AMENDMENTS
1 - 46

Draft report
Isabel García Muñoz
(PE699.021v01-00)

2020 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Council and Council
(2021/2108(DEC))
Amendment 1
Sophia in ’t Veld, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituţa, Gilles Boyer, Michal Wiezik, Olivier Chastel

Proposal for a decision 1
Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Grants the Secretary-General of the Council discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Council and of the Council for the financial year 2020 / Postpones its decision on granting the Secretary-General of the Council discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Council and of the Council for the financial year 2020;

Amendment

1. Postpones its decision on granting the Secretary-General of the Council discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Council and of the Council for the financial year 2020;

Or. en

Amendment 2
Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Elżbieta Rafalska, Joachim Stanisław Brudziński
on behalf of the ECR Group

Proposal for a decision 1
Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Grants the Secretary-General of the Council discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Council and of the Council for the financial year 2020 / Postpones its decision on granting the Secretary-General of the Council discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Council and of the Council for the financial year 2020;

Amendment

1. Postpones its decision on granting the Secretary-General of the Council discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Council and of the Council for the financial year 2020;

Or. pl
Amendment 3
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

3 a. Regrets, despite the Court's general consideration, that its audit has a rather limited scope and conclusions; requests that the audit work for the chapter on Administration be more focused on issues that are of high relevance or even critical for the European Council and the Council;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Sabrina Pignedoli

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6. Understands that the Council’s budget is mostly administrative with a large part of it being used for expenditure in relation to staff, buildings (including furniture and equipment) and miscellaneous running costs; reiterates its call for separate budgets for the European Council and the Council in order to improve transparency, accountability and expenditure efficiency for both institutions;

6. Understands that the Council’s budget is mostly administrative with a large part of it being used for expenditure in relation to staff, buildings (including furniture and equipment) and miscellaneous running costs; reiterates its call, made in previous resolutions on the budget, for separate budgets for the European Council and the Council in order to improve transparency, accountability and expenditure efficiency for both institutions;

Or. it

Amendment 5
Mikuláš Peksa
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6

6. Understands that the Council’s budget is mostly administrative with a large part of it being used for expenditure in relation to staff, buildings (including furniture and equipment) and miscellaneous running costs; reiterates its call for separate budgets for the European Council and the Council in order to improve transparency, accountability and expenditure efficiency for both institutions;

Amendment

6. Understands that the Council’s budget is mostly administrative with a large part of it being used for expenditure in relation to staff, buildings (including furniture and equipment) and miscellaneous running costs; reiterates its repeated calls for separate budgets for the European Council and the Council in order to improve transparency, accountability and expenditure efficiency for both institutions;

Or. en

Amendment 6
Sabrina Pignedoli

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8

8. Notes an increase in the carry-over of appropriations from 2020 to 2021 (12,6 % in comparison to 9,8 %, from 2019 to 2020); reminds the Council that carry-overs are exceptions to the principle of annuity of the Union budget and could be an indicator of budget over-estimations;

Amendment

8. Notes an increase in the carry-over of appropriations from 2020 to 2021 (12,6 % in comparison to 9,8 %, from 2019 to 2020); reminds the Council that carry-overs are exceptions to the principle of annuity of the Union budget and could be an indicator of budget over-estimations and calls on the Council to step up its efforts to prevent budget overestimates;

Or. it

Amendment 7
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12
Motion for a resolution

12. Notes that in 2020 the Court examined, without remarks, the public procurement procedures organised by the Council to acquire personal protective equipment for its members of staff;

Amendment

12. Notes that in 2020 the Court examined, without remarks, the public procurement procedures organised by the Council and three other Union institutions to acquire personal protective equipment for its members of staff which included strict minimum requirements in the tender specification such as European reference quality standards; is aware that in four cases the successful bidder did not include full evidence that all minimum quality requirements were met at the time of contracting, leading the Council to organise laboratory tests that showed that the personal protective equipment was indeed compliant;

Amendment 8
Mikuláš Peksa
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 16

