AMENDMENTS
1 - 66

Draft report
Ryszard Czarnecki
(PE657.227v01-00)

Report on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Union agencies for the financial year 2019: performance, financial management and control
(2020/2194(DEC))
Amendment 1
Arnaud Danjean

Motion for a resolution
Recital B a (new)

Motion for a resolution Amendment
B a. Whereas Union agencies should focus on missions with clear European added value and their organisation should be optimised to avoid overlaps in the best interests of the Union taxpayer;

Or. en

Amendment 2
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1

Motion for a resolution Amendment
1. Welcomes the progress made by the agencies in their efforts to respond to the requests and recommendations expressed within the previous annual discharge procedure;

Or. en

Amendment 3
Sándor Rónai, Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Motion for a resolution Amendment
1 a. Emphasises that the agencies have significant influence on policy- and decision-making, and programme preparation and implementation in areas of vital importance to Union citizens’
daily lives, such as health, safety, security, freedom and justice; reiterates the importance of agencies in addressing specific policy needs and to reinforce European cooperation; notes that the agencies can also act as frontrunners to solve crisis situations or long-term societal challenges;

**Amendment 4**
Younous Omarjee

**Motion for a resolution**
**Paragraph 2**

Motion for a resolution

2. Notes with satisfaction that, according to the annual report of the Court of Auditors (the 'Court') on Union agencies for the financial year 2019 (the 'Court’s report'), the Court issued an unqualified audit opinion on the reliability of the accounts of all agencies; notes in addition that the Court issued an unqualified opinion on the legality and regularity of the revenue underlying the accounts for all agencies; observes that the Court issued an unqualified opinion on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts for all agencies, except for the European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) and the European Asylum Support Office (EASO);

**Amendment**

2. Notes with satisfaction that, according to the annual report of the Court of Auditors (the 'Court') on Union agencies for the financial year 2019 (the 'Court’s report'), the Court issued an unqualified audit opinion on the reliability of the accounts of all agencies; notes in addition that the Court issued an unqualified opinion on the legality and regularity of the revenue underlying the accounts for all agencies; observes that the Court issued an unqualified opinion on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts for all agencies, except for the European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) and the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) for which a qualified opinion was issued;

**Amendment 5**
Younous Omarjee

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

PE680.803v01-00 4/36 AM\1223453EN.docx
Amendment 6
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7

7. Notes that the level of detail provided in the budgetary implementation reports of a minority of agencies differs from that of the majority, which demonstrates the need for clearer guidelines on agencies’ budget reporting, including the need for agencies to explain significant deviations from the original budget and/or establishment plans; deplores the reply of the Commission to the request to automatically provide the discharge authority with the official budget (in commitment appropriations and in payment appropriations) and staff figures (establishment plan figures with permanent staff, temporary agents, contract agents and seconded national experts as of 31 December of the year in question) in respect of the 32 decentralised agencies, as the mentioned guidelines (which in reality are templates that mostly provide guidance on form and not substance) are not

Amendment

6 a. Takes note of the main areas of observation of the Court, which focus on:
- public procurement management which remains the most error prone area;
- recruitment procedures and conflicts of interest for staff leaving a Union Agency and joining the private sector which need to be managed better by agencies;
- budgetary management where the Court identified several weaknesses;

Or. en

7. Regrets that the level of detail provided in the budgetary implementation reports of a minority of agencies differs from that of the majority, which demonstrates the need for clearer and standardised guidelines on agencies’ budget reporting, including the need for agencies to explain significant deviations from the original budget and/or establishment plans; highlights the urgent need for all agencies to improve their planning capacities; deplores the reply of the Commission to the request to automatically provide the discharge authority with the official budget (in commitment appropriations and in payment appropriations) and staff figures (establishment plan figures with permanent staff, temporary agents, contract agents and seconded national experts as of 31 December of the year in question) in respect of the 32 decentralised agencies, as
sufficient to address the differences in calculations between the reports; reiterates its request to the Commission to provide the discharge authority with the official budget and staff figures for each agency and to provide consolidated figures for the decentralised agencies that are subject to the Parliament’s discharge procedure; the mentioned guidelines (which in reality are templates that mostly provide guidance on form and not substance) are not sufficient to address the differences in calculations between the reports; reiterates its request to the Commission to provide the discharge authority with the official budget and staff figures for each agency and to provide consolidated figures for the decentralised agencies that are subject to the Parliament’s discharge procedure; calls on the Commission to adopt a centralised set of guidelines on reporting and KPIs-setting to ensure proper measurement of the agencies’ performance;

