



**2018/2166(DEC)**

31.1.2019

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 276**

**Draft report**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

(PE626.769v01-00)

Discharge 2017: General budget of the EU - European Commission  
(COM(2018)0521 – C8-0318/2018 – 2018/2166(DEC))



**Amendment 1**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 1**  
**Citation 4**

*Proposal for a decision*

— having regard to the Commission’s 2017 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget (COM(2018)0457),

*Amendment*

— having regard to the Commission’s 2017 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget (COM(2018)0457) **and the flaws therein;**

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 1**  
**Citation 7**

*Proposal for a decision*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>4</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

*Amendment*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>4</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; **having regard also to the fact that the statement of assurance for 2017 is tainted by the fact that a) the error-rate correction hasn’t been published, and b) application of the Residual Error Rate (RER) rather than Payment error-rate in many instances is inappropriate, as this cannot reflect the true error-rate for 2017;**

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<sup>4</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

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<sup>4</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

Or. en

**Amendment 3**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 1**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones its decision on granting** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 4**  
**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Proposal for a decision 1**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones its decision on granting** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Proposal for a decision 1**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017;

**Amendment 6**  
**Notis Marias**

**Proposal for a decision 1**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. ***Grants/postpones*** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. ***Postpones*** the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017;

Or. el

**Amendment 7**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 2**  
**Citation 7**

*Proposal for a decision*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>12</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

*Amendment*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>12</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; ***having regard also to the fact that the statement of assurance for 2017 is tainted by the fact that a) the error-rate correction hasn't been published, and b) application of the Residual Error Rate (RER) rather than Payment error-rate in many instances is inappropriate, as this cannot reflect the true error-rate for 2017;***

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<sup>12</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

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<sup>12</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

### **Amendment 8**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

#### **Proposal for a decision 2**

##### **Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. ***Grants/postpones*** the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. ***Postpones its decision on granting*** the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

### **Amendment 9**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

#### **Proposal for a decision 2**

##### **Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. ***Grants/postpones*** the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. ***Postpones its decision on granting*** the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

### **Amendment 10**

**Notis Marias**

#### **Proposal for a decision 2**

##### **Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

*Amendment*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

1. **Postpones** the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. el

**Amendment 11**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 3**  
**Citation 7**

*Proposal for a decision*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>23</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

*Amendment*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>23</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; ***having regard also to the fact that the statement of assurance for 2017 is tainted by the fact that a) the error-rate correction hasn't been published, and b) application of the Residual Error Rate (RER) rather than Payment error-rate in many instances is inappropriate, as this cannot reflect the true error-rate for 2017;***

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<sup>23</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

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<sup>23</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulik**

**Proposal for a decision 3**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones its decision on granting** the Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 13**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 3**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones its decision on granting** the Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 14**  
**Notis Marias**

**Proposal for a decision 3**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones** the Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. el



**Amendment 15**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 4**  
**Citation 7**

*Proposal for a decision*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>34</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

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<sup>34</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

*Amendment*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>34</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; ***having regard also to the fact that the statement of assurance for 2017 is tainted by the fact that a) the error-rate correction hasn't been published, and b) application of the Residual Error Rate (RER) rather than Payment error-rate in many instances is inappropriate, as this cannot reflect the true error-rate for 2017;***

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<sup>34</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 4**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. ***Grants/postpones*** the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. ***Postpones its decision on granting*** the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

### **Amendment 17**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

#### **Proposal for a decision 4**

##### **Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. ***Grants/postpones*** the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. ***Postpones its decision on granting*** the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

### **Amendment 18**

**Notis Marias**

#### **Proposal for a decision 4**

##### **Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. ***Grants/postpones*** the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. ***Postpones*** the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. el

### **Amendment 19**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

#### **Proposal for a decision 5**

##### **Citation 7**

*Proposal for a decision*

*Amendment*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>46</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

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<sup>46</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>46</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; ***having regard also to the fact that the statement of assurance for 2017 is tainted by the fact that a) the error-rate correction hasn't been published, and b) application of the Residual Error Rate (RER) rather than Payment error-rate in many instances is inappropriate, as this cannot reflect the true error-rate for 2017;***

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<sup>46</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

Or. en

**Amendment 20**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 5**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. ***Grants/postpones*** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. ***Postpones its decision on granting*** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 21**  
**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Proposal for a decision 5**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones its decision on granting** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 22**  
**Notis Marias**

**Proposal for a decision 5**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones** the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. el

**Amendment 23**  
**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Proposal for a decision 6**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in relation to the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones its decision on granting** the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in relation to the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 24**  
**Notis Marias**

**Proposal for a decision 6**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in relation to the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones** the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in relation to the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. el

**Amendment 25**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 7**  
**Citation 7**

*Proposal for a decision*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>68</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

*Amendment*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>68</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; **having regard also to the fact that the statement of assurance for 2017 is tainted by the fact that a) the error-rate correction hasn't been published, and b) application of the Residual Error Rate (RER) rather than Payment error-rate in many instances is inappropriate, as this cannot reflect the true error-rate for 2017;**

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<sup>68</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

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<sup>68</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

Or. en

**Amendment 26**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 7**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones its decision on granting** the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 27**  
**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Proposal for a decision 7**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones its decision on granting** the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 28**  
**Notis Marias**

**Proposal for a decision 7**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. **Grants/postpones** the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for

*Amendment*

1. **Postpones** the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for

the financial year 2017;

the financial year 2017;

Or. el

**Amendment 29**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 8**  
**Citation 4**

*Proposal for a decision*

— having regard to the Commission's 2017 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget (COM(2018)0457),

*Amendment*

— having regard to the Commission's 2017 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget (COM(2018)0457) **and the many flaws therein;**

Or. en

**Amendment 30**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 8**  
**Citation 7**

*Proposal for a decision*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>78</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

*Amendment*

— having regard to the statement of assurance<sup>78</sup> as to the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions provided by the Court of Auditors for the financial year 2017, pursuant to Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; **having regard also to the fact that the statement of assurance for 2017 is tainted by the fact that a) the error-rate correction hasn't been published, and b) application of the Residual Error Rate (RER) rather than Payment error-rate in many instances is inappropriate, as this cannot reflect the true error-rate for 2017;**

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<sup>78</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

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<sup>78</sup> OJ C 357, 4.10.2018, p. 9.

Or. en

**Amendment 31**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Proposal for a decision 8**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Proposal for a decision*

1. *Approves/postpones* the closure of the accounts of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017;

*Amendment*

1. *Postpones* the closure of the accounts of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 32**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital B**

*Motion for a resolution*

B. Whereas when the Parliament grants discharge to the Commission it *checks* whether or not funds have been used correctly and policy goals achieved;

*Amendment*

B. Whereas when the Parliament grants discharge to the Commission it *has an obligation to all Union citizens to establish without fear or favour* whether or not funds have been used correctly and policy goals achieved;

Or. en

**Amendment 33**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 – introductory part**



*Motion for a resolution*

1. Notes that in 2017 the Union budget was the fourth year of implementation of the current Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), which amounted EUR 159,8 billion, including six amending budgets, and that the allocations in different areas were:

*Amendment*

1. Notes that in 2017 the Union budget was the fourth year of implementation of the current Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), which amounted **to** EUR 159,8 billion, including six amending budgets, and that the allocations in different areas were:

Or. en

**Amendment 34**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1a. Notes that the Court audited transactions worth a total of 100,2 billion euros, which represents less than two-thirds of the total budget for 2017;***

Or. en

**Amendment 35**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1b. Regrets that in the case of all four of DG DEVCO, DG REGIO, DG NEAR and DG HOME, Residual Error Rate calculations (RER) have been used, which are all related to pre-2017 payments and are thus not only irrelevant, but misleading in terms of the 2017 actual payments error-rate;***

Or. en

**Amendment 36**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1c. Points out that all this renders the Commission's claim in its Annual Management and Performance Report (AMPR) questionable, at least, and misleading, that 'The Commission is confident that the overall amount at risk remains below 2 %. In fact, the overall level of estimated error continues its downward trend in 2017, with the estimated overall amount at risk at payment now even down to 1.7 % and the estimated overall amount at risk at closure down to 0.6 %';<sup>1</sup>***

***1 AMPR 2017 - p.75.***

Or. en

**Amendment 37**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

3. ***Welcomes*** the fact that the Court of Auditors (the "Court") gave a clean opinion on the reliability of the accounts of the European Union for 2017, as it has done since 2007, and that the Court concluded that the revenue for 2017 underlying these accounts was legal and regular in all material respects;

3. ***Notes*** the fact that the Court of Auditors (the "Court") gave a clean opinion on the reliability of the accounts of the European Union for 2017, as it has done since 2007, and that the Court concluded that the revenue for 2017 underlying these accounts was legal and regular in all material respects, ***but points out that that there are many pertinent question-marks over the recorded error-rates;***

**Amendment 38****Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo****Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 4***Motion for a resolution*

4. Notes ***with satisfaction*** that for 2017, the Court has issued ***for a second consecutive year*** a qualified (rather than an adverse) opinion on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts, which according to the Court, indicates that a significant part of the 2017 expenditure audited by it was not materially affected by error and that the level of irregularities in EU spending has continued to decrease;

*Amendment*

4. Notes that for 2017, the Court has issued a qualified (rather than an adverse) opinion on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts, which according to the Court, indicates that a significant part of the 2017 expenditure audited by it was not materially affected by error and that the level of irregularities in EU spending has continued to decrease; ***regrets, however, that payments continue to be affected by errors, as the audit and supervision system is only partially effective;***

Or. it

**Amendment 39****Petri Sarvamaa****Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 4***Motion for a resolution*

4. Notes ***with satisfaction*** that for 2017, the Court has issued for a second consecutive year a qualified (***rather than an adverse***) opinion on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts, which according to the Court, indicates that a significant part of the 2017 expenditure audited by it was not materially affected by error and that the level of irregularities in EU spending has continued to decrease;

*Amendment*

4. Notes that for 2017, the Court has issued for a second consecutive year a qualified opinion on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts, which according to the Court, indicates that a significant part of the 2017 expenditure audited by it was not materially affected by error and that the level of irregularities in EU spending has continued to decrease;

**Amendment 40**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

4. Notes ***with satisfaction*** that for 2017, the Court has issued for a second consecutive year a qualified (rather than an adverse) opinion on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts, which according to the Court, indicates that a significant part of the 2017 expenditure audited by it was not materially affected by error and that the level of irregularities in EU spending has continued to decrease;

*Amendment*

4. Notes that for 2017, the Court has issued for a second consecutive year a qualified (rather than an adverse) opinion on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts, which according to the Court, indicates that a significant part of the 2017 expenditure audited by it was not materially affected by error and that the level of irregularities in EU spending has continued to decrease;

Or. en

**Amendment 41**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

***4a. Points out that the methodology used to calculate the error-rate for 2017 is flawed, at best, with Residual Error-Rates from previous years being used by four DGs at least (DG REGIO, DG DEVCO, DG NEAR and DG HOME), and that the audit focus for 2017 as opposed to previous years was on areas of predictably low error-rate, all of which renders the final claimed error-rate open to serious question;***

Or. en

**Amendment 42**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**4b. *Regrets that while the Court did provide error-rates under MFF headings of Administration expenditure, Cohesion, Competitiveness, and Natural Resources, it didn't do so for Security & Citizenship, and Global Europe;***

Or. en

**Amendment 43**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

5. ***Welcomes*** the positive trend of a continuing decrease of the most likely error rate for payments determined by the Court in recent years, estimated at 2.4% in 2017, which is still above the threshold of 2% ***but represents an almost two-thirds' reduction in the most likely error rate estimated by the Court for the financial year 2007, which stood at 6.9% for payments;***

5. ***Regrets that the error rate for payments is still above the material threshold of 2 %; notes*** the positive trend of a continuing decrease of the most likely error rate for payments determined by the Court in recent years, estimated at 2.4 % in 2017, which is still above the threshold of 2 % ***but which itself is now open to question, given the flawed methodology used;***

Or. en

**Amendment 44**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

6. Notes that where payments were made on the basis of cost reimbursements (where the EU reimburses eligible costs for eligible activities), the Court estimates the level of error at 3.7 % (4.8 % in 2016), whilst the error rate for entitlement payments (which are based on meeting certain conditions) was below the materiality threshold of 2%;

*Amendment*

6. Notes that where payments were made on the basis of cost reimbursements (where the EU reimburses eligible costs for eligible activities), the Court estimates the level of error at 3.7 % (4.8 % in 2016), whilst the error rate for entitlement payments (which are based on meeting certain conditions) was below the materiality threshold of 2 %; ***regrets that the error rate is not clearly quantified for the entitlement payments;***

Or. en

**Amendment 45**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***6a. Regrets that the Court estimated the level of error for entitlement-based expenditure excluding some rural development schemes and asks that they be included in future;***

Or. en

**Amendment 46**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***6b. Recalls that reimbursement-based expenditures represents 47 % of the audit population while 53 % is represented by the entitlement payments; calls on the Court to continue to reverse this ratio and***

*to focus more on the payments that are still consistently materially affected by error;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 47**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 7**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

7. Notes that the Court audited transactions worth a total of EUR 100,2 billion and that the area of ‘Natural resources’ makes up the largest share of the overall population (57 %), while in contrast to previous years, the weight of the area of ‘Economic, social and territorial cohesion’ is relatively small (around 8 %);

###### *Amendment*

7. Notes that the Court audited transactions worth a total of EUR 100,2 billion and that the area of ‘Natural resources’ makes up the largest share of the overall population (57 %), while in contrast to previous years, the weight of the area of ‘Economic, social and territorial cohesion’ is relatively small (around 8 %); ***regrets that the Court did not examine the level of error in Heading 3, ‘Security and Citizenship’ and Heading 4, ‘Global Europe’; considers that, even if the figures for these headings are minor, they are of particular political importance, and calls on the Court to provide data on the error rate for these headings;***

Or. it

#### **Amendment 48**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 7 a (new)**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