16. Welcomes the improvements in the GSC’s internal organisation, focusing in particular on dealing with the working limitations arising from the COVID-19 pandemic situation, such as an increase of the platforms and bandwidth for teleworking activities and the installation of appropriate videoconferencing equipment in small meeting rooms to facilitate hybrid meetings;

Motion for a resolution

16. Welcomes the improvements in the GSC’s internal organisation, focusing in particular on dealing with the working limitations arising from the COVID-19 pandemic situation, such as an increase of the platforms and bandwidth for teleworking activities and the installation of appropriate videoconferencing equipment in small meeting rooms to facilitate hybrid meetings; regrets, however, that there are very few access codes provided to Member States representatives to join the Council meetings remotely, hindering the efficient work of some Member States representations to the Union;

Amendment

Or. en
Amendment 9
Sophia in ’t Veld, Ramona Strugariu

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 17 a (new)

17 a. Notes that the European Council faced less disruption of its usual (preparatory) tasks compared to Parliament and the Council, because the permanent representatives mostly remained in Brussels during the early phase of the pandemic; notes that the European Council therefore had relatively more leeway and strength to push for its interests compared to the other institutions;

Or. en

Amendment 10
Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Elżbieta Rafalska, Joachim Stanisław Brudziński

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 18 a (new)

18 a. Recalls that key performance indicators are a widely recognized tool for measuring achievement against targets; calls on the Council to provide summaries of its key performance indicators and the related results in its management reports;

Or. en

Amendment 11
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 20

Motion for a resolution

20. Regrets the lack of information on the implementation of the Council’s gender action plan and the measures taken to ensure equal opportunities for persons with disabilities at the Council as a workplace; calls on the Council to provide information on gender balance, geographical distribution and disabilities of its members of staff and on the related internal policies in force;

Amendment

20. Regrets the lack of information on the implementation of the Council’s gender action plan and the measures taken to ensure equal opportunities for persons with disabilities at the Council as a workplace; calls on the Council to provide information to the budgetary authority on gender balance, geographical distribution and disabilities of its members of staff and on the related internal policies in force;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Elżbieta Rafalska, Joachim Stanislaw Brudziński

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 20

Motion for a resolution

20. Regrets the lack of information on the implementation of the Council’s gender action plan and the measures taken to ensure equal opportunities for persons with disabilities at the Council as a workplace; calls on the Council to provide information on gender balance, geographical distribution and disabilities of its members of staff and on the related internal policies in force;

Amendment

20. Regrets the lack of information on the measures taken to ensure equal opportunities for persons with disabilities at the Council as a workplace; calls on the Council to provide information on geographical distribution and disabilities of its members of staff and on the related internal policies in force;

Or. pl

Amendment 13
Sophia in 't Veld, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituţa, Gilles Boyer, Michal Wiezik, Olivier Chastel

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 21
Motion for a resolution

21. Recalls its resolution of 17 December 2020 on the need for a dedicated Council configuration on gender equality as a dedicated institutional forum to ensure stronger integration of gender equality in Union strategies, coordination of all related policies and progress in the main files related to gender equality, as well as harmonisation of the protection of women’s rights and gender equality;

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Amendment

21. Recalls its resolution of 17 December 2020 on the need for a dedicated Council configuration on gender equality as a dedicated institutional forum to ensure stronger integration of gender equality in Union strategies, coordination of all related policies and progress in the main files related to gender equality, as well as harmonisation of the protection of women’s rights and gender equality; regrets that the Council has thus far ignored this call of Parliament;

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Or. en

Amendment 14
Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Elżbieta Rafalska, Joachim Stanisław Brudziński
on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 21

Motion for a resolution

21. Recalls its resolution of 17 December 2020 on the need for a dedicated Council configuration on gender equality as a dedicated institutional forum to ensure stronger integration of gender equality in Union strategies, coordination of all related policies and progress in the main files related to gender equality, as well as harmonisation of the protection of women’s rights and gender equality;

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Amendment

deleted

Or. pl
Amendment 15
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 21 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