Amendment 7
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mițuța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7 a (new)

7 a. Considers that greater attention should be paid to relevance and coherence, particularly in the context of overlapping areas of competence, when setting up future agencies;

Amendment 8
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mițuța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7 b (new)

7 b. Believes that resources should be allocated more flexibly based on need or
urgency;

Amendment 9
Younous Omarjee
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 a (new)

8 a. Welcomes the Court publication of the first ever horizontal performance audit on all Union agencies through the 'Special Report 22/2020: Future of EU Agencies - Potential for more flexibility and cooperation';

Amendment 10
Younous Omarjee
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 b (new)

8 b. Takes note of the main observations of the Court, in particular the fact agencies deal with topical societal subjects and have an high potential for future development as well as an high grade of expertise;

Amendment 11
Younous Omarjee
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 c (new)
Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8 c. Agrees with the Court that despite the fact agencies carry out important tasks in all spheres of our daily life, there is clear difficulty in building trust with individual citizens; in this regards highlights the issue of accountability, transparency and even effectiveness, in addition to the lack of public knowledge since agencies remain largely unknown to citizens and only negative incidents appear in media;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Tomáš Zdechovský, Romana Tomč, Ádám Kósa, Andrey Novakov, Lefteris Christoforou

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9

9. Notes the Court’s finding in its report *on the Future of EU Agencies* that agencies measure performance through key performance indicators (KPIs) and that the Commission in 2015 issued guidelines for directors of agencies on KPIs; notes with regret that the indicators used in practice mainly relate to the implementation of an agency’s annual work programme, budget and its human resources management, and that they do not usually allow for the assessment of results or of the agency’s efficiency and effectiveness in discharging its mandate; calls on the agencies to work together to improve the use of KPIs with the aim of ensuring a stronger focus on performance in the discharge procedure, in addition to compliance;

9. Notes the Court’s finding in its report *Future of EU Agencies* that agencies measure performance through key performance indicators (KPIs) and that the Commission in 2015 issued guidelines for directors of agencies on KPIs; notes with regret that the indicators used in practice mainly relate to the implementation of an agency’s annual work programme, budget and its human resources management, and that they do not usually allow for an agency’s overall performance assessment of results or of the agency’s efficiency and effectiveness in discharging its mandate; calls on the agencies to work together to improve the use of KPIs with the aim of ensuring a stronger focus on performance in the discharge procedure, in addition to compliance; calls on the agencies to continue developing indicators, which will measure their contribution to the policy implementation of Union policies; urges the agencies to regularly review and
amendment 13
bas eickhout
on behalf of the greens/efa group

motion for a resolution
paragraph 9

9. Notes the Court’s finding in its report on the Future of EU agencies that agencies measure performance through key performance indicators (KPIs) and that the Commission in 2015 issued guidelines for directors of agencies on KPIs; notes with regret that the indicators used in practice mainly relate to the implementation of an agency’s annual work programme, budget and its human resources management, and that they do not usually allow for the assessment of results or of the agency’s efficiency and effectiveness in discharging its mandate; calls on the agencies to work together to improve the use of KPIs with the aim of ensuring a stronger focus on performance in the discharge procedure, in addition to compliance;

amendment

9. Notes the Court’s finding in its report on the future of Union agencies that agencies measure performance through key performance indicators (KPIs) and that the Commission in 2015 issued guidelines for directors of agencies on KPIs; notes with regret that the indicators used in practice mainly relate to the implementation of an agency’s annual work programme, budget and its human resources management, and that they do not usually allow for the assessment of results or of the agency’s efficiency and effectiveness in discharging its mandate; urges the agencies to improve joint cooperation and efforts in definition and the use of KPIs with the aim of ensuring a stronger focus on performance in the discharge procedure, in addition to compliance;

amendment 14
tomáš zdechovský, romana tomc, andrey novakov, lefteris christoforou

motion for a resolution
paragraph 9 a (new)

