7 October 2023 in which Hamas perpetrated violence, rape and other forms of sexual torture against women, female teenagers and girls of Israeli and other nationalities; emphasises that this targeted form of sexual violence and torture against women is systematically used as a war crime and terrorism; regrets the lack of focus of the EEAS and the Commission in the area of conflict-related sexual violence against women; calls for the setup of a mechanism to identify and provide support to victims, collect testimonies, identify perpetrators and take timely actions to ensure that similar situations do not occur in the future; calls for the establishment of a platform to provide visibility to victims and their suffering; calls for increased support to entities such as the Association of Rape Crisis Centres in Israel or similar entities in conflict areas; emphasises that additional Union funding should be provided to victims of conflict-related sexual violence as well as to relevant education activities; notes the lack of data in annual activity reports on the amount of Union funds budgeted to support such victims and relevant entities; recommends the Commission provide clearer reporting on Union aid provided to such victims and

relevant entities;

Or. en