***7a. Points out that the Commission itself has noted that the improved error-rate performance for 2017 was due in large part to the score from that ‘Natural***

*Resources' area*1;

1. *AMPR p. 81 - 'Compared to 2016, the main change is the significant decrease in Cohesion, Migration and Fisheries. In this policy area, the current 2014-2020 programmes are coming up to speed, which have an inherent lower risk given the newly introduced annual clearance of accounts and the 10 % retention mechanism on interim payments until all controls and corrective measures are implemented (see under 'progress made' in Section 2.2).'*

Or. en

**Amendment 49**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 7 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*7a. Observes that the figures for the error rate calculated by the Commission and those calculated by the Court of Auditors are based on different principles; notes that the concept of residual error could create a bias in the data, as corrections for earlier periods are taken into account; calls on the Commission to present the data in a manner consistent with the methodology adopted by the Court and including the estimated corrections expected;*

Or. it

**Amendment 50**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 7 b (new)**



*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7b. *Regrets that in calculating the error-rate the Court does not mention the original level of error that would have been applied if correction measures were not implemented;***

Or. en

**Amendment 51**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7c. *Stresses that as was done in 2016 (when it was merely mentioned), the estimated level of error for cohesion does not include a quantification of 2017 disbursements to financial instruments; recalls that since the eligibility of structural funds for the period 2007-13 was postponed to the end of March 2017, the disbursements to financial instruments for the first three months of 2017 should have been included into the calculation of the error-rate; regrets that the Court has not mentioned this anywhere in the Annual Report; calls on the Court to take on board all the irregularities having a financial impact when determining the most likely error-rate, and calls on the Commission to table the necessary legislative proposal to put an end to this irregularity;***

Or. en

**Amendment 52**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Subheading 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Commission internal governance tools***

Or. en

**Amendment 53**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 7 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***7d. Recalls that the distinction made by the Commission between the ‘political responsibility of Commissioners’ and the ‘operational responsibility of directors-general’ means that it has not always been made clear whether ‘political responsibility’ encompasses responsibility for the directorates-general, or is distinct from it;***

Or. en

**Amendment 54**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 7 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***7e. Reiterates its call on the Commission to produce an annual statement on governance and on internal control, covering in particular:***

***(a) a description of the internal governance tools of the Commission;***

***(b) an assessment of the operational and strategic risk activities during the year and a mid- and long-term fiscal***

**Amendment 55**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 10**

*Motion for a resolution*

10. **Takes note of** the Court's opinion that there is necessity for improvement in the Commission's actions to safeguard Union revenue in order to address weaknesses in its management of the risk of under-valued imports in relation to TOR and in its verifications on the VAT-based own resource;

*Amendment*

10. **Notes with concern that** the Court's opinion **is** that there is necessity for improvement in the Commission's actions to safeguard Union revenue in order to address weaknesses in its management of the risk of under-valued imports in relation to TOR and in its verifications on the VAT-based own resource;

**Amendment 56**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 11 – introductory part**

*Motion for a resolution*

11. Expresses concern that these weaknesses may affect the Member States' contributions to the EU budget; calls, in this regard, on the Commission to:

*Amendment*

11. Expresses **serious** concern that these weaknesses may affect the Member States' contributions to the EU budget; calls, in this regard, on the Commission to:

**Amendment 57**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 11 – point a**

*Motion for a resolution*

a) improve its monitoring of import flows, including making wider use of data mining techniques to analyse unusual patterns and their underlying reasons, and act promptly to ensure that due amounts of TOR are made available;

*Amendment*

a) improve its monitoring of import flows, including making wider use of **reasonable and legal** data mining techniques to analyse unusual patterns and their underlying reasons, and act promptly to ensure that due amounts of TOR are made available;

Or. en

**Amendment 58**  
**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 12**

*Motion for a resolution*

12. Notes that for the second year in a row, DG Budget set a reservation on the value of TOR collected by the UK, due to the country's failure to make available to the EU budget evaded customs duties on textiles and footwear imports;

*Amendment*

12. Notes **with concern** that for the second year in a row, DG Budget set a reservation on the value of TOR collected by the UK, due to the country's failure to make available to the EU budget evaded customs duties on textiles and footwear imports;

Or. en

**Amendment 59**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 12**

*Motion for a resolution*

12. Notes that for the second year in a row, DG Budget set a reservation on the value of TOR collected by the UK, due to the country's failure to make available to

*Amendment*

12. Notes **with concern** that for the second year in a row, DG Budget set a reservation on the value of TOR collected by the UK, due to the country's failure to

the EU budget evaded customs duties on textiles and footwear imports;

make available to the EU budget evaded customs duties on textiles and footwear imports;

Or. en

**Amendment 60**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 12**

*Motion for a resolution*

12. Notes that for the second year in a row, DG Budget set a reservation on the value of TOR collected by the UK, due to the country's failure to make available to the EU budget *evaded* customs duties on textiles and footwear imports;

*Amendment*

12. Notes that for the second year in a row, DG Budget set a reservation on the value of TOR collected by the UK, due to the country's failure to make available to the EU budget customs duties *evaded* on textiles and footwear imports;

Or. en

**Amendment 61**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 13**

*Motion for a resolution*

13. Welcomes the infringement procedure initiated by the Commission on 8 March 2018 as a follow-up to the UK customs fraud case, but regrets that it took the Commission more than 7 years to launch this procedure after its request to the UK in 2011 to set risk profiles for under-valued textiles and footwear imports from China;

*Amendment*

13. Welcomes the infringement procedure initiated by the Commission on 8 March 2018 as a follow-up to the UK customs fraud case, but regrets that it took the Commission more than 7 years to launch this procedure after its request to the UK in 2011 to set risk profiles for under-valued textiles and footwear imports from China; *points out that the similar fraud networks operate in other Member States avoiding paying at least 2.5 billion EUR in custom duties since 2015; reaffirms the clear need for more cooperation between custom services in*

*the Member States to avoid the harm of EU and national budgets and of EU product standards; demands information from the Commission which products reach the internal market without respecting EU product standards;*

Or. en

**Amendment 62**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 13**

*Motion for a resolution*

13. Welcomes the infringement procedure initiated by the Commission on 8 March 2018 as a follow-up to the UK customs fraud case, but regrets that it took the Commission more than 7 years to launch this procedure after its request to the UK in 2011 to set risk profiles for under-valued textiles and footwear imports from China;

*Amendment*

13. Welcomes the infringement procedure initiated by the Commission on 8 March 2018 as a follow-up to the UK customs fraud case, but - *especially in light of Brexit and the increased difficulties this will impose on any collection process* - regrets that it took the Commission more than *seven* years to launch this procedure after its request to the UK in 2011 to set risk profiles for under-valued textiles and footwear imports from China;

Or. en

**Amendment 63**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 13**

*Motion for a resolution*

13. Welcomes the infringement procedure initiated by the Commission on 8 March 2018 as a follow-up to the UK customs fraud case, but regrets that it took the Commission more than 7 years to

*Amendment*

13. Welcomes the infringement procedure initiated by the Commission on 8 March 2018 as a follow-up to the UK customs fraud case, but regrets that it took the Commission more than 7 years to

launch this procedure after its request to the UK in 2011 to set risk profiles for under-valued textiles and footwear imports from China;

launch this procedure after its request to the UK in 2011 to set risk profiles for under-valued textiles and footwear imports from China; ***calls on the Commission to approach such cases with no hesitation and unnecessary delays in future;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 64**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 13 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***13a. Regrets the discrepancies in the level of customs checks between the various Member States; highlights the importance of harmonising checks at all points of entry into the Customs Union and calls on the Member States to ensure coordinated, uniform and efficient implementation of the border system, discouraging divergent practices between Member States to reduce the number of existing loopholes in customs control systems; calls on the Commission, in this respect, to examine the various customs control practices in the EU and their impact on trade diversion, focusing in particular on EU customs practices at external borders, and to develop reference analyses and information on customs operations and the procedures used in the Member States;***

Or. it

#### **Amendment 65**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 14**

*Motion for a resolution*

14. Points out that in 2017, 99,3 % of the amount available for commitments was implemented (EUR 158,7 billion), but that the executed payments were EUR 124,7 billion, considerably lower than budgeted, mainly due to Member States submitting fewer claims than anticipated for the multiannual programmes of the 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF);

*Amendment*

14. Points out that in 2017, 99,3 % of the amount available for commitments was implemented (EUR 158,7 billion), but that the executed payments were EUR 124,7 billion, considerably lower than budgeted, mainly due to Member States submitting fewer claims than anticipated for the multiannual programmes of the 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF); ***regrets the low absorption rate, partly due to the late adoption of the previous MFF and the sectoral programmes, which could create future risks for the implementation of the budget with an accumulation of extraordinary payments at the end of the programming period;***

Or. it

**Amendment 66**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 14**

*Motion for a resolution*

14. Points out that in 2017, **99,3** % of the amount available for commitments was implemented (EUR **158,7** billion), but that the executed payments were **EUR 124,7** billion, considerably lower than budgeted, mainly due to Member States submitting fewer claims than anticipated for the multiannual programmes of the 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF);

*Amendment*

14. Points out that in 2017, **99.3** % of the amount available for commitments was implemented (EUR **158.7** billion), but ***stresses*** that the executed payments were ***only EUR 124.7*** billion, considerably lower than budgeted ***and Member States' absorption rate lower than in the corresponding year of the 2007-2013 multiannual programme period***, mainly due to Member States submitting fewer claims than anticipated for the multiannual programmes of the 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF); ***calls on the Commission to provide the Member States with the maximum support***



*to improve on their absorption rates;*

Or. en

## **Amendment 67**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 15**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

15. Is concerned that in 2017 the outstanding budgetary commitments increased to a new record of EUR **267,3** billion (2016: EUR **238,8** billion) and that the Court projections indicate this amount will rise even more by the end of the current MFF, which may lead to a significantly increased risk of insufficient payment appropriations, but also to a risk of errors under the pressure for a swift absorption given a potential loss of Union funding;

##### *Amendment*

15. Is **deeply** concerned that in 2017 the outstanding budgetary commitments increased to a new record of EUR **267.3** billion (2016: EUR **238.8** billion) and that the Court projections indicate this amount will rise even more by the end of the current MFF, which may lead to a significantly increased risk of insufficient payment appropriations, but also to a risk of errors under the pressure for a swift absorption given a potential loss of Union funding; ***stresses the fact that the EU budget is not allowed to run on deficit and that the growing payments backlog in fact represents a financial debt;***

Or. en

## **Amendment 68**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 15**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

15. Is concerned that in 2017 the outstanding budgetary commitments increased to a new record of EUR **267,3** billion (2016: EUR **238,8** billion) and that the Court projections indicate this amount will rise even more by the end of the

##### *Amendment*

15. Is concerned that in 2017 the ***combination of high commitments and low payments increased*** outstanding budgetary commitments increased to a new record of EUR **267.3** billion (2016: EUR **238.8** billion) and that the Court

current MFF, which may lead to a significantly increased risk of insufficient payment appropriations, but also to a risk of errors under the pressure for a swift absorption given a potential loss of Union funding;

projections indicate this amount will rise even more by the end of the current MFF, which may lead to a significantly increased risk of insufficient payment appropriations, but also to a risk of errors under the pressure for a swift absorption given a potential loss of Union funding;

Or. en

**Amendment 69**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***15a. Calls on the Commission to present a thorough analysis of why some regions still exhibit low fund absorption rates and to assess specific ways of remedying the structural problems underlying those imbalances; calls on the Commission to increase on-the-spot technical assistance to improve absorption capacity in Member States experiencing difficulties in this regard;***

Or. it

**Amendment 70**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***15a. Recalls that the Court reported that the issue of whether to count special instruments within the ceilings for payment appropriations has not yet been resolved; this could represent an additional risk of a payment backlog;***

**Amendment 71**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**15b. Notes the increase in the use of financial instruments, which represents a risk for transparency and accountability;**

Or. en

**Amendment 72**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**15c. Agrees with the Court on the need for more detailed reporting on Financial Instruments, and regrets (as does the Court) that the last available report on Financial Instruments under Share Management (FISM) for the 2014-2020 MFF period is the report as at the end of the 2016, published in December 2017<sup>1</sup>;**  
**1 2017 annual report, paragraph 2.35**

Or. en

**Amendment 73**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**15d. *Regrets that in the above mentioned report, it is evident that by the start of 2017, after three years of the current MFF, less than 10 % of the total ESI Funding available through FISM had so far reached recipients to finance productive investments and activities***;

**1 *2017 Annual Report, paragraph 2.34***

Or. en

**Amendment 74**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 16**

*Motion for a resolution*

16. Calls on the Commission to improve the accuracy of the payment forecast and to use the lessons learned from the previous programming period in order to deal with the accumulated backlog of payments and avoid its negative effect on the next MFF;

*Amendment*

16. Calls on the Commission to improve the accuracy of the payment forecast and to use the lessons learned from the previous programming period in order to deal with the accumulated backlog of payments and avoid its negative effect on the next MFF ***and to present the Action Plan on reducing the payments backlog during the 2020 - 2027 multiannual financial framework;***

Or. en

**Amendment 75**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 17**

*Motion for a resolution*

17. ***Regrets*** that the overall financial

*Amendment*

17. ***Stresses its deep concern*** that the

exposure of the Union budget has grown, with significant long-term liabilities, guarantees and legal obligations implying that careful management needs to be applied in the future; calls, therefore, on the Commission when presenting legislative proposals that include the creation or addition of sizeable contingent liabilities to accompany them with an overview of the total value of contingent liabilities supported by the budget, as well as with an analysis of stress test scenarios and their possible impact on the budget;

overall financial exposure of the Union budget has grown, with significant long-term liabilities, guarantees and legal obligations implying that careful management needs to be applied in the future; calls, therefore, on the Commission when presenting legislative proposals that include the creation or addition of sizeable contingent liabilities to accompany them with an overview of the total value of contingent liabilities supported by the budget, as well as with an analysis of stress test scenarios and their possible impact on the budget;