9 a. Recalls that the Common Approach states that every Union Agency should be evaluated every five years and
that the Commission should be responsible for organising evaluation and for every second evaluation the sunset clause should be applied; notes with regret that the founding regulations of several agencies have not yet been aligned with the Common Approach; notes the Court’s finding in its report on the Future of EU agencies that the founding regulations of 13 agencies were recast between 2015 and 2019, but only five proposals were accompanied by an impact assessment; calls on the Commission to regularly conduct independent evaluation of the performance of the agencies to identify synergies and possible changes, including mergers;

Or. en

Amendment 15
Younous Omarjee

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 a. Notes that the Court, while trying to identify the conditions to allow agencies to achieve their objectives, highlights the need for more financial and policy flexibility as well as a more structural and coherent governance model where performance information focus on outputs rather than on their contribution to policy implementation;

Or. en

Amendment 16
Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 10 a (new)
Motion for a resolution

Amendment

10 a. Highlights the conclusion of the Court’s Special Report ‘Future of EU Agencies’ that information on performance of Union agencies is scarce; urges agencies to strengthen performance accountability; expects all Union agencies to cooperate as optimally as possible with the Commission and the Court in the provision of performance information;

Or. en

Amendment 17
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituţa, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 10 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

10 a. insists on better combating overlapping subjects and areas of competence between the different agencies;

Or. en

Amendment 18
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituţa, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 10 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

10 b. Calls on the agencies to continue to develop their synergies, increase cooperation and exchange of good practices with other Union agencies with a view to improve efficiency (human resources, building management, IT services and security);
Amendment 19
Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 10 b (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

10 b. Points to the positive example given by ECDC on the cooperation with other Union agencies, including through the European Union Agencies Network (the 'Network'); encourages the agencies to cooperate and exchange best practices where possible, including e.g. on teleworking;

Amendment 20
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituţa, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 10 c (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

10 c. Recalls the importance to increase the digitalisation of the agencies in terms of internal operation and management but also in order to speed up the digitalisation of procedures; stresses the need for the Agency to continue to be proactive in this regard in order to avoid a digital gap between the agencies at all costs; draws attention, however, to the need to take all the necessary security measures to avoid any risk to the online security of the information processed;
Amendment 21
Amendment 22
Amendment 23

Amendment

10 d. Believes that it would be necessary to strengthen the role of the agencies as centers of expertise and network;

10 e. Believes that clear rules should be put in place concerning the evolution and termination of agencies’ missions;

10 f. Believes that an impact assessment should be carried out for each agency and that a review clause on the interest of the agency should be added systematically;
Amendment 24
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11

11. Notes that the 32 decentralised agencies employed a total of 7,880 members of staff, comprising officials, temporary agents, contract agents and seconded national experts, in 2019 (compared to 7,626 in 2018), representing an increase of 3.33% compared with the previous year;

11. Notes that the 32 decentralised agencies employed a total of 7,880 members of staff, comprising officials, temporary agents, contract agents and seconded national experts, in 2019 (compared to 7,626 in 2018), representing an important increase of 3.33% compared with the previous year;

Amendment 25
Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11 a (new)

11 a. Notes that in 2019, at the level of senior management, an even gender balance was reported by three agencies, a good balance was achieved by ten agencies, but that there was no gender balance in 16 agencies (four of them featured male-only representation and one of them only female representation); calls on the agencies to increase their efforts towards better gender balance among management staff;

Amendment 26
Sándor Rónai, Isabel García Muñoz, Lara Wolters
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11 b (new)

11 b. Notes further that in terms of gender balance in management boards in 2019, there was no agency with an even gender balance, a good balance existed in seven agencies, and there was no gender balance in 14 management boards; asks the Member States and the relevant organisations that participate in management boards to take into account the importance of ensuring gender balance when nominating their members to an Agency’s management board;

Or. en

Amendment 27
Sándor Rónai, Isabel García Muñoz, Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11 c (new)