21 a. Recalls that the Council appoints the members of the Court after consultation with Parliament and understands the difficulties in achieving gender balance as nomination of candidates is the sole responsibility of the Member States and each Member State can only nominate one candidate at a time; finds it unacceptable, however, that the Court has had only 16 female members out of a total of 112 members since its establishment in 1977 (85.7 % male and 14.3 % female) and that in 2020 the Court had only 8 female members compared to 18 male members; strongly calls on the Council to tackle this problem with concrete actions, such as presenting Parliament with at least two candidates from each Member State, one being a woman and one being a man;

Or. en

Amendment 16
Mikuláš Peksa on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 26

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

26. Welcomes the political agreement on the Transparency Register for interest representatives, reached by Parliament, the Council and the Commission on 15 December 2020; emphasises the importance for the Council, including the Member States’ representatives, of harmonising, improving and enforcing the
existing ethics rules, in particular with regard to conflicts of interest, revolving doors and lobby transparency rules; existing ethics rules, in particular with regard to conflicts of interest, revolving doors and lobby transparency rules; 

regrets, however, that the Transparency Register does not apply to the Member States representatives working through the Council, who are heavily lobbied;

Or. en

Amendment 17
Sophia in 't Veld, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituţa, Gilles Boyer, Michal Wiezik, Olivier Chastel

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 26

26. Welcomes the political agreement on the Transparency Register for interest representatives, reached by Parliament, the Council and the Commission on 15 December 2020; emphasises the importance for the Council, including the Member States’ representatives, of harmonising, improving and enforcing the existing ethics rules, in particular with regard to conflicts of interest, revolving doors and lobby transparency rules;

Or. en

Amendment 18
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 26 a (new)

26 a. Welcomes the fact that the status of the Council has changed from that of an observer to that of a formal party to the new Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory Transparency register;
reminds, nevertheless, of the European Parliament decision of 27 April 2021 on the conclusion of an interinstitutional agreement between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union, and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register\textsuperscript{1b}, which in its paragraph 5 considers that the Council's participation is limited to meetings with the most senior officials, and, under voluntary schemes only, meetings of the Permanent Representatives and Deputy Permanent Representatives during their presidency and six months before; insists that for the credibility of the joint framework all Permanent Representations should take an active part in it through voluntary schemes, continue to apply such voluntary schemes after their presidency has ended and extend them, insofar as this is possible, to other officials;


\textsuperscript{1b} OJ C 506, 15.12.2021, p. 127.

Or. en

Amendment 19
Sophia in 't Veld, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituța

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 26 a (new)

\textit{Motion for a resolution}

\textit{Amendment}

26 a. Expresses its concern that legislative files are increasingly escalated to the European Council which has neither a legislative nor an executive function, does not apply the same transparency standards as the Council.
and is not being held accountable;

Or. en

Amendment 20
Mikuláš Peksa
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 27

27. Regrets the use of corporate sponsorship to cover some of the expenses incurred by Member States to finance their Council presidency; reiterates its concern with respect to the possible reputational damage that such practice might cause to the Council and to the Union; regrets that a common set of clear, concrete and binding rules has not been set out in the guidance on sponsorship included in 2021 in the Council’s Presidency Handbook; reiterates its call on the Council to examine budgeting the Council Presidency; reiterates that any actual or perceived conflict of interests jeopardises the reputation of the Council and the Union as a whole; asks the Council to explore the possibility of providing permanent support staff to the Council presidencies in order to ensure continuity and efficiency of the working process;

Or. en

Amendment 21
Sophia in ’t Veld, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituța

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 27

27. Regrets the use of corporate sponsorship to cover some of the expenses incurred by Member States to finance their Council presidency; reiterates its concern with respect to the possible reputational damage that such practice might cause to the Council and to the Union; regrets that a common set of clear, concrete and binding rules has not been set out in the guidance on sponsorship included in 2021 in the Council’s Presidency Handbook; reiterates its call on the Council to examine budgeting the Council Presidency;
sponsorship to cover some of the expenses incurred by Member States to finance their Council presidency; reiterates its concern with respect to the possible reputational damage that such practice might cause to the Council and to the Union; regrets that a common set of clear, concrete and binding rules has not been set out in the guidance on sponsorship included in 2021 in the Council’s Presidency Handbook; reiterates its call on the Council to examine budgeting the Council Presidency;