Or. en

**Amendment 76**  
**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Sophia in 't Veld**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***17a. Regrets that European standards - such as environmental, food quality or safety standards, standards for animal welfare, privacy, agricultural subsidies or rules against money laundering - are often not adequately implemented or respected by Member States due to insufficient supervision of national authorities; recalls the Landscape Review of the European Court of Auditors on the Commission's responsibility to monitor the implementation of EU legislation; urges the Commission to establish a Union inspection body to strengthen the Commission's oversight and increase its competences for supervision of the implementation of Union legislation in order to improve monitoring of Member States' compliance with Union legislation and to enforce, where needed, European standards;***

**Amendment 77**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**17a. Regrets that the Union did not succeeded to manage and respond adequately to both the financial and socioeconomic crisis of 2008 (the case of Greece being an example given the recent apologies of the Commission expressed to this Member States) and the refugee crisis of 2015, which led to further deepening of divisions within the Union between North/South and East/West, to increased inequalities, as well as to growing mistrust among Member States;**

Or. en

**Amendment 78**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**17a. Points out that the College of the Commissioners does not produce an annual statement on governance, a practice that is commonly adopted by Member States; calls for this practice to be made compulsory from the beginning of the next College of Commissioners' term;**

Or. it

**Amendment 79**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**17b. Regrets that expenditure has failed to comply with the parameter requiring 20% to be allocated to climate action; notes with concern that this objective will not be respected in the 2014-2020 programming period; calls for a strong commitment by the Commission to support environmental and climate action, especially in the agricultural sector;**

Or. it

**Amendment 80**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Shared management***

***SHARED MANGEMENT***

Or. en

**Amendment 81**  
**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 22**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

22. Observes ***with satisfaction*** that the Court found very few public procurement errors in 2017: less than 1 % (2016 - 18 %), but notes that the reason for this could be the relatively low level of expenditure accepted under the ERDF and the CF,

22. Observes that the Court found very few public procurement errors in 2017: less than 1 % (2016 - 18 %), but notes that the reason for this could be the relatively low level of expenditure accepted under the ERDF and the CF, which used to be more

which used to be more prone to errors in public procurement; calls on the Commission and Member States not to weaken, but to continue strengthening their vigilance on the correct implementation of the public procurement rules;

prone to errors in public procurement; calls on the Commission and Member States not to weaken, but to continue strengthening their vigilance on the correct implementation of the public procurement rules;

Or. en

## **Amendment 82**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 22**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

22. Observes ***with satisfaction*** that the Court found very few public procurement errors in 2017: less than 1 % (2016 - 18 %), but notes that the reason for this could be the relatively low level of expenditure accepted under the ERDF and the CF, which used to be more prone to errors in public procurement; calls on the Commission and Member States not to weaken, but to continue strengthening their vigilance on the correct implementation of the public procurement rules;

##### *Amendment*

22. Observes that the Court found very few public procurement errors in 2017: less than 1 % (2016 - 18 %), but notes that the reason for this could be the relatively low level of expenditure accepted under the ERDF and the CF, which used to be more prone to errors in public procurement; calls on the Commission and Member States not to weaken, but to continue strengthening their vigilance on the correct implementation of the public procurement rules;

Or. en

## **Amendment 83**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 22 a (new)**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

##### *Amendment*

***22a. Noticed that the AAR of the DG RTD mentioned 6 different error rates, three for FP7 and three for Horizon 2020; stresses that such an approach does not***



*facilitate transparency and accountability;  
accepts however that two different  
programmes under two different financial  
periods were concerned;*

Or. en

**Amendment 84**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 22 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**22a. Fully supports the position of the Court that its mandate does not imply reporting on individual Member States but presenting an audit opinion on the legality and regularity of the implementation of the Union's budget as a whole;**

Or. en

**Amendment 85**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 22 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**22b. Nevertheless, wants to draw attention through the reservations issued by the Commission services during the normal annual Discharge procedures, that all and every Member States perform differently in using the diversity of EU funds and that there are always areas where improvement is required; notes in this regard that for 2017 reservations were issued by:**

**- DG AGRI concerning: AT, BE, BG, HR, CZ, DK, FI, FR, DE, HU, IT, PT, RO,**

**SK, SI, ES, SE, UK ;**

**- DG MARE concerning: BG, CZ, IT, NL, RO;**

**- DG REGIO concerning: BG, HR, CZ, ET, FI, FR, DE, HU, IT, LV, PL, RO, SK, SI, SE, UK;**

**- DG EMPL concerning: AU, CZ, FR, DE, HU, IT, PL, RO, SK, UK**

**- DG HOME concerning: FI, DE, GR, UK;**

Or. en

**Amendment 86**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 22 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**22b. calls on the DG RTD to publish its country specific recommendations in the AAR of DG RTD;**

Or. en

**Amendment 87**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 22 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**22c. In this sense, notes that although the services of the Commission did not issue reservations in 2017 for IE, LUX, M, CY, LT, in 2016 they issued for DG AGRI: IE, LT, M, CY, for DG EMPL: CY and for DG REGIO: IE;**

Or. en

**Amendment 88**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 22 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**22b.** *Notes that the residual error rates calculated by the Court (3 %) and the Commission (1.39 %) differ considerably;*

Or. en

**Amendment 89**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 23**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

23. Notes the progress in project selection and that by January 2018, 673 800 projects have been selected for support by the ERDF, the CF, the European Social Fund (ESF), and the Youth Employment Initiative, amounting to EUR 260 billion or 54 % of the total financing available for the 2014-2020 period;

23. Notes the progress in project selection and that by January 2018, 673 800 projects have been selected for support by the ERDF, the CF, the European Social Fund (ESF), and the Youth Employment Initiative, amounting to EUR 260 billion or 54 % of the total financing available for the 2014-2020 period; ***notes that the rate of project selection has reached 70 % of the total financing available at the end of 2018 and is similar to the selection rate at the same point in the last period;***

Or. en

**Amendment 90**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 26**

*Motion for a resolution*

26. Notes that, in the area of energy efficiency and renewables, more than 2,000 MW of additional capacity of renewable energy production was created, and greenhouse emissions were reduced by close to 3 million tonnes of CO2 equivalents until the end of 2016;

*Amendment*

26. Notes ***with satisfaction*** that, in the area of energy efficiency and renewables, more than 2,000 MW of additional capacity of renewable energy production was created, and greenhouse emissions were reduced by close to 3 million tonnes of CO2 equivalents until the end of 2016; ***stresses though that more must be done in order to achieve goals from the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement;***

Or. en

**Amendment 91**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 27 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***27a. Welcomes in particular, with regard to structural funds, the Court's audit work on preventive measures and financial corrections, the ex-ante conditionalities, the performance reserve and absorption;***

Or. en

**Amendment 92**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 27 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***27a. Apart from the areas of privatisation of public services and infrastructure, welcomes the progress with the priority project list in Greece;***

**Amendment 93**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 28**

*Motion for a resolution*

28. Expresses concern that the Court identified and quantified 36 errors in its sample of 217 transactions for 2017, which audit authorities in Member States had not detected, and that the number and the impact of these errors indicate persisting weaknesses with the regularity of the expenditure declared by managing authorities;

*Amendment*

28. Expresses concern that the Court identified and quantified 36 errors in its sample of 217 transactions for 2017, which audit authorities in Member States had not detected, and that the number and the impact of these errors indicate persisting weaknesses with the regularity of the expenditure declared by managing authorities; ***regrets that the errors found reflect persistent shortcomings in the regularity of the expenditure declared by the managing authorities and that the Court identified weaknesses in the sampling methodologies of the audit authorities;***

Or. it

**Amendment 94**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 28**

*Motion for a resolution*

28. Expresses concern that the Court identified and quantified 36 errors in its sample of 217 transactions for 2017, which audit authorities in Member States had not detected, and that the number and the impact of these errors indicate persisting weaknesses with the regularity of the expenditure declared by managing

*Amendment*

28. Expresses concern that the Court identified and quantified 36 errors in its sample of 217 transactions for 2017, which audit authorities in Member States had not detected, and that the number and the impact of these errors indicate persisting weaknesses with the regularity of the expenditure declared by managing authorities; ***calls on the Commission to***

authorities;

*work even closer with managing authorities of individual member States on detecting these errors and by doing so specifically target those most frequent;*

Or. en

**Amendment 95**  
**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 28**

*Motion for a resolution*

28. ***Expresses concern*** that the Court identified and quantified 36 errors in its sample of 217 transactions for 2017, which audit authorities in Member States had not detected, and that the number and the impact of these errors indicate persisting weaknesses with the regularity of the expenditure declared by managing authorities;

*Amendment*

28. ***Regrets*** that the Court identified and quantified 36 errors in its sample of 217 transactions for 2017, which audit authorities in Member States had not detected, and that the number and the impact of these errors indicate persisting weaknesses with the regularity of the expenditure declared by managing authorities;

Or. en

**Amendment 96**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 28 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

28a. ***Deplores the numerous error rates presented by the Commission, which make it difficult to evaluate data; notes that the residual error rate identified by the Court differs significantly from the residual error rate calculated by the Commission;***

*Amendment*

28a. ***Deplores the numerous error rates presented by the Commission, which make it difficult to evaluate data; notes that the residual error rate identified by the Court differs significantly from the residual error rate calculated by the Commission;***

Or. it

**Amendment 97**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 30**

*Motion for a resolution*

30. Observes with concern that as of September 2018 there are still 7 non-completed action plans related to ex-ante conditionalities and that one suspension of interim payments has been adopted and other two are under inter-service consultation for adoption; regrets that the fulfilment of the ex-ante conditionalities proved to be administratively burdensome for managing authorities and one of the reasons for delayed absorption; asks the Commission to ensure that in the next programming period, the identified weaknesses and problems related to fulfilment of enabling conditions, which will replace ex-ante conditionalities, are properly addressed;

*Amendment*

30. Observes with concern that as of September 2018 there are still 7 non-completed action plans related to ex-ante conditionalities and that one suspension of interim payments has been adopted and other two are under inter-service consultation for adoption; regrets that the fulfilment of the ex-ante conditionalities proved to be administratively burdensome for managing authorities and one of the reasons for delayed absorption; ***appreciates in particular the targeted support provided to programme authorities and increased level of implementation reached thanks to the “Catching up Regions” and the “Task force for Better Implementation” initiatives taken by the Commission***; asks the Commission to ensure that in the next programming period, the identified weaknesses and problems related to fulfilment of enabling conditions, which will replace ex-ante conditionalities, are properly addressed;

Or. en

**Amendment 98**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 32**

*Motion for a resolution*

32. Regrets that, in the context of financial instruments, the auditors were not

*Amendment*

32. ***Deeply*** regrets that, in the context of financial instruments, the auditors were

able to verify the selection and implementation of investments at financial intermediary level, where a number of irregularities occurred, accounting for 1% of the estimated level of error for the area of “Economic, social and territorial cohesion”;

not able to verify the selection and implementation of investments at financial intermediary level, where a number of irregularities occurred, accounting for 1% of the estimated level of error for the area of “Economic, social and territorial cohesion”;

Or. en

**Amendment 99**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 32 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***32a. Calls on the Commission to take into account, in the case of large-scale infrastructure projects, all relevant risks of environmental impact and to finance only those which have demonstrated real added value for the local population and from an environmental, social and economic point of view; stresses the importance of strictly monitoring possible risks of corruption and fraud in this context and the need to carry out careful and independent ex-ante and ex-post assessments with regard to the projects to be financed;***

Or. it

**Amendment 100**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

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

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Hungary***



**Amendment 101**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 32 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**32a. (a) Recalls the investigations the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) conducted on the ELIOS and “Heart of Budapest” projects where serious irregularities were found;**

**(b) Is concerned about the high rate of procedures that involves only a single bidder in Hungary, which can be viewed as a possible indicator of a strong risk of corruption; call on the Commission to put in place measures to promote competition in this sector;**

Or. en

**Amendment 102**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 33 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**33a. Regrets that, as noted by the Court, in the AARs the Commission presents at least 13 different rates for the two programming periods as a measure of the expenditure at risk. Such a large number of rates leads to a lack of clarity and potential confusion as to their relevance and the assurance provided[1].**

**This could partially explain the worrying discrepancy between the Residual Error-Rate as calculated by the Court, versus the Commission - 3.00 % versus 1.39 %**

*respectively;*

[1] *2017 annual report, paragraph 6.57.*

Or. en

**Amendment 103**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 33 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**33a. Sees the need to further clarify procurement procedures and the bidder situation in Member States as bidding procedures may have turned in semi legal procedures preventing competition and possibly promoting fraud; welcomes the ‘single bidder’ study of the Commission and awaits the results;**

Or. en

**Amendment 104**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 37**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

37. **Welcomes** the fact that direct payments per hectare decreased with increasing farm size, while the income per worker increased, and that according to the Commission ***the CAP is currently operating an inclusive system of support where*** very small farms, of less than 5 ha, represent over half of the beneficiaries;

37. **Notes** the fact that direct payments per hectare decreased with increasing farm size, while the income per worker increased, and that according to the Commission very small farms, of less than 5 ha, represent over half of the beneficiaries; ***is very concerned about the heavy change of the agricultural structure with strongly growing inequalities of direct payments per beneficiary in some new Member States, mainly Slovakia and the Czech Republic, where 7 % of the beneficiaries receive currently over 70 %***

*of all direct payments; calls on the Commission and the Slovak and Czech authorities to remedy those increasing inequalities;*

Or. en

**Amendment 105**  
**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 37**

*Motion for a resolution*

37. *Welcomes the fact* that direct payments per hectare decreased with increasing farm size, while the income per worker increased, and that according to the Commission the CAP is currently operating an inclusive system of support where very small farms, of less than 5 ha, represent over half of the beneficiaries;

*Amendment*

37. *Notes* that direct payments per hectare decreased with increasing farm size, while the income per worker increased, and that according to the Commission the CAP is currently operating an inclusive system of support where very small farms, of less than 5 ha, represent over half of the beneficiaries;