11 c. Notes further that, as regards overall staff, eight agencies have an even gender balance, 19 agencies have a good gender balance and three agencies have no gender balance; calls on the agencies to continue to strive for a good gender balance in the future;

Or. en

Amendment 28
Sándor Rónai, Isabel García Muñoz, Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11 d (new)
Motion for a resolution

11 d. Notes with concern that in 2019 only 34 % of members of the highest decision-making bodies of all Union agencies were women and recalls that gender balance must be ensured within the Union agencies in accordance with the basic regulations establishing them; asks, therefore, that the Union agencies collect and present data on gender balance for all categories of management staff (from the lowest to the highest level) to gather the basic data on which the Union agencies are encouraged to address the gender imbalance in management and pursue gender mainstreaming in all fields;

Amendment

11 d. Notes with concern that in 2019 only 34 % of members of the highest decision-making bodies of all Union agencies were women and recalls that gender balance must be ensured within the Union agencies in accordance with the basic regulations establishing them; asks, therefore, that the Union agencies collect and present data on gender balance for all categories of management staff (from the lowest to the highest level) to gather the basic data on which the Union agencies are encouraged to address the gender imbalance in management and pursue gender mainstreaming in all fields;

Amendment 29
Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12

12. Notes that the geographical balance of staff of Union agencies follows the population of the Member States as a percentage of the EU27 slightly more closely than the geographical balance of staff of the Commission; notes an underrepresentation for eight Member States, an over representation for seventeen Member States and an approximate balance for two Member States;

Motion for a resolution

12. Notes that the geographical balance of staff of Union agencies follows the population of the Member States as a percentage of the EU27 slightly more closely than the geographical balance of staff of the Commission; notes an underrepresentation for eight Member States, an over representation for seventeen Member States and an approximate balance for two Member States; regrets the lack of policies across agencies to improve diversity among its staff; calls on agencies, as well as the European Union Agencies Network (the 'Network'), to put forward plans to achieve this goal;

Amendment

12. Notes that the geographical balance of staff of Union agencies follows the population of the Member States as a percentage of the EU27 slightly more closely than the geographical balance of staff of the Commission; notes an underrepresentation for eight Member States, an over representation for seventeen Member States and an approximate balance for two Member States; regrets the lack of policies across agencies to improve diversity among its staff; calls on agencies, as well as the European Union Agencies Network (the 'Network'), to put forward plans to achieve this goal;
Amendment 30
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

12 a. Expresses its concern that in the vast majority of agencies there is a lack of gender balance in the overall management staff; deplores that gender equality is completely absent in the 2021-2027 Strategy for the European Union Agencies Network (the 'Network'); calls on the agencies and the Network to integrate gender equality in their strategies and to align the ambition of agencies with the aim of the Commission to reach gender balance of 50% at all levels of its management by the end of 2024;

Amendment

12 a. Expresses its concern that in the vast majority of agencies there is a lack of gender balance in the overall management staff; deplores that gender equality is completely absent in the 2021-2027 Strategy for the European Union Agencies Network (the 'Network'); calls on the agencies and the Network to integrate gender equality in their strategies and to align the ambition of agencies with the aim of the Commission to reach gender balance of 50% at all levels of its management by the end of 2024;

Or. en

Amendment 31
Younous Omarjee

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13

Motion for a resolution

13. Notes that the agencies reported an average of 8.42 days of sick leave per member of staff per year; notes that there is at present no reliable data available to give an overview of sick leave caused by burnout, mainly because several agencies reported that they could not provide the relevant information due to medical confidentiality;

Amendment

13. Notes that the agencies reported an average of 8.42 days of sick leave per member of staff per year; regrets that there is at present no reliable data available to give an overview of sick leave caused by burnout, mainly because several agencies reported that they could not provide the relevant information due to medical confidentiality;

Or. en
Amendment 32
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14 a (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

14 a. Underlines the important effect of turnover within the staff of the Union agencies, calls for the implementation of human and social policies to remedy it;