Amendment 22
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 27 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

27 a. Reminds of the petition launched by the Corporate Europe Observatory, Observatoires des Multinationales and foodwatch, urging the French government to decline any sponsorship offers when taking on the rotating Council presidency in 2022;

Amendment 23
Mikuláš Peksa
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 28

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

28. Is aware of the Council’s key role in nomination and appointment procedures for the Union institutions and bodies, in particular for the European Council, the
Commission, the Court and the consultative Committees (the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committees); strongly recommends considering a review of that role with a view to guaranteeing and strengthening the democratic participation of relevant stakeholders;
Motion for a resolution

29. Is reminded of the Court's statement in its Special Report no 13/2019: The ethical frameworks of the audited EU institutions: scope for improvement that ethical conduct “contributes to sounder financial management and increased public trust, which is indispensable if public policies are to succeed” and, in particular, that “any unethical behaviour by staff and Members of the EU institutions attracts high levels of public interest and reduces trust in the EU”; calls on the Council, therefore, to avoid the appointment of candidates who represent a reputational risk for the Union as a whole, taking into account, in particular, existing investigations by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), legal proceedings underway against them and negative recommendations by Parliament or the Commission;

Amendment

29. Is reminded of the Court's statement in its Special Report no 13/2019: The ethical frameworks of the audited EU institutions: scope for improvement that ethical conduct “contributes to sounder financial management and increased public trust, which is indispensable if public policies are to succeed” and, in particular, that “any unethical behaviour by staff and Members of the EU institutions attracts high levels of public interest and reduces trust in the EU”; calls on the Council, therefore, to reject the appointment of candidates who represent a potential damage to the credibility of the Union, for instance due to insufficient professional competence or established unethical behaviour;

Or. en

Amendment 26
Mikuláš Peksa
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 29

Motion for a resolution

29. Is reminded of the Court's statement in its Special Report no 13/2019: The ethical frameworks of the audited EU institutions: scope for improvement that ethical conduct “contributes to sounder financial management and increased public trust, which is indispensable if public policies are to succeed” and, in particular, that “any unethical behaviour by staff and Members of the EU institutions attracts high levels of public interest and reduces trust in the EU”; calls on the Council, therefore, to avoid the appointment of candidates who represent a reputational risk for the Union as a whole, taking into account, in particular, existing investigations by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), legal proceedings underway against them and negative recommendations by Parliament or the Commission;

Amendment

29. Is reminded of the Court's statement in its Special Report no 13/2019: The ethical frameworks of the audited EU institutions: scope for improvement that ethical conduct “contributes to sounder financial management and increased public trust, which is indispensable if public policies are to succeed” and, in particular, that “any unethical behaviour by staff and Members of the EU institutions attracts high levels of public interest and reduces trust in the EU”; makes a strong call on the Council, therefore, to respect the opinions of Parliament, especially when they contain negative advice on the appointment of candidates who represent a potential damage to the credibility of the Union, for instance due to insufficient professional competence or established unethical behaviour;
candidates who represent a reputational risk for the Union as a whole, taking into account, in particular, existing investigations by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), legal proceedings underway against them and negative recommendations by Parliament or the Commission;

Amendment 27
Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh, Matteo Adinolfi

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 29 a (new)

29 a. Seriously questions the need of the Council to hire a sports physiotherapist-coach for the GSC’s sports centre and fitness room right before the second lockdown in Europe during which all gyms and sport activities were prohibited for the citizens of Europe; underlines that according to the tender1a the main mission of the sports physiotherapist-coach consisted in the supervision of all users of the fitness room, including the proposal of individual programmes tailored to specific requests and needs, as well as the provision of advice;

1a

Amendment 28
Sophia in 't Veld, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituța, Gilles Boyer, Michal Wiezik, Olivier Chastel

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 30

**Motion for a resolution**