Or. en

**Amendment 106**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 37 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*37a. Notes a fast increase in inequalities of direct payments in some other Member States, mainly Estonia, Latvia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Denmark over the last ten years with a growing share of beneficiaries receiving more than EUR 100 000; calls on the Commission and the national authorities to take appropriate measures and to report thereof;*

**Amendment 107****Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 38***Motion for a resolution*

38. Notes with concern that the Court found a persistently high level of error in areas corresponding to one quarter of the budget for ‘Natural Resources’, which includes the expenditure for market measures, rural development, environment, climate action and fisheries under the EAGF; notes in addition that the main sources of error were non-compliance with eligibility conditions, the provision of inaccurate information on areas and non-compliance with agro-environmental commitments;

*Amendment*

38. Notes with **great** concern that the Court found a persistently high level of error in areas corresponding to one quarter of the budget for ‘Natural Resources’, which includes the expenditure for market measures, rural development, environment, climate action and fisheries under the EAGF; notes in addition that the main sources of error were non-compliance with eligibility conditions, the provision of inaccurate information on areas and non-compliance with agro-environmental commitments; ***stresses that such errors should be better detected by the managing authorities of individual Member States or in cases when the ex-post audits point to these errors the samples for future audits and on-site checks should be updated to provide for a better controls;***

Or. en

**Amendment 108****Inés Ayala Sender****Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 38***Motion for a resolution*

38. Notes with concern that the Court found a persistently high level of error in areas corresponding to one quarter of the budget for ‘Natural Resources’, which includes the expenditure for market

*Amendment*

38. Notes with concern that the Court found a persistently high level of error in areas corresponding to one quarter of the budget for ‘Natural Resources’, which includes the expenditure for market

measures, rural development, environment, climate action and fisheries ***under the EAGF***; notes in addition that the main sources of error were non-compliance with eligibility conditions, the provision of inaccurate information on areas and non-compliance with agro-environmental commitments;

measures ***under the EAGF***, rural development, environment, climate action and fisheries; notes in addition that the main sources of error were non-compliance with eligibility conditions, the provision of inaccurate information on areas and non-compliance with agro-environmental commitments;

Or. en

**Amendment 109**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 39**

*Motion for a resolution*

39. Calls on the Commission to assess the effectiveness of the Member States' actions to address the underlying causes of these errors and to issue further guidance where necessary;

*Amendment*

39. Calls on the Commission ***to continue its work*** to assess the effectiveness of the Member States' actions to address the underlying causes of these errors and to issue further guidance where necessary;

Or. en

**Amendment 110**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 39**

*Motion for a resolution*

39. Calls on the Commission to assess the effectiveness of the Member States' actions to address the underlying causes of these errors and to issue further guidance where necessary;

*Amendment*

39. Calls on the Commission to assess the effectiveness of the Member States' actions to address the underlying causes of these errors and to issue further guidance ***or direct help*** where necessary;

Or. en

**Amendment 111**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 39 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**39a. Calls on the Commission to arrange for a genuine simplification of the procedure, including in the documentation required in order to gain access to funding, without neglecting the principles of audit and monitoring; calls for special attention to be paid to administrative support for small-scale producers, for whom the funding is a vital prerequisite for their business survival;**

Or. it

**Amendment 112**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 40**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

40. Notes with concern that the results of the cross compliance on the spot checks made by DG AGRI are worrying, and in particular that 47 % of the total number of on the spot checks has led to sanctions; asks the Commission to check the implementation of the remedial action taken by Member State authorities where it found it could place no or limited reliance on the certification body's work;

40. Notes with **great** concern that the results of the cross compliance on the spot checks made by DG AGRI are worrying, and in particular that 47 % of the total number of on the spot checks has led to sanctions; asks the Commission to check the implementation of the remedial action taken by Member State authorities where it found it could place no or limited reliance on the certification body's work;

Or. en

**Amendment 113**  
**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 40**

*Motion for a resolution*

40. Notes with concern that the results of the cross compliance on the spot checks made by DG AGRI are worrying, and in particular that 47 % of the total number of on the spot checks has led to sanctions; **asks** the Commission to check the implementation of the remedial action taken by Member State authorities where it found it could place no or limited reliance on the certification body's work;

*Amendment*

40. Notes with concern that the results of the cross compliance on the spot checks made by DG AGRI are worrying, and in particular that 47 % of the total number of on the spot checks has led to sanctions; **urges** the Commission to check the implementation of the remedial action taken by Member State authorities where it found it could place no or limited reliance on the certification body's work;

Or. en

**Amendment 114**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 40 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**40a. Recommends that:**

***(a) the Court of Auditors issues separately error rates regarding respectively the direct payments, the market operations and the rural development spending of the CAP as the Director General of DG AGRI does in its annual activity report;***

***(b) the Commission assesses the effectiveness of the Member States' actions to address the underlying causes of errors and issues further guidance where necessary;***

***(c) the Member States fully exploit the possibilities offered by the system of simplified cost options in rural development;***

*(d) the Commission takes on board in its proposals for the future CAP that larger farm incomes do not necessarily need the same degree of support for stabilising farm incomes as smaller farms in times of income volatility crisis since they may benefit of potential economies of scale which are likely to make them more resilient;*

*(e) DG AGRI defines a new key performance objective, accompanied with indicators, aiming at mitigating the income inequalities between the farmers;*

*(f) the Commission carries out a closer examination of the quality of the certification bodies' transaction testing;*

Or. en

**Amendment 115**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 40 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*40a. Given that the environmental objectives of the 'greening' have not met any of the expectations raised and that they produced a considerable increase of the administrative burden for both farmers and public administrations, asks the Commission to ensure that the green architecture of the new CAP proposal with the so-called eco-scheme, will achieve better environmental results based on the reward of the efforts that overcome the reinforced conditionality of the new proposal;*

Or. en

**Amendment 116**



**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 40 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**40a. Is concerned about the situation found in Slovakia, where DG AGRI's audit has identified a number of deficiencies and an OLAF investigation is ongoing; believes that there is a risk of infiltration by organised crime and calls on the Commission to actively monitor the situation and take the necessary measures;**

Or. it

**Amendment 117  
Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 40 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**40b. Recalls in particular, that the Director General of DG AGRI refers to an analysis made by an external contractor, which found that: 'overall, the greening measures have led to only small changes in farmers' management practices, except in a few specific areas. For both Member States and farmers, instead of environmental priorities, the main concern tended to consist in minimising the administrative burden of implementation, and avoiding any errors as controls and enforcement may lead to the reduction of CAP payments';**

Or. en

**Amendment 118**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 40 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**40c. Calls on the Commission to provide structural data for the 20 biggest receivers of direct payments in Member States;**

Or. en

**Amendment 119  
Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 40 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**40d. Is concerned that the highly critical ECA Special Reports 10/2017 and 21/2017 on Young Farmers and Greening, showing that almost no desired result was achieved, did not have financial consequences; criticises that the financing of those policy areas just goes on as if nothing had happened;**

Or. en

**Amendment 120  
Bart Staes  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 42**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**42. Notes in addition that the number of returnees co-financed by the AMIF was 48 250 in 2017 compared to 5 904 in 2014, and that of those returned, the**

**deleted**

*share of non-voluntary returns has increased from one quarter (25%) in 2014 to half (50%) in 2017, while the reported number of persons who returned voluntarily was 17 736 in 2017;*

Or. en

**Amendment 121**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 42**

*Motion for a resolution*

42. Notes in addition that the number of returnees co-financed by the AMIF was 48 250 in 2017 compared to 5 904 in 2014, and that of those returned, the share of non-voluntary returns has increased from one quarter (25%) in 2014 to half (50%) in 2017, while the reported number of persons who returned voluntarily was 17 736 in 2017;

*Amendment*

42. Notes in addition that the number of returnees co-financed by the AMIF was 48 250 in 2017 compared to 5 904 in 2014, and that of those returned, the share of non-voluntary returns has increased from one quarter (25%) in 2014 to half (50%) in 2017, while the reported number of persons who returned voluntarily was 17 736 in 2017; ***notes also, however, with concern, that there is no Key Performance Indicator (KPI) to measure what's being done to protect those migrants - legal and illegal - who most need protection, the women and children;***

Or. en

**Amendment 122**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 43 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***43a. Welcomes the fact the Commission has adopted ambitious objectives in the policy area of migration and security and, in particular, that the Commission intends***

*- as to the illegal migration to:*

*(a) work with the countries of transit and origin to prevent irregular flows;*

*(b) address the root causes of migration;*

*(c) improve cooperation and readmission, fight against migrant smuggling, achieve effective returns of irregular migrants (EU resettlement schemes and EU/Turkey statement of March 2016);*

*(d) put in place the EU relocation scheme, reinforce the management of the external borders and to reform the Common European Asylum System;*

Or. en

**Amendment 123**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 43 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*43b. Notes that the achievement of the objectives are measured through the following key performance objectives:*

*(a) rate of return of irregular migrants to the third countries measured as % of effected returns compared to return decisions issued by MS;*

*(b) convergence of protection recognition rates for asylum seekers from the same country;*

*(c) use of EU information exchange mechanisms measured through the number of hits in SIS and Prüm databases and the use of Europol's Siena and EIS;*

*(d) number of operations conducted with the involvement European Cyber-crime Centre at Europol;*

*(e) compliance approach: error rate below*

2 %;

Or. en

**Amendment 124**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 43 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**43a. Notes in that the number of returnees co-financed by the AMIF was 48 250 in 2017 compared to 5 904 in 2014, and that of those returned, the share of non-voluntary returns has increased from one quarter (25 %) in 2014 to half (50 %) in 2017, while the reported number of persons who returned voluntarily was 17 736 in 2017; stresses that although the numbers of returns rose significantly the Commission should do its utmost to double check that non-voluntary returns are fully justified;**

Or. en

**Amendment 125**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 43 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**43a. Calls on the Commission to consider the migration policy not only as an urgency issue, but to establish a comprehensive policy truly based on the principles of solidarity;**

Or. en

**Amendment 126**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 44 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**44a. Deplores the Court's failure to provide a specific error rate for this heading; calls on the Court to provide this figure in its forthcoming annual reports;**

Or. it

**Amendment 127**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 47 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47a. Recommends**

**(a) the Commission to define and put in place a balanced and comprehensive migration policy based on the principles of solidarity and partnership instead of considering the migration policy as a crisis management issue;**

**(b) DG HOME to introduce a Key Performance Indicator relating to situation of the most vulnerable migrants and in particular child migrants and refugee women and girls in order to prevent and avoid abuse and trafficking;**

**(c) DG HOME to systematically provide error rates at payment and residual error rate;**

**(d) the Commission to require Member States, in the annual accounts of their AMIF and ISF national programmes, to break down the nature of the amounts they report into recoveries, pre-financing**

*and expenditure actually incurred; and report in its AAR from 2018 onwards the actual spending per fund;*

Or. en

**Amendment 128**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 47 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47a. Is seriously concerned about the weaknesses in EASO's management and audits; considers it unacceptable that the Commission did not monitor them effectively and did not intervene quickly to resolve the situation; calls on the Commission to constantly monitor the agencies operating under Heading 3;**

Or. it

**Amendment 129**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 47 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47b. Points out that there is a risk that EU money foreseen for development is used for other purposes as-to fight illegal migration or military action;**

Or. en

**Amendment 130**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 14 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**Czech Republic**

Or. en

**Amendment 131**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 47 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47c. Is deeply worried that an EU legal document, dated 19 November 2018, pointed out that the situation of Czech Prime Minister qualifies as a conflict of interest, because he could influence decisions on the use of Union funds of which companies linked to him had benefited;**

Or. en

**Amendment 132**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Petri Sarvamaa, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 47 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47d. Notes that the Agrofert Holding is the single biggest group in Czech agriculture and food industry, second largest in chemistry and plays a significant role also in forestry; furthermore recalls that Agrofert is also an owner of the MAFRA Publishing**



*Company a.s., one of the largest media groups publishing some of the most popular printed and online media, such as MF DNES, Lidové noviny, iDnes; calls on the Commission to investigate also the situation of the Czech PM as media owner to draw clean conclusions from this case;*

Or. en

**Amendment 133**

**Ingeborg Gräble, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Petri Sarvamaa, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 47 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*47e. Notes with deep regret that, despite multiple alerts raised by the European Parliament, the Commission has reacted to the issue of the Czech PM only after Transparency International Czech Republic filed a complaint against the conflict of interest of Mr Babiš in June 2018;*

Or. en

**Amendment 134**

**Ingeborg Gräble, Petri Sarvamaa, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 47 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*47f. Recalls that the Commission services have asked the national authority responsible for the coordination of EU Funds (Ministry of Regional Development) to provide the following information with respect to funding to*

*enterprises being part of the his company holding:*

*(a) list of all projects financed by the ERDF, Cohesion Fund, ESF, EAFRD which relate to the AGROFERT group since 2012 when the current Prime Minister entered as Minister of Finance the government, and whether the projects are still ongoing or have been completed;*

*(b) the amounts granted, already paid and still to be paid (as well as the Fund concerned) to these companies or to other companies of the AGROFERT group to allow us i) to confirm the amounts mentioned in the complaint and ii) possibly identify other funding, if any;*

*(c) periods when such amounts were granted and paid;*

*(d) whether the projects were subject to verifications (administrative and/or on-the-spot) with respect to such funding and the outcome of such verifications;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 135**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 47 g (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47g. Welcomes that the Czech Ministry of Regional Development has collected the requested information from the different managing authorities concerned and has forwarded it to the Commission;**

Or. en

#### **Amendment 136**

**Ingeborg Gräble, Petri Sarvamaa, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 47 h (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47h. Asks the Commission what action it intends to take in light of the recent legal appreciation of the situation;**