Or. en

Amendment 33
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

15. Notes that some of the agencies are facing the challenge of insufficient staff, especially when new tasks are allocated without matching personnel for their implementation, and that the discharge authority is particularly concerned about the difficulties that some agencies experience in hiring qualified staff at specific grades, a fact which hinders the overall performance of the agencies and necessitates the employment of external actors; notes in this regard recommendations 1 and 2 of the Court in its report on the Future of EU Agencies (Special Report 22/2020) as regards the increased need for flexibility, and encourages the Network and the Commission to work together on the implementation of these recommendations; notes further in this regard that the Court’s Special Report on the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO) (Special Report 23/2020) highlights the fact that the
current selection process makes Union institutions look for more flexible selection procedures to fulfil their immediate recruitment needs; further notes the Union institutions’ need for more specialised personnel, which in the case of agencies is essential given their specific mandates; calls on the Commission, and in particular on EPSO, to better facilitate the agencies in this regard; selection process makes Union institutions look for more flexible selection procedures to fulfil their immediate recruitment needs; emphasises the Union institutions’ need for more specialised personnel, which in the case of agencies is essential given their specific mandates; calls on the Commission, and in particular on EPSO, to better facilitate the agencies in this regard and to adapt its recruitment policies in a way that would attract best qualified and specialised staff; asks the Commission and EPSO to show a degree of flexibility in adapting the job offers to the particular conditions, to ensure efficient recruitment; highlights the importance of improving Union’s selection procedures and job attractiveness; stresses that understaffing of agencies poses serious risk of negative impact on the performance, as well as on staff’s wellbeing and turnover;

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5 OJ C 358, 26.10.2020, p. 6

Amendment 34
Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15 a. Welcomes the Union agencies’ efforts to build a more diverse and inclusive work environment and culture by taking actions in favour of people with disabilities, asks the institution to assess the possibilities of further strengthening and integrating the principles of equal opportunities in recruitment, training, career development, working conditions as well as to raise staff awareness of these aspects; and on the possible reasonable
improvements and modifications of the institutions' buildings (access, adequate office equipment) for people with reduced mobility or other disabilities;

Amendment 35
Sándor Rónai, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

15 a. Notes that the agencies reported a total number of six former Members of European Parliament (MEPs), former Commissioners or former high-level officials that performed paid duties for an agency and that it concerned four former MEPs, one former Commissioner and one former high-level official; notes that these persons received indemnities and reimbursements for costs made;

Amendment 36
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituţa, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

15 a. Encourages the agencies to pursue the development of a long term Human Resources policy framework which addresses the work-life balance, the lifelong guidance and career development, the gender balance, the teleworking, the geographical balance and the recruitment and integration of people with disabilities;

Or. en
Amendment 37
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 b (new)

Amendment

15 b. Regrets that some Member States have requested and succeeded in having an agency on their territory, without providing facilities for their installation and without taking measures to increase the attractiveness of staff recruitment;

Amendment 38
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 c (new)

Amendment

15 c. Is concerned about the large size of some agency boards of directors deemed too big by the Court and therefore making it difficult to take decisions and generating considerable administrative costs;

Amendment 39
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16
16. Notes that the Court identified weaknesses in agencies’ recruitment procedures concerning the management of potential conflicts of interests (one agency), the application of the principle of equal treatment and/or transparency (three agencies), and keeping a proper audit trail of the procedure (one agency); deplores that there were cases (in at least three agencies) of panel members in significant conflict of interest with relation to the ongoing selection procedure; stresses that undeclared conflicts of interest can hinder selection procedures, causing substantial delays and loss of funds, as well as reputational damages to the agencies;

Amendment

16. Notes that the Court identified weaknesses in agencies’ recruitment procedures concerning the management of potential conflicts of interests (one agency), the application of the principle of equal treatment and/or transparency (three agencies), and keeping a proper audit trail of the procedure (one agency); deplores that there were cases (in at least three agencies) of panel members in significant conflict of interest with relation to the ongoing selection procedure; stresses that undeclared conflicts of interest can hinder selection procedures, causing substantial delays and loss of funds, as well as reputational damages to the agencies;

Amendment 40
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16 a (new)

16 a. Notes that the Ombudsman found two instances of maladministration in case 2168/2019/KR on the European Banking Authority’s decision to approve the request from its Executive Director to become CEO of a financial lobby group; welcomes the recommendations made by the Ombudsman in this case, notably to invoke the option of forbidding its senior staff from taking up certain positions after the end of their term-of-office where necessary, to set out criteria for when it will forbid such moves in the future and to put in place internal procedures to cut access to confidential information with immediate effect in case staff moves to another employment; calls on all agencies to implement these recommendations asa
Amendment 41
Younous Omarjee

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16 a (new)

16 a. Welcomes the more detailed and structured information provided on the gender balance in the agencies;

Amendment

Amendment 42
Younous Omarjee

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16 b (new)

16 b. Remains unsatisfied with the gender balance among overall staff, senior management and management boards in most of the agencies; calls on the agencies, as well as the Member States and relevant organisations when it comes to appointing their representatives in the management boards, to increase their efforts to improve gender balance at all levels;

Amendment

Amendment 43
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

16 b. Stresses the importance of a staff well-being policy; stresses that agencies should provide for decent, high quality working conditions for all staff;

Or. en

Amendment 44
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

16 c. Expresses concern that some agencies relied strongly and over extended periods of time on interim workers; deplores the fact that in some cases the interim workers were paid less than agency staff employed on the same position; notes with concern that there were compliance issues identified in procurement and signature of contracts and framework agreements with recruitment of interim workers; calls on the agencies to diligently comply with the rules of procedure; reiterates calls to improve planning measures and selection procedures across the agencies;

Or. en

Amendment 45
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16 d (new)
16 d. Recognises the steps towards establishing of the harassment-free environment taken by the agencies, such as the additional training for the staff and the management as well as the introduction of the confidential councillors; encourages the agencies which have not yet introduced such steps to do so and agencies which have received harassment related complains to treat these as a priority;

Amendment 46
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 17

Amendment

17. Notes with concern that the Court made 82 observations addressing areas for improvement in 29 agencies; notes that most observations concern shortcomings in public procurement procedures and that this was also the case in 2018; notes that these shortcomings mostly concern sound financial management and regularity; urges the agencies to implement recommendations and eliminate shortcomings; reiterates calls on the Commission to improve its efforts to implement clear and unified budgetary measures and procedures in agencies to tackle the identified issues reoccurring in majority of the agencies;

Amendment 47
Lara Wolters
17 a. Highlights the conclusion of the Court's report 'Future of EU Agencies' that the vast majority of agencies still do not publish sustainability reports; calls on agencies to introduce sustainability reporting, which would include the social aspects of procurement, and to align its reporting with the OECD work on Public Procurement and Responsible Business Conduct and the upcoming Union legislation on corporate due diligence; believes that by incorporating responsible business standards in its procurement and purchasing policies, agencies can safeguard the public interest and ensure the accountability of public spending;

Amendment 48
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

17 a. Welcomes the increased use of e-procurement tools by Union agencies; notes that the most common e-PRIOR modules used by agencies are e-tendering, e-submission and e-invoicing; calls on the Network of Procurement Officers (NAPO) to accelerate the provision of the Public Procurement Management Tool (PPMT) of JRC to agencies;
Amendment 49
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 18

18. Notes with concern that it remains the case that not all agencies have published on their websites the declarations of interest for members of the management boards, executive leadership and seconded experts; regrets the fact that some agencies still publish declarations of absence of conflicts of interests; highlights that it is not up to the board members or executives to declare themselves to have an absence of conflicts of interests; reiterates its calls for a unified model of declarations of interest to be implemented by all agencies; stresses the importance of establishing an independent ethics body to assess conflict of interest and revolving door situations throughout the institutions, agencies and other bodies of the Union; urges the Member States to ensure that all seconded experts publish their respective declarations of interest and CVs on the respective agency websites;

Amendment

18. Deplores that it remains the case that not all Agencies have published on their websites the CVs and declarations of interest for members of the management boards, executive leadership and seconded experts; regrets the fact that some agencies still publish self-declarations of absence of conflicts of interests; stresses that it is not up to the board members or executives to declare themselves to have an absence of conflicts of interests; reiterates its calls for a unified model of declarations of interest to be implemented by all agencies; urges all agencies to review and improve their transparency; stresses the importance of establishing an independent ethics body to assess conflict of interest and revolving door situations throughout the institutions, agencies and other bodies of the Union; urges the Member States to ensure that all seconded experts and senior management publish their respective declarations of interest and CVs on the respective agency websites;