Or. en

**Amendment 137**

**Ingeborg Gräble, Petri Sarvamaa, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 47 i (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47i. Recalls that the European Parliament asked last year the Commission to speed up the conformity clearance procedure opened on 8 January 2016 to get detailed and precise information on the risk of conflicts of interest concerning the State's Agricultural Intervention Fund in the Czech Republic;**

Or. en

**Amendment 138**

**Ingeborg Gräble, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution  
Subheading 14 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**Greece**

**Amendment 139**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 47 j (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47j. Welcomes the progress made in implementing the 181 Greece priority projects:**

**(a) 119 projects with expenditure of EUR 7.1 billion are reported as completed;**

**(b) 17 projects with expenditure of EUR 0.5 billion are to be completed by March 2019 with national funds (additional EUR 0.53 billion estimated to be needed);**

**(c) 24 projects (EUR 0.8 billion) are phased into 2014-2020 where they are estimated to require another EUR 1.1 billion funding;**

**(d) 21 items with an estimated budget of EUR 1.1 billion were cancelled;**

**sees a success story in the way the Commission supported Greece to implement and finish Union projects;**

Or. en

**Amendment 140**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 14 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**Hungary**

Or. en

**Amendment 141**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 47 k (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47k. Recalls that the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) found serious irregularities in the ELIOS- and “Heart-of-Budapest” projects; in the first case a small amount of funds was recovered, whereas in the second case the Hungarian authorities had accepted the financial correction, but the latter had not been implemented last September; notes that the facts surrounding the Metro-line-four are still “sub judice”;**

Or. en

**Amendment 142**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 14 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Slovakia***

Or. en

**Amendment 143**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 47 l (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47l. Notes that there are currently 6 conformity enquiries ongoing in relation to Slovakia; for Rural Development, DG AGRI audits have found a number of deficiencies in the management and control of investment and forestry measures; as regards the management of the area-based direct payments, a DG AGRI audit performed in 2017 indicated that there are certain weaknesses in the administration and control system and an OLAF investigation is currently ongoing on allegations of fraud;**

Or. en

**Amendment 144**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 47 m (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47m. Asks the Commission to speed up the conformity procedures and keep the EP informed about the follow-up; is of the opinion that measures could be taken on the basis of the financial regulation pending the outcome of the enquiries, as for instance the interruption or suspension of the funds; calls on the Commission to examine the possibility to withdraw of the accreditation of the paying agency;**

Or. en

**Amendment 145**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 47 n (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47n. Is seriously concerned by the outcomes of the mission of the Budgetary Control Committee of the European Parliament (CONT) to Slovakia that has revealed a serious threat to the Rule of Law in the country, great risk of fraud in the area of Union financing of agriculture and forestry, significant shortcomings in the public procurement procedure, shortcomings in the land management, high risk of conflict of interest within the public administration, this all taking place in a context of a murder of Ján Kuciak, a journalist investigating the aforementioned issues; calls on the Commission and OLAF to take the conclusions and recommendations of the CONT Committee outlined in the report very seriously and take immediate appropriate measures to quickly resolve the dramatic situation in Slovakia;**

Or. en

**Amendment 146**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Tomáš Zdechovský, Ivan Štefanec, Monica Macovei, Patricija Šulin, Claudia Schmidt**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 47 n (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**47n. Asks the Commission to report to the European Parliament every three months on the follow up in Slovakia concerning the monitoring of the management and control system for direct payments;**

Or. en

**Amendment 147**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 15**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Direct management***

***DIRECT MANAGEMENT***

Or. en

**Amendment 148**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 48**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

48. Points out that for 2017, the Court found the highest estimated level of error in spending under “Competitiveness for growth and jobs”, at 4,2 %; notes that these are expenditures managed directly by the Commission, and for which the Commission is solely and directly accountable;

48. Points out that for 2017, the Court found the highest estimated level of error in spending under “Competitiveness for growth and jobs”, at 4,2 %; notes that these are expenditures managed directly by the Commission, and for which the Commission is solely and directly accountable; ***expects that the Commission adopts an urgent Action Plan to improve the situation and implements all measures at its disposal to lower the level of error in spending;***

Or. en

**Amendment 149**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 52**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

52. Notes that for 2017, the Court has

52. Notes that for 2017, the Court has

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not calculated an error rate for the Union funds spent under heading 4 of the MFF “Global Europe” and that this decision was taken following the general strategy of the Court to reduce its substantive testing and partially rely on the so-called “work of others”;

not calculated an error rate for the Union funds spent under heading 4 of the MFF “Global Europe” and that this decision was taken following the general strategy of the Court to reduce its substantive testing and partially rely on the so-called “work of others”; ***calls on the Court to check and calculate an error rate again for 2018;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 150**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Monica Macovei, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulik**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 53 – subparagraph 1 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Stresses that regarding external relations DG NEAR and DG DEVCO use in their AARs residual error rates that are the products of residual error rate (RER) studies and that the RER is calculated on transactions only from closed contracts, for which all controls have been already applied;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 151**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 54**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

54. Notes the fact that ***the Court*** considered that the RER studies were broadly fit for purpose whilst having concerns about the quality of those studies;

54. Notes ***with concern*** the fact that ***the Court*** considered that the RER studies were ***only*** broadly fit for purpose whilst having concerns about the quality of those studies; ***stresses the fact that the Commission is using more than 10***

*different methodologies to calculate the error rate of their payments which does not contribute to better transparency and accountability of the Commission but, to the opposite, only blurs the true value of the error rates; calls on the Commission to use the same methodology when calculating the error rate as the Court does;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 152**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 54**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

54. Notes the fact that *the Court* considered that the RER studies were broadly fit for purpose *whilst having* concerns about the quality of those studies;

##### *Amendment*

54. Notes the fact that *the Court* considered that the RER studies were broadly fit for purpose *although the Court had strong* concerns about the quality of those studies;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 153**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Monica Macovei, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 54 – subparagraph 1 (new)**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

##### *Amendment*

*Notes that the RER of DG DEVCO and DGNEAR do not include payments made in 2017;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 154**

**Ingeborg Gräble, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 60**

*Motion for a resolution*

60. Notes that, according to the European Innovation Scoreboard (EIS) the innovation performance of the EU has increased by 5.8 % since 2010; notes, however, that there has been no convergence between EU countries; calls on the Commission to pay greater attention to the geographic distribution of research funds with the view to contributing to the creation of a level playing field for growth and jobs in the European research area;

*Amendment*

60. Notes that, according to the European Innovation Scoreboard (EIS) the innovation performance of the EU has increased by 5.8 % since 2010; notes, however, that there has been no convergence between EU countries; **notes that the following countries benefit most from the funds under Horizon 2020 (Participant Net Requested EU Contribution in Euro): Germany 5 710 188 927.80 / United Kingdom 5 152 013 650.95 / France 3 787 670 675.13**; calls on the Commission to pay greater attention to the geographic distribution of research funds with the view to contributing to the creation of a level playing field for growth and jobs in the European research area;

Or. en

**Amendment 155**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 62**

*Motion for a resolution*

62. Noticed that the Annual Activity Report (AAR) of the Directorate General (DG) RTD mentioned 6 different error rates, three for FP7 and three for Horizon 2020; stresses that such an approach does not facilitate transparency and accountability; accepts however that two different programmes under two different financial periods were concerned;

*Amendment*

62. Noticed that the Annual Activity Report (AAR) of the Directorate General (DG) RTD mentioned 6 different error rates, three for FP7 and three for Horizon 2020; stresses that such an approach does not facilitate transparency and accountability **and should be improved immediately**; accepts however that two different programmes under two different financial periods were concerned;

**Amendment 156**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Subheading 20**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Some success stories*

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 157**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Subheading 20**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Some success stories*

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 158**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 64**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

64. Notes *with satisfaction* that the budget managed by DG HOME and its number of staff have been increased in order to cope with the increased activities in the context of the migration crisis and threats to the internal security; in terms of human resources, at the end of 2017, DG HOME had 556 staff members, compared

64. Notes that the budget managed by DG HOME and its number of staff have been increased in order to cope with the increased activities in the context of the migration crisis and threats to the internal security; in terms of human resources, at the end of 2017, DG HOME had 556 staff

to 480 in 2016;

members, compared to 480 in 2016;

Or. en

**Amendment 159**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 65 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**65a. Points out that there is major interest and concern within the Union on security and migration, and that the Court should address this concern with an increased scrutiny of this budgetary area, with DG HOME required to produce payment error-rates along with Residual Error-Rates;**

Or. en

**Amendment 160**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 66**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

66. Is concerned by the significant weaknesses identified in the management and control systems of EASO that justified the adoption of a reservation on reputational grounds;

66. Is concerned by the significant weaknesses identified in the management and control systems of EASO that justified the adoption of a reservation on reputational grounds; ***stresses though that DG HOME has promptly reacted by introducing a co-decision process by the executive board and put in place new management of EASO to bring the situation under control;***

Or. en

**Amendment 161**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Subheading 23**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Some success stories*

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 162**

**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 70 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***70a. Notes with concern the large number of contracts awarded to a very limited number of national development agencies with the attendant risk of re-nationalisation of EU policy contrary to the interests of greater integration of EU external policy; urges the Commission, in addition to granting the discharge authority access to the pillar assessment, to do so in such a way as to make it publicly accessible; in this regard, notes with concern the commercial focus of these national bodies invoked by the EC to restrict access to such information; calls on the Commission, as soon as possible, to strengthen and consolidate the monitoring of the tendering and contracting procedures to avoid any distortion of competition between this limited number of strongly subsidised national agencies and other public and private entities with a clear European vocation;***

Or. es

## **Amendment 163**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 71**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

71. Notes with concern that the Court found that the RER studies have certain limitations, as they are studies and not audits and so do not follow International Audit Standards and include very limited checks on public procurement;

##### *Amendment*

71. Notes with concern that the Court found that the RER studies have certain limitations, as they are studies and not audits and so do not follow International Audit Standards and include very limited checks on public procurement; ***calls on the Commission to use the same methodology as the Court when assessing the error rate;***

Or. en

## **Amendment 164**

**Ingeborg Gräßle**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 73 a (new)**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

##### *Amendment*

***73a. Notes that the Union support to the Middle East peace process in the budgetary year 2017 – which is spent primarily in the form of direct financial support to the Palestinian Authority through PEGASE and via the Union’s contribution to the financing of UNRWA – amounted to EUR 321 850 000 in commitments and EUR 288 149 315 in payments; recalls the discussions with the Commission and various stakeholders about the Palestinian Authority’s school curriculum and textbooks, which contain, across all subjects, numerous examples of violent depictions, hate speech, and glorifications of jihad and martyrdom;***

*asks the Commission for further information on the progress of the promised multilateral talks in view of the revision of the Palestinian school curriculum and textbooks, so that they conform with internationally accepted standards for peace, tolerance and non-discrimination in school education, that any content that hinders the peace process and a peaceful coexistence is deleted, and that those schoolbooks promote the peace process and the two-state solution;*

Or. en

**Amendment 165**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 73 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*73a. Believes that when providing external aid, more attention should be put by the Commission on respect for human rights as per the UN Charter, and the Rule of Law, in the receiving countries;*

Or. en

**Amendment 166**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 25**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Indirect management and financial instruments*

**INDIRECT MANAGEMENT AND  
FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

Or. en



**Amendment 167**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 73 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**73a. Is worried about the lack of transparency in spending for financial instruments as four times more money is available for financial instruments under the current MFF; recalls that three years after the start of this MFF only 10 % of the ESI funds being spent through Financial Instruments under shared management have reached the final beneficiary; calls on the Commission to significantly improve reporting on the results of those instruments for 2007-2013 and 2014-2020.**

Or. en

**Amendment 168**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 73 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**73b. Calls on the Commission to present accurate and complete information on financial instruments under shared management after closure of the 2007-2013 MFF period, indicating amounts returned to the Union budget and those remaining in the Member States;**

Or. en

**Amendment 169**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 75**

*Motion for a resolution*

75. Is deeply concerned by the fact that, according to the Court, 64 % of the total value of EFSI contracts that the EIB Group had signed by the end of 2017 was concentrated in *six* Member States: *France, Italy, Spain, Germany, UK, Poland;*

*Amendment*

75. Is deeply concerned by the fact that, according to the Court, 64 % of the total value of EFSI contracts that the EIB Group had signed by the end of 2017 was concentrated in *the* Member States *that have more structured national systems of promotional banks;*

Or. it

**Amendment 170**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Monica Macovei, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulik**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 75**

*Motion for a resolution*

75. Is deeply concerned by the fact that, according to the Court, 64 % of the total value of EFSI contracts that the EIB Group had signed by the end of 2017 was concentrated in six Member States: *France, Italy, Spain, Germany, UK, Poland;*

*Amendment*

75. Is deeply concerned by the fact that, according to the Court, 64 % of the total value of EFSI contracts that the EIB Group had signed by the end of 2017 was concentrated in six Member States;

Or. en

**Amendment 171**

**Petri Sarvamaa, Brian Hayes**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 75**

*Motion for a resolution*

75. *Is deeply concerned by the fact* that, according to the Court, 64 % of the total value of EFSI contracts that the EIB Group had signed by the end of 2017 was

*Amendment*

75. *Notes* that, according to the Court, 64 % of the total value of EFSI contracts that the EIB Group had signed by the end of 2017 was concentrated in six Member

concentrated in six Member States: France, Italy, Spain, Germany, UK, Poland;

States: France, Italy, Spain, Germany, UK, Poland;

Or. en

**Amendment 172**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 75 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***75a. Regrets the fact that only 20% of EFSI financing has supported projects that contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, whereas the EIB's standard portfolio has attained the 25% threshold; regrets that EFSI has financed projects which potentially include infrastructure installations with a serious environmental impact and dubious additionality, such as biorefineries, steelworks, regasification and gas storage facilities and motorways; calls on the Commission to propose sustainable finance or funding options and an environment conducive to investment reflecting the Union's commitments and general goals, with a view to fostering innovation and economic, social and territorial cohesion within the Union, as well as to reinforcing the social dimension of investment by bridging the investment gap in the social sector and with regard to infrastructure safety;***

Or. it

**Amendment 173**

**Petri Sarvamaa, Brian Hayes**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 76**

*Motion for a resolution*

76. Calls on the Commission to ensure that EFSI's management bodies take into account the ***need for a proper*** geographical balance when signing contracts and to report back to the Parliament on the progress achieved;

*Amendment*

76. Calls on the Commission to ensure that EFSI's management bodies take into account the geographical balance when signing contracts and to report back to the Parliament on the progress achieved;

Or. en

**Amendment 174**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 79**

*Motion for a resolution*

79. Points out that aid to non-Union countries used increasingly alternative financing models - trust funds and the Facility for Refugees in Turkey - which increases the complexity of existing financial structures;

*Amendment*

79. Points out that aid to non-Union countries used increasingly alternative financing models - trust funds and the Facility for Refugees in Turkey - which increases the complexity of existing financial structures; ***however acknowledges that these instruments made it possible to react swiftly to challenging circumstances and provide flexibility;***

Or. en

**Amendment 175**  
**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 79**

*Motion for a resolution*

79. Points out that aid to non-Union countries used increasingly alternative financing models - trust funds and the Facility for Refugees in Turkey - which increases the complexity of existing

*Amendment*

79. Points out that aid to non-Union countries used increasingly alternative financing models - trust funds and the Facility for Refugees in Turkey - which increases the complexity of existing

financial structures;

financial structures *and weakens the role of the European Parliament as part of the EU budgetary authority*;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 176**

**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Sophia in 't Veld**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 80**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

80. Points out that pooling resources from the EDF, the EU Budget and other donors in trust funds should not have as consequence that money flagged for the development and cooperation policy do not reach their normal beneficiaries;

##### *Amendment*

80. Points out that pooling resources from the EDF, the EU Budget and other donors in trust funds should not have as consequence that money flagged for the development and cooperation policy do not reach their normal beneficiaries *and pursue their original objectives, such as the eradication of poverty and the promotion of fundamental rights*;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 177**

**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Sophia in 't Veld**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 80 a (new)**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

##### *Amendment*

**80a.** *Points out that the increased use of trust funds also stems from a lack of flexibility currently possible within the Union budget*;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 178**

**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Sophia in 't Veld**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 81**

*Motion for a resolution*

81. Highlights that the increasing use of other financial mechanisms to deliver EU policies alongside the EU Budget risks ***undermining*** the level of accountability and transparency as reporting, audit and public scrutiny arrangements are not aligned; calls, therefore on the Commission to consider putting an end to trust funds ***that*** are unable to attract significant contributions from other donors;

*Amendment*

81. Highlights that the increasing use of other financial mechanisms to deliver EU policies alongside the EU Budget risks ***undermines*** the level of accountability and transparency as reporting, audit and public scrutiny arrangements are not aligned; calls, therefore on the Commission to consider putting an end to trust funds, ***especially where their ‘emergency’ nature is not well justified, where they*** are unable to attract significant contributions from other donors, ***and where fundamental rights violations risk to happen or third country authorities are involved that do not respect fundamental rights;***

Or. en

**Amendment 179**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 82**

*Motion for a resolution*

82. Notes that in its Special report 27/2018 on the Facility for Refugees in Turkey, the Court found that, in a challenging context, the Facility for Refugees in Turkey rapidly mobilised EUR 3 billion to provide a swift response to the refugee crisis, but did not fully achieve its objective of coordinating this response effectively, or sufficient value for money;

*Amendment*

82. Notes that in its Special report 27/2018 on the Facility for Refugees in Turkey, the Court found that, in a challenging context, the Facility for Refugees in Turkey rapidly mobilised EUR 3 billion to provide a swift response to the refugee crisis, but did not fully achieve its objective of coordinating this response effectively, or sufficient value for money; ***notes the conclusion of the court that the Facility could have been more effective, and that it could achieve more value for money;***

Or. en

## Amendment 180

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 82

##### *Motion for a resolution*

82. Notes that in its Special report 27/2018 on the Facility for Refugees in Turkey, the Court found that, in a challenging context, the Facility for Refugees in Turkey rapidly mobilised EUR 3 billion to provide a swift response to the refugee crisis, but did not fully achieve its objective of coordinating this response effectively, or sufficient value for money;

##### *Amendment*

82. Notes that in its Special report 27/2018 on the Facility for Refugees in Turkey, the Court found that, in a challenging context, the Facility for Refugees in Turkey rapidly mobilised EUR 3 billion to provide a swift response to the refugee crisis, but did not fully achieve its objective of coordinating this response effectively, or **achieving** sufficient value for money;

Or. en

## Amendment 181

**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Sophia in 't Veld**

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 83 a (new)

##### *Motion for a resolution*

##### *Amendment*

**83a. Notes that the European Ombudsman has concluded that the Commission should do more to ensure that the EU-Turkey Statement respects EU fundamental rights, and therefore calls on the Commission to systematically include fundamental rights considerations in its decisions under this Facility, including through fundamental rights impact assessments, and continuously report on this to the European Parliament;**

Or. en

**Amendment 182**  
**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 83 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**83a. Regrets that an investigation by EIC European Investigative Collaborations has raised doubts about the use of funds from the instrument which are said to have been used to purchase military equipment for border monitoring; calls on the Commission to thoroughly investigate the matter and to report to Parliament on the results;**

Or. it

**Amendment 183**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 84 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**84a. The findings of the Court**

Or. en

**Amendment 184**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 84 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**84b. Notes that the Court indicates that the level of error in spending on 'Administration' was not material; nevertheless notes with concern that the**



*error rate increased when compared to the previous year (0.55 % in 2017 and 0.2 % in 2016);*

Or. en

**Amendment 185**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 84 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*84c. Notes that while the Court did not find any significant weaknesses, it did find recurring areas where there was scope for improvement;*

Or. en

**Amendment 186**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 84 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*84d. Recalls the Parliament Resolution from 08 April 2018 on ‘Integrity policy of the Commission, in particular the appointment of the Secretary-General of the European Commission’, and its key messages;*

Or. en

**Amendment 187**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

## Paragraph 85

### *Motion for a resolution*

85. Is not satisfied by the Commission's written reaction to Parliament's resolution from 18 April 2018, which **demonstrates** a lack of sensitivity for the importance European citizens attach to transparent, fair and open recruitment procedures;

### *Amendment*

85. Is not satisfied by the Commission's **reactions to the media and general public immediately after the appointment took place, or by Commission's explanations offered at the debate during the parliament's plenary, or by** written reaction to Parliament's resolution from 18 April 2018, which **all demonstrate** a lack of sensitivity for the importance European citizens attach to transparent, fair and open recruitment procedures;

Or. en

## Amendment 188

Petri Sarvamaa

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 85

### *Motion for a resolution*

85. **Is not satisfied** by the Commission's written reaction to Parliament's resolution from 18 April 2018, **which demonstrates a lack of sensitivity for** the importance European citizens attach to transparent, fair and open recruitment procedures;

### *Amendment*

85. **Notes** the Commission's written reaction to Parliament's resolution from 18 April 2018; **underlines** the importance European citizens attach to transparent, fair and open recruitment procedures;

Or. en

## Amendment 189

Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 85 a (new)

### *Motion for a resolution*

### *Amendment*

**85a. Considers the procedure used to appoint the current Secretary-General, which undermines citizens' trust in the European institutions, to be unacceptable; calls on the current Secretary-General to resign without delay and on the Commission to organise a new appointment procedure in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Regulation;**

Or. it

**Amendment 190**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 85 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**85b. Recalls the findings of the Ombudsman in its recommendation in joint cases on the European Commission's appointment of a new Secretary General, in which she 'agrees with (European Parliament) assessment that the double appointment stretched and possibly even overstretched the limits of the law'; the Ombudsman also agreed with the European Parliament that 'appointments to high level posts like Secretary-General should be made independently of other appointments';**

Or. en

**Amendment 191**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 85 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**85c. The Ombudsman has found four instances of maladministration and presented conclusions ‘largely similar to those of the European Parliament’ in a case that undermined public trust in the EU, exacerbated by the way Commission reacted to valid concerns on the procedure, namely ‘in an evasive, defensive and legalistic manner’;**

Or. en

**Amendment 192**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 85 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**85d. The Ombudsman presented a final recommendation to the Commission, which ‘should develop a specific procedure for its Secretary General, separate from other senior appointments’;**

Or. en

**Amendment 193**  
**Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 86**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**86. Regrets the defiant Commission reply to the European Ombudsman of 3 December 2018, which shows little discernment of the points raised by the Ombudsman after the examination of 11 000 pages of documentation;**

**86. Takes note of the Commission reply to the European Ombudsman of 3 December 2018;**

Or. en

**Amendment 194**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 87**

*Motion for a resolution*

87. Welcomes the fact that Commissioner Oettinger organised an inter-institutional round table on senior management selection and appointment on 25 September 2018, *although* the meeting seems to have been inconclusive; calls therefore on the Commission to put in practice paragraph 29 of its resolution on integrity policy in the Commission;

*Amendment*

87. Welcomes the fact that Commissioner Oettinger organised an inter-institutional round table on senior management selection and appointment on 25 September 2018; *nevertheless regrets that because* the meeting seems to have been inconclusive, *this allowed the Commission to feel ‘comforted in its view that the way in which the institutions implement the rules is both adequate and fit for purpose’* [1]; calls therefore on the Commission to put in practice paragraph 29 of its resolution on integrity policy in the Commission;

<sup>[1]</sup> *Opinion of the European Commission on the European Ombudsman’s recommendation - complaint by delegations of the European Parliament, ref 488/2018/KR and 514/2018/KR*

Or. en

**Amendment 195**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 87**

*Motion for a resolution*

87. *Welcomes* the fact that Commissioner Oettinger organised an inter-institutional round table on senior management selection and appointment on 25 September 2018, although the meeting seems to have been inconclusive; calls

*Amendment*

87. *Takes into account* the fact that Commissioner Oettinger organised an inter-institutional round table on senior management selection and appointment on 25 September 2018, although the meeting seems to have been inconclusive; calls

therefore on the Commission to put in practice paragraph 29 of its resolution on integrity policy in the Commission;

therefore on the Commission to put in practice paragraph 29 of its resolution on integrity policy in the Commission;

Or. en

**Amendment 196**  
**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Sophia in 't Veld**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 88**

*Motion for a resolution*

88. Calls on all European institutions to review, where necessary, nomination procedures, in particular for senior officials, based on the principles of fairness, transparency and equal opportunity, and to report back to the European Parliament by 31 August 2019 on the progress made;

*Amendment*

88. Calls on all European institutions to review, where necessary, nomination procedures, in particular for senior officials, based on the principles of fairness, transparency and equal opportunity, and to report back to the European Parliament by 31 August 2019 on the progress made ***and take additional measures to improve the transparency of and equality during appointment procedures on the basis of the findings of the European Union's Ombudsman [Recommendation of the European Ombudsman in joint cases 488/2018/KR and 514/2018/KR on the European Commission's appointment of a new Secretary-General] and the forthcoming study of the European Parliament on the appointment procedures of the European Union's institutions;***

Or. en

**Amendment 197**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 88**

*Motion for a resolution*

88. Calls on all European institutions to review, **where necessary**, nomination procedures, in particular for senior officials, based on the principles of fairness, transparency and equal opportunity, and to report back to the European Parliament by 31 August 2019 on the progress made;

*Amendment*

88. Calls on all European institutions to review **their** nomination procedures, in particular for senior officials, based on the principles of fairness, transparency and equal opportunity, and to report back to the European Parliament by 31 August 2019 on the progress made;

Or. en

**Amendment 198**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 89**

*Motion for a resolution*

89. **Highlights** that the European Schools received EUR 189.9 million from the European budget in 2017;

*Amendment*

89. **Notes** that the European Schools received EUR 189.9 million from the European budget in 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 199**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Monica Macovei, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulik**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 92**

*Motion for a resolution*

92. Finds it unacceptable that, according to the Commission, eight critical or very important recommendations issues by the Commission's Internal Audit Service over the period 2014 - 2017 are still pending;

*Amendment*

92. Finds it unacceptable that, according to the Commission, eight critical or very important recommendations issues by the Commission's Internal Audit Service over the period 2014 - 2017 are still pending; **requests to obtain the progress report on these recommendations implementation until 30 June 2019;**

**Amendment 200**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 32 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Follow up of the Commission discharge  
for 2016***

**Amendment 201**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 32 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Miscellaneous issues***

**Amendment 202**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 93 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***93a. Is concerned by the Commission's delay in addressing the growing problem of the disparity in the correction coefficient applied to European civil servants posted to Luxembourg, given that by 2018 this disparity had more than tripled (16.8%) as compared to the threshold of 5% laid down in the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European***



*Union, with the resulting erosion of the attractiveness of Luxembourg and unfair discrimination of more than 11000 European Union officials, obliging more than one third of them to reside in neighbouring countries, thus worsening cross-border traffic; urges the EC to follow the example of other bodies such as NSPA (NATO Agency) or EFTA who apply correction coefficients of 13 % and 8.1 % respectively; is troubled by the Commission's intention to instruct an external company to carry out a study on this correction coefficient, with the aggravating factors of increased costs, delays and questionable methodology, rather than ESTAT, the European body entrusted by the legislator with this kind of task (Annex XI to the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union — Articles 12, 13 and 14);*

Or. es

**Amendment 203**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 93 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**93a.** *Notes that in the Communication of the Commission on the follow up of the 2016 discharge, COM (2018) 545, the Commission made a selection of the 394 issues that are raised by the Parliament for the financial year 2016 and did not comment on 108 paragraphs; demands that the Commission replies in detail to all the issues raised by the European Parliament in its resolutions forming an integral part of its decisions on the discharge;*