Or. en

Amendment 50
Sándor Rónai, Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 18

18. Notes with concern that it remains the case that not all agencies have published on their websites the declarations of interest for members of the management

Amendment

18. Notes with concern that it remains the case that not all agencies have published on their websites the CVs and the declarations of interest for members of
boards, executive leadership and seconded experts; regrets the fact that some agencies still publish declarations of absence of conflicts of interests; highlights that it is not up to the board members or executives to declare themselves to have an absence of conflicts of interests; reiterates its calls for a unified model of declarations of interest to be implemented by all agencies; stresses the importance of establishing an independent ethics body to assess conflict of interest and revolving door situations throughout the institutions, agencies and other bodies of the Union; urges the Member States to ensure that all seconded experts publish their respective declarations of interest and CVs on the respective agency websites;

the management boards, executive leadership and seconded experts; regrets the fact that some agencies still publish declarations of absence of conflicts of interests; highlights that it is not up to the board members or executives to declare themselves to have an absence of conflicts of interests; reiterates its calls for a unified model of declarations of interest to be implemented by all agencies; stresses the importance of reinforcing the existing rules, improving their implementation and encouraging the homogenisation to assess or deal with conflict of interest and revolving door situations throughout the institutions, agencies and other bodies of the Union; urges the Member States to ensure that all seconded experts publish their respective declarations of interest and CVs on the respective agency websites;

Or. en

Amendment 51
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 18 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

18 a. Calls to bring whistleblower protection policies of all Union agencies in line with Directive (EU) 2019/1937 on the protection of persons who report breaches of Union law;

Or. en

Amendment 52
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 19
Motion for a resolution

19. Notes that the study “Conflicts of Interests and EU Agencies”, which was published in January 2020, concluded that one should not strive for achieving a one-size-fits all conflicts of interests policy for all agencies, that conflicts of interests policies should remain flexible and agency-specific as regards the system for assessment of conflicts of interests, the modalities of the internal investigations and the protection for whistleblowers as well the need to create an internal advisory body; acknowledges the need for a tailored policy for each agency; notes however that this should not result in complacency; urges the agencies to continually assess and improve their policies given the instances of assumed or perceived conflicts of interests which occurred in 2019;

Amendment

19. Notes that the study “Conflicts of Interests and EU Agencies”, which was published in January 2020, concluded that transparency is the main principle that should underpin the agencies’ policies so as to enable effective public scrutiny; acknowledges the differences in risk factors, size and external pressure among agencies and the need to adapt conflict of interest policies to those differences; notes the recommendations made in this study to improve conflict of interest rules and to achieve more coherence and consistency and urges the agencies to follow up on these recommendations and continually assess and improve their policies given the instances of assumed or perceived conflicts of interests which occurred in 2019;

Amendment 53
Sándor Rónai, Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 19 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

19 a. Notes with concern that not all agencies report the meetings that the agencies’ staff has with external stakeholders, in particular the management level’s meetings with organisations and self-employed individuals; calls on the agencies to report and to make available the meetings on the agencies’ website in order to enhance the transparency of their activities;

Amendment

Or. en
Amendment 54
Younous Omarjee

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 19 a (new)

19 a. Calls on all agencies to participate in the interinstitutional agreement on the transparency register for interest representatives under negotiation between the Commission, the Council and Parliament;

Amendment 55
Younous Omarjee

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 19 b (new)

19 b. Reiterates its concern that agencies which receive a large part of their revenues as fees paid by the industry are more prone to the risk of the conflict of interests and their professional independence; calls on the agencies and the Commission to reduce dependency on industry fees;

Amendment 56
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 20

20. Acknowledges the Court’s
observation that, when using inter-institutional contracts, agencies remain responsible for the application of public procurement principles for their specific purchases, and that agencies’ internal controls must ensure that these principles are respected;

observation that, when using inter-institutional contracts, agencies remain responsible for the application of public procurement principles for their specific purchases, stresses that agencies’ internal controls must ensure that these principles are respected;