Or. en

**Amendment 204**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 93 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**93b. Urges the Commission to terminate as soon as possible, as already done in 2018 with the convention with doctors and dentists, the convention with Luxembourg hospitals on over-charging for the treatment of officials and other servants of the European Union in Luxembourg, which costs more than EUR 2 million per year and is in breach of European Directive 2011/24 as regards the equal treatment of European patients, in line with the judgment of the Court of Justice in the year 2000 (Ferlini judgment);**

Or. es

**Amendment 205**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 93 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**93c. Hopes that the main source of savings in the new JMO II building in Luxembourg is not limited to reducing the ratio of square metres per EU official/staff member and that the new arrangement of collaborative spaces guarantees a decent workplace for all European officials/staff;**

Or. es

**Amendment 206**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 93 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**93d. Demands that the Commission carry out the most rigorous and most up-to-date analysis of the impact of the design of open spaces, such as in the new JMO II building, on the loss of productivity due to interruptions and distraction, noise, etc. — a loss in productivity quoted at 28% on average by the Haworth White Paper ‘Designing for Focus Work’;**

Or. es

**Amendment 207**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 94**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

94. Insisted that the implementation of the European Union budget should be policy driven;

94. Insisted that the **planning, implementation and reporting on the achieved results** of the European Union budget should be policy driven;

Or. en

**Amendment 208**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 94**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

94. **Insisted** that the implementation of

94. **Insists** that the implementation of

the European Union budget should be policy driven;

the European Union budget should be policy driven;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 209**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 95**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

95. Insisted that the implementation of the European Union budget should focus on results and that the structure of the EU budget should be modified to provide for measuring progress and performance;

###### *Amendment*

95. Insisted that the implementation of the European Union budget should focus on results **and achieving broader positive outcomes** and that the structure of the EU budget should be modified to provide for measuring progress and performance;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 210**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 95**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

95. **Insisted** that the implementation of the European Union budget should focus on results and that the structure of the EU budget should be modified to provide for measuring progress and performance;

###### *Amendment*

95. **Insists** that the implementation of the European Union budget should focus on results and that the structure of the EU budget should be modified to provide for measuring progress and performance;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 211**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 96**

*Motion for a resolution*

96. Encouraged, in this context, the Commission and the Court to pay greater attention to results achieved, performance audits and the final impact of policies;

*Amendment*

96. Encouraged, in this context, the Commission and the Court to pay greater attention to results **and broader outcomes** achieved, performance audits and the final impact of policies;

Or. en

**Amendment 212**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 96**

*Motion for a resolution*

96. Encouraged, in this context, the Commission and the Court to pay greater attention to results achieved, performance audits and the final impact of policies;

*Amendment*

96. Encouraged, in this context, the Commission and the Court to pay greater attention to **simplification**, results achieved, performance audits and the final impact of policies;

Or. en

**Amendment 213**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 96**

*Motion for a resolution*

96. **Encouraged**, in this context, the Commission and the Court to pay greater attention to results achieved, performance audits and the final impact of policies;

*Amendment*

96. In this context, **encourages** the Commission and the Court to pay greater attention to results achieved, performance audits and the final impact of policies;

Or. en

**Amendment 214**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 96 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**96a. Stresses that any and all audits should be focus on the areas most likely to be subject to error, especially those with the greatest funding levels;**

Or. en

**Amendment 215**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 97**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

97. **Cooperated closely** with the Commission to develop the Article 318-Evaluation-Report, into a comprehensive synthesis report, recording the progress in different policy areas, which later became the first part of the Annual Management and Performance Report;

97. **Notes the close cooperation** with the Commission to develop the Article 318-Evaluation-Report into a comprehensive synthesis report, recording the progress in different policy areas, which later became the first part of the Annual Management and Performance Report;

Or. en

**Amendment 216**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 98**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

98. Supported the inclusion of Article 63 in the revised Financial Regulation, which introduces the “single audit scheme” into the shared management, emphasising

98. Supported the inclusion of Article 63 in the revised Financial Regulation, which introduces the “single audit scheme” into the shared management, emphasising

that well-functioning management and control systems at national and European level are a crucial element in the single audit chain;

that well-functioning management and control systems at national and European level are a crucial element in the single audit chain; ***agrees that the single audit approach allows a better use of resources and should avoid duplication of audits at the level of beneficiaries. Notes that the Commission's single audit strategy is to ascertain the reliability of audit results and error rates reported annually by audit authorities and monitor their work through a robust and coordinated control and audit framework; encourages the Commission to continue monitoring and reviewing the work of audit authorities in order to ensure a common audit framework and reliable results;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 217**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 102**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

102. Advocated that environmental requirements should be reinforced, that income support should be fairly allocated and that the CAP should urgently and definitively be made more attractive to young farmers;

###### *Amendment*

102. Advocated that environmental requirements should be reinforced, that income support should be ***more*** fairly allocated ***with progressive payments scheme favourable to small farms and sustainable and environmentally friendly farming*** and that the CAP should urgently and definitively be made more attractive to young farmers;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 218**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 102 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**102a. Notes with concern that according to DG AGRI Annual Activity Report (AAR), ‘Big farms managing over 250 ha represent 1.1 % of farms, manage 27.8 % of the total farmland and receive 22.1 % of total direct aid. Among these “big farms”, the majority has between 250 and 500 ha.’<sup>1</sup>; believes that this is an unjustifiable and unsustainable abuse of scarce EU funds;**

**1 DG AGRI AAR - p.26**

Or. en

**Amendment 219**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 102 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**102b. Believes that the Court should audit all Member States and highlight this unfair distribution of EU funds wherever it occurs; believes further that the Commission should take steps to ensure that CAP funds should be distributed in a weighted manner, such that the payments per hectare are on a reducing scale relative to the size of the holding/farm;**

Or. en

**Amendment 220**

**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 103**



*Motion for a resolution*

103. *Called on the CAP to become more competitive whilst farmer-friendly;*

*Amendment*

103. *Calls for the CAP funding to remain at current levels at least and to do the job it was designed to do, support the producers so they have a sustainable living, while ensuring an affordable top-quality food-supply for Union citizens;*

Or. en

**Amendment 221**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 103**

*Motion for a resolution*

103. *Called on the CAP to become more competitive whilst farmer-friendly;*

*Amendment*

103. *Called on the CAP to become more environmentally-sensible whilst farmer-friendly;*

Or. en

**Amendment 222**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Monica Macovei, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulik**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 104 – subparagraph 1 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Points out that for Asylum Migration and Integration Fund/Internal Security Fund, DG HOME only reports the residual error rate since, as foreseen by the legal basis, the National Audit Authorities do not have to report to DG HOME the detected error rates (see reply to question 14, hearing Avramopoulos 18 October 2018); consequently, for AAR 2017, the error rate reported is the residual one, meaning the estimated error rate minus any*

*amounts corresponding to any corrective actions taken that have already effectively reduced the exposure;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 223**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 111**

#### *Motion for a resolution*

111. Insists that this report should analyse the impact of commitments of a given Multiannual Financial Framework;

#### *Amendment*

111. Insists that this report should analyse the impact of commitments *to the size of payments' backlog* of a given Multiannual Financial Framework;

Or. en

### **Amendment 224**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 113**

#### *Motion for a resolution*

113. Wonders why the Commission uses two sets of objectives and indicators to measure the performance of financial management: on the one hand, the Commission's Directors-General evaluate the achievement of the objectives defined in their management plan in their AARs, and, on the other, the Commission measures the performance of spending programmes via the programme statements of operational expenditure annexed to the draft budget;

#### *Amendment*

113. Wonders why the Commission uses two sets of objectives and indicators to measure the performance of financial management: on the one hand, the Commission's Directors-General evaluate the achievement of the objectives defined in their management plan in their AARs, and, on the other, the Commission measures the performance of spending programmes via the programme statements of operational expenditure annexed to the draft budget; *calls on the Commission to make its reporting based on single set of objectives and indicators;*

**Amendment 225**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 113 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**113a. Regrets that in its analysis of performance, the Commission focuses more on outputs and less on outcomes; it should be concentrating on a value-for-money approach;**

Or. en

**Amendment 226**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 115**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

115. Points out that there is no requirement for DGs or the Commission to explain in their performance reports how they used performance information in decision-making;

115. Points out that there is no requirement for DGs or the Commission to explain in their performance reports how they used performance information in decision-making; ***calls on the Commission to include such information in their future performance reports;***

Or. en

**Amendment 227**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 115**

*Motion for a resolution*

115. Points out that there is no requirement for DGs or the Commission to explain in their performance reports how they used performance information in decision-making;

*Amendment*

115. Points out that there is no requirement for DGs or the Commission to explain in their performance reports how they used performance information in decision-making; ***calls on the Commission to include such information in their future performance reports;***

Or. en

**Amendment 228**

**Marco Valli, Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 115 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***115a. Considers that there is a lack of a clear and exhaustive evaluation of the performance of programmes which would make it possible to identify programmes that did not possess clear added value, in order to carry out a spending review; calls on the Commission to include a detailed assessment in the annual management and performance report indicating which programmes are suffering from inadequate implementation;***

Or. it

**Amendment 229**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 116 – subparagraph 1 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Points out that the Communication to the Commission on the Governance in the European Commission adopted on 21***

*November 2018 does not modify the distinction made between the ‘political responsibility of Commissioners’ and the ‘operational responsibility of Directors-General’ introduced by the administrative reform of 2000;*

Or. en

**Amendment 230**  
**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Sophia in ‘t Veld**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 116 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*116a. Points out that impact assessments are an indispensable part of the policy cycle; regrets that on occasion, legislative proposals made by the Commission lack a comprehensive impact assessment; further regrets that in some cases, the Commission has failed to take fundamental rights into account; reiterates that impact assessments should be based on evidence, performed by an independent party and at all times comply with fundamental rights that are enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights;*

Or. en

**Amendment 231**  
**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulík**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 116 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*116a. Observes that it has not always been made clear whether ‘political responsibility’ encompasses responsibility*

*for the directorates-general, or is distinct from it;*

Or. en

**Amendment 232**  
**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Sophia in 't Veld**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 116 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*116b. Reiterates the findings of the European Court of Auditors' 2017 audit, indicating that the 'Commission should make better use of its own performance information and develop an internal culture more focused on performance'; consequently, calls on the Commission to incorporate performance based budgeting in their whole policy cycle;*

Or. en

**Amendment 233**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 117 – point f a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*fa) introduce or improve measures and incentives to foster a greater focus on performance in the Commission's internal culture, taking into account in particular opportunities offered by the revised Financial Regulation, the Budget Focused on Results initiative, performance reporting for on-going projects, and other sources;*

Or. en

**Amendment 234**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 117 – point f a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***fa) strengthen the focus on  
performance in the Commission's work;***

Or. en

**Amendment 235**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 117 – point f b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***fb) develop data processing methods  
for the vast quantities of data created with  
performance reporting with the goal of  
giving a timely, fair and true picture on  
achievements; insists that performance  
reporting should be used to take  
corrective action when objectives of  
programs are not met;***

Or. en

**Amendment 236**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 118**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

118. Recommends that ***the Court*** continue to provide a separate chapter for security and citizenship in its annual report and to deepen its analysis in this regard, as

118. Recommends that ***the Court*** continue to provide a separate chapter for security and citizenship in its annual report and to deepen its analysis in this regard, as

the public and political interest in the security and migration part of the Union budget is much higher than its financial share;

the public and political interest in the security and migration part of the Union budget is much higher than its financial share; ***in this regard, insists that the Court estimates the exact level of error for this chapter;***

Or. en

**Amendment 237**  
**Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 118**

*Motion for a resolution*

118. Recommends that ***the Court*** continue to provide a separate chapter for security and citizenship in its annual report and to deepen its analysis in this regard, as the public and political interest in the security and migration part of the Union budget is much higher than its financial share;

*Amendment*

118. Recommends that ***the Court*** continue to provide a separate chapter for security and citizenship in its annual report and to deepen its analysis in this regard, as the public and political interest in the security and migration part of the Union budget is much higher than its financial share;

Or. en

**Amendment 238**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 118 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

***118a. Urges the Commission to give an overview on VAT overcompensation in EU funded cohesion and rural development projects which harms the financial interests of the EU and the European taxpayers;***

*Amendment*

Or. en



**Amendment 239**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 43 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***ECA's recurrent reporting on the  
performance of the EU action***

Or. en

**Amendment 240**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 118 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***118 b. Welcomes the proposal made by the ECA in its consultation paper on 'Recurrent reporting on the performance of EU action' to annually publish, in November of year N+1, an evaluation of the performance of EU action, covering a detailed review of the performance information reported by the Commission in the article 318 TFEU evaluation report; insists once again that this report should contain in a second part a detailed review of the synthesis of the financial management of the Commission as stated in the second part of the Annual Management and performance report;***

Or. en

**Amendment 241**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 118 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**118c. Recalls that the ultimate objective of a more performance focussed audit analysis should be to put in place a global and consistent cost/benefit model assessing the implementation of the European budget;**

Or. en

**Amendment 242**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 118 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**118d. Insists that the ECA should improve the coordination between project level performance assessments carried out in the context of the Statement of Assurance work and the remainder of its performance work, through the reporting, in particular, of the main conclusions of its special reports in sectoral chapters of its Annual report;**

Or. en

**Amendment 243**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 118 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**118e. Requests the ECA to provide the discharge authorities with an assessment in terms of both compliance and performance, of each European policies, following chapter by chapter the budget**

**Amendment 244**  
**Ingeborg Gräble**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 118 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**118f. Insists that the Court puts in place an extended follow-up of its performance audit recommendations;**

**Amendment 245**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 119**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

119. Is of the opinion that the Commission's methodology for estimating its amount at risk or errors has improved over the years but that individual DGs' estimations of the level of irregular spending are not based on a consistent methodology and that the AARs of the DGs and the AMPR use a complex terminology that **could be** confusing;

119. Is of the opinion that the Commission's methodology for estimating its amount at risk or errors has improved over the years but that individual DGs' estimations of the level of irregular spending are not based on a consistent methodology and that the AARs of the DGs and the AMPR use a complex terminology that **is** confusing **to all but the most practiced, when it should be clear to all;**

**Amendment 246**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 119 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**119a. Regrets that the figure for error-rate-correction has not been published - this leads to legitimate questions over how the final figure was arrived at;**

Or. en

**Amendment 247**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 120**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

120. **Notes in particular** that the services of the Commission use **at least all the following** concepts: residual error rate, reported error rate, error rate at payment, error rate detected in the year, net residual error rate, weighted average error rate, error rate at closure or common representative error rate;

120. **Regrets** that the services of the Commission use **a wide variety of** concepts, **including:**  
residual error rate;  
reported error rate;  
error rate at payment;  
error rate detected in the year;  
net residual error rate;  
weighted average error rate;  
error rate at closure or common representative error rate.  
**In an era of transparency, this needs to change;**

Or. en

**Amendment 248**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 122**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

122. **Is concerned** that the reported global amount at risk at payment estimated

122. **Notes** that the reported global amount at risk at payment estimated by the

by the Commission in its Annual and Performance Report (AMPR) 2017 is based on figures of the individual services responsible for spending programmes which use different methods of calculation of the *risk; regrets, therefore, that the lack of harmonized* methods of calculation *undermines* the credibility of the reported global amount at risk and *does not* allow a clear picture of the situation with regard to residual error rate and the rate of risk on payment in 2017;

Commission in its Annual and Performance Report (AMPR) 2017 is based on figures of the individual services responsible for spending programmes which use different methods of calculation of the *level error reflecting different legal and organisational frameworks; underlines that further harmonisation of* methods of calculation *would increase* the credibility of the reported global amount at risk and allow a clear picture of the situation with regard to residual error rate and the rate of risk on payment in 2017;

Or. en

**Amendment 249**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 123**

*Motion for a resolution*

123. In this regard, asks the Commission to harmonise its methods for calculating error rates and to clearly distinguish the amount at risk with and without integrated financial corrections; requests also that the Commission present information about the corrective capacity for recovering unduly payments from the EU budget;

*Amendment*

123. In this regard, asks the Commission to *further* harmonise its methods for calculating error rates *taking into account the different management modes and legal bases while making the error rates comparable* and to clearly distinguish the amount at risk with and without integrated financial corrections; requests also that the Commission present information about the corrective capacity for recovering unduly payments from the EU budget;

Or. en

**Amendment 250**  
**Bart Staes**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 123**

*Motion for a resolution*

123. In this regard, asks the Commission to harmonise its methods for calculating error rates and to clearly distinguish the amount at risk with and without integrated financial corrections; requests also that the Commission present information about the corrective capacity for recovering unduly payments from the EU budget;

*Amendment*

123. In this regard, asks the Commission to harmonise its methods for calculating error rates **with the Court** and to clearly distinguish the amount at risk with and without integrated financial corrections; requests also that the Commission present information about the corrective capacity for recovering unduly payments from the EU budget;

Or. en

**Amendment 251**  
**Inés Ayala Sender**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 123**

*Motion for a resolution*

123. In this regard, asks the Commission to harmonise its methods for calculating error rates and to clearly distinguish the amount at risk with and without integrated financial corrections; requests also that the Commission present information about the corrective capacity for recovering unduly payments from the EU budget;

*Amendment*

123. In this regard, asks the Commission to **further** harmonise its methods for calculating error rates and to clearly distinguish the amount at risk with and without integrated financial corrections; requests also that the Commission present information about the corrective capacity for recovering unduly payments from the EU budget;

Or. en

**Amendment 252**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 125**

*Motion for a resolution*

125. Asks the Commission and the Member States once again to put in place sound procedures to confirm the timing,

*Amendment*

125. Asks the Commission and the Member States once again to put in place sound procedures to confirm the timing,

the origin and the amount of corrective measures and to provide information reconciling, as far as possible, the year in which payments are made, the year in which the related error is detected and the year in which recoveries or financial corrections are disclosed in the notes to the accounts;

the origin and the amount of corrective measures and to provide information reconciling, as far as possible, the year in which payments are made, the year in which the related error is detected and the year in which recoveries or financial corrections are disclosed in the notes to the accounts; *ask the Court to mention the level of correction applied to calculate the error rate in its Annual Report, as well as the original error rate before corrections;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 253**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Monica Macovei, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulik**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 126 – subparagraph 1 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Notes that if the authorising officers by delegation, when disclosing the specific areas of their expenditure for which they issue a reservation refer to the materiality threshold of 2 % only in the context of the ‘residual error rate’, they finally run the risk to underestimate the risk of error;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 254**

**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 126 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*126a. Is worried - as in previous years - how the Directorates-General calculate the error rate and about the lack of reference to the discharge year 2017, which undermines the credibility of the*

*Commission's figures, the discharge procedure and amounts to deliberately keeping the error rate low:*

*(a) the Residual Error Rate of DG DEVCO and DG NEAR does not refer to a sample of all payments for ongoing projects, but only to closed contracts, for which all controls and checks have been applied with the consequence that only pre-2017 payments, for which discharge has already been granted, have been analysed; as a result, the error rate of the Court of Auditors, collected by another method, is the only meaningful one;*

*(b) DG HOME only reports, for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund/Internal Security Fund, an error rate from which financial corrections have already been deducted; Parliament is therefore unable to understand which corrections have been made and which error rate we really face;*

*(c) Member States' Audit Authorities communicate to DG REGIO the error rates for Structural Funds after deduction of corrections which does not give a real picture of the situation of EU projects on the spot;*

*(d) states that for 2017 the Commission presented at least 13 different error rates for the programming period 2007-2013 and 2014-2020; this makes reporting unclear and confusing;*

Or. en

**Amendment 255**

**Ryszard Czarnecki, Raffaele Fitto, Monica Macovei, Beata Gosiewska, Richard Sulik**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 126 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**126a. Stresses that the Commission did**



*not disclose in its AMPR 2017 the scope of the reservations that was reported on in the AMPRs of preceding years;*

Or. en

**Amendment 256**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 126 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*126b. Is worried that the Annual Management and Performance Report compares very different figures and is therefore misleading: whereas the Court's estimated level of error is an error rate at payment and without deduction of corrections, the Commissions global amount at risk reported in the AMPR is calculated after deduction of corrections; finds the comparisons by the Commission unacceptable; calls on the Commission to separate error rates and corrections and to issue reservations before corrections and not only after to correctly estimate the risk of error;*

Or. en

**Amendment 257**  
**Ingeborg Gräßle, Petri Sarvamaa**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 126 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*126c. Supports the Court of Auditors in calculating the error rate without taking corrections into account; calls on the Commission to indicate error rates without corrections in all annual activity*

*reports and to give a clear picture on corrections due to errors;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 258**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 129**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

129. Notes that the slow absorption of funds remains a problem in some countries; is therefore of the opinion that it is appropriate to leave the “Task Force for Better Implementation” in place; notes also that the Commission has created a “Catching-up Regions” initiative; in this context, *points to* the risk of accumulating a huge backlog of commitment appropriations by the end of the financial term;

###### *Amendment*

129. Notes that the slow absorption of funds remains a problem in some countries; is therefore of the opinion that it is appropriate to leave the “Task Force for Better Implementation” in place; notes also that the Commission has created a “Catching-up Regions” initiative; in this context *can not stress enough* the risk of *potential political and financial damage caused by* accumulating a huge backlog of commitment appropriations by the end of the financial term;

Or. en

### **Amendment 259**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Subheading 46**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

Conflicts of interest and fight against fraud

###### *Amendment*

Conflicts of interest and fight against fraud *and corruption*

Or. en

**Amendment 260**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 46**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Conflicts of interest*** and fight against fraud

***Rule of law*** and fight against fraud

Or. en

**Amendment 261**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Subheading 46 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Czech Republic:***

Or. en

**Amendment 262**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 129 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***129a. Recalls the European Parliament Resolution of 13th December 2018 on conflicts of interest and the protection of the EU budget in the Czech Republic; reiterates its concern about the Czech Republic's non-compliance with Article 61(1) of the Financial Regulation regarding the conflict of interest of the Czech Prime Minister and his links to the Agrofert Group;***

Or. en

**Amendment 263**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 129 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***129b. Recalls the letter Commissioner Oettinger sent to the Czech Prime Minister, in which it is stated that the Commission considers that his position qualifies as a situation which may objectively be perceived as a conflict of interest and that action to remedy this situation is urgently needed; in addition points out that the recommendation proposed by the Commission - notably Prime Minister withdrawn from the Governing Council for European Structural and Investment Funds, and his abstention from participating in decisions which concerns his interests - was qualified as insufficient while remaining Prime Minister, by the Legal Service of the Commission in its opinion;***

Or. en

**Amendment 264**  
**Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 129 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***129c. Take note of the decision of the Czech Prime Minister to comply with this recommendation but regrets that the Commission proposed and agreed to a measure that, with the view to the functioning and powers of the Prime Minister, the Legal Service itself doubts could adequately address the above***

*mentioned conflict of interest;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 265**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 130**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

130. Deplores any kind of ***conflict of interest*** that could compromise the implementation of the Union budget and undermine the trust of Union citizens in the proper management of Union taxpayers' money; calls on the Commission to ensure that a zero tolerance policy with no double standards will apply regarding ***conflicts of interest***;

###### *Amendment*

130. Deplores any kind of ***threats to breach the values stated in Article 2 of the TEU*** that could compromise the implementation of the Union budget and undermine the trust of Union citizens in the proper management of Union taxpayers' money; calls on the Commission to ensure that a zero tolerance policy with no double standards will apply regarding ***any breach of EU law***;

Or. en

### **Amendment 266**

**Wolf Klinz**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 130 a (new)**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

###### *Amendment*

***130a. Calls on the Commission to enforce European Parliament's resolution of 17 May 2017 on the situation in Hungary, Commission Recommendation regarding the rule of law in Poland complementary to Commission Recommendations (EU) 2016/1374, (EU) 2017/146 and (EU) 2017/1520 and Reasoned Proposal in Accordance with Article 7(1) of the Treaty on European Union regarding the Rule of Law in Poland of 20 December 2017;***

**Amendment 267**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 130 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**130a. In this regard calls on the Commission to fully investigate the Conflict of Interests of the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic as demanded by the parliament's resolution of December 2018;**

Or. en

**Amendment 268**

**Martina Dlabajová, Wolf Klinz, Nedzhmi Ali**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 131**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

131. Calls on the Commission to **make a** strategy for the active avoidance of conflicts of interest as one of its priorities with an adapted strategy of ex ante and ex-post control; calls on the commission, OLAF and the future EPPO to include in this strategy the protection both of whistleblowers and of investigative journalists;

131. Calls on the Commission to **create a unified Europe-wide** strategy for the active avoidance of conflicts of interest as one of its priorities with an adapted strategy of ex ante and ex-post control; calls on the commission, OLAF and the future EPPO to include in this strategy the protection both of whistleblowers and of investigative journalists;

Or. en

**Amendment 269**

**Laura Agea, Fabio Massimo Castaldo**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 131 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**131a.** *Expresses its concern about the conflict of interests in the use of agricultural funds in the Czech Republic, where the Prime Minister is the owner of Agrofert, which receives agricultural grants from the Union budget; notes with concern that Agrofert also owns a communication company; considers this conflict of interests to be unacceptable and calls on the Commission to conclude without delay the investigation of the case and to inform Parliament of the action taken;*

Or. it

**Amendment 270**

**Tomáš Zdechovský, Claudia Schmidt, Patricija Šulin, Ivan Štefanec**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 132 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**132a.** *Notes with deep regret that the leaked letter from the Commissioner Oettinger to the Czech PM Mr Babiš offers to the latter one a leeway in his conflict of interest situation, instead of putting the protection of the financial interests of the European Union on the first place, by proposing him to abstain from participation on decisions that concern his personal interest; considers this to be an absolutely insufficient course of action and demands that the Commission takes appropriate measures in this matter that will not only protect the financial interests of the Union but that will set a precedent for similar future cases based on applicable legal framework;*

**Amendment 271**

**Bart Staes**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 132 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***132a. Calls on the Commission to also conduct a regular assessment of the anti corruption policies in the Member States; and to publish an annual report with key findings and recommendations; also highlights that an independent external assessment of the anti corruption policies of the EU institutions themselves should be conducted on a regular basis with a view to eliminating corruption risks;***

Or. en

**Amendment 272**

**Dennis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 132 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***132a. Welcomes the fact that the Commission publishes meetings of Commissioners with interest representatives; regrets, however that the subject matter discussed during the meetings is not included in the Register, calls on the Commission to complete the register by including the content of the meetings;***

Or. en



**Amendment 273**

**Dennis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 132 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***132b. Notes that according to the Corruption Perceptions Index 2018, the situation in a large number of Member States has not improved or has even deteriorated; calls on the Commission to finally submit to Parliament a follow-up to its anticorruption report of 2015, describing, preferably on an annual basis, the situation with respect to anti-corruption policies in the Member States as well as in the European Institutions;***

Or. en

**Amendment 274**

**Dennis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 132 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***132c. Underlines that former Commissioners shall not lobby Commissioners or their staff on behalf of their own business, that of their employer client, on matters for which they were responsible within their portfolio for a period of two years after ceasing to hold their office; calls on the Commission to bring this cooling off period in line with that for the President, i.e. three years;***

Or. en

**Amendment 275**

**Dennis de Jong**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 132 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***132d. Stresses that the opinions of the Ethical Committee on conflicts of interest must be proactively produced by the Committee, especially for Commissioners who leave the service; furthermore, stresses that the composition of the Ethical Committee should be strengthened with members from international organisations, such as OECD, and NGOs with expertise in the field of integrity policies;***

Or. en

**Amendment 276**  
**Dennis de Jong, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 132 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***132e. Recalls that in its resolution of 18 April 2018 on the Integrity Policy of the Commission, Parliament expressed its concerns with the appointment procedures for its senior officials; urges the Commission to continue the discussion with Parliament on the implementation of the various recommendations contained in Parliament's resolution;***

Or. en