Amendment 57
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 21

21. Notes that at the end of 2019, most agencies reported that they had implemented the revised internal control framework and have performed an annual assessment; reiterates its calls for the adoption and implementation of the internal control framework by all agencies in order to align their internal control in the with international best practice, and to make sure that internal control effectively and efficiently supports the decision-making process;

21. Notes that at the end of 2019, most agencies reported that they had implemented the revised internal control framework and have performed an annual assessment; urges for the adoption and implementation of the internal control framework by all agencies in order to align their internal control in the with international best practice, and to make sure that internal control effectively and efficiently supports the decision-making process; deplores the fact that in 2019 in some agencies there was no audit procedures conducted by the IAS;

Amendment 58
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 22

22. Notes that in 2019, according to the

22. Notes that in 2019, according to the
Court’s report concerning follow-up of previous years’ observations, 98 observations were closed, 71 observations were still being implemented, and 16 observations were deemed to be not under the agencies’ (sole) control, meaning that major decisions concerning these 16 observations need to be taken by the Court of Justice of the European Union, the Commission or the Member States; calls on the Agencies to diligently implement the observations and further improve its internal control frameworks;

Or. en

Amendment 59
Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 23 a (new)

23 a. Points out that a complex approach is needed in order to make the Union agencies’ home pages accessible to persons with all kind of disabilities as foreseen in Directive (EU) 2016/2102, including the availability of national sign languages; suggests that organisations representing disabled persons are involved in this process;

Or. en

Amendment 60
Tomáš Zdechovský, Romana Tomec, Andrey Novakov, Lefteris Christoforou

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24 a (new)

24 a. Recalls that agencies were created for specific needs and that significant
numbers of agencies were set up as
reflection to certain crisis; agrees with the
Court’s position in its report 'Future of
EU Agencies' that the role of an agency
needs to be reassessed at different stages
of its operational period in order to verify
whether an agency is still relevant and
whether its actions are coherent with
other agencies and their partner DGs;

Amendment 61
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24 a (new)

24 a. Highlights risks of external IT
consultancy and outsourcing the
management of budgetary or staffing-
related exercises;

Amendment 62
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24 b (new)

24 b. Expresses its concern that most
Agencies did not publish a sustainability
report and did not report on the
sustainability of the Agency in their
Annual Report; calls on all agencies to
ensure comprehensive strategies for
sustainable development, to fully integrate
sustainability in their reporting
information and to ensure swift
implementation of the European eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS) as recommended by the Court of Auditors; calls on all Agencies to strengthen their efforts in adopting digitalised operating solutions; calls on the Agencies to pay due attention to the energy mix of its sources of electricity and encourages the procurement of electricity generated by renewable energy;

Or. en

Amendment 63
Sándor Rónai, Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova, Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24 a (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

24 a. Emphasises the importance of sustainability reporting in all Union agencies; notes with concern that only one Union agency, the European Union Intellectual Property Office, publishes a sustainability report; reiterates its call on the agencies to integrate sustainability in their reporting systems;

Or. en

Amendment 64
Tomáš Zdechovský, Romana Tomc, Andrey Novakov, Lefteris Christoforou

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24 b (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

24 b. Believes that the set-up, functioning and especially potential winding-up of agencies should be flexible to help implement Union policy and to enhance European cooperation; acknowledges in this regard the Court’s
consideration in its report 'Future of EU Agencies' that there is not sufficient flexibility in the set-up and operation of agencies and that the potential for them to cooperate for common policy objectives in the interest of citizens could be further exploited;

Amendment 65
Tomáš Zdechovský, Romana Tomc, Ádám Kósa, Andrey Novakov, Lefteris Christoforou

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24 c (new)

24 c. Recalls general unawareness of the European citizens about the existence of the agencies, even within the country where the agencies are located, and also that citizens receive little information about the benefits of the agencies; calls in this regard on the agencies to continue developing their communication strategies and to increase their media and social media presence in order to raise awareness about their work, research and activities in the general public;

Amendment 66
Bas Eickhout
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24 c (new)

24 c. Notes that most agencies have improved their outreach to the public and dissemination of information with efforts
to promote their newsletters and publications;

Or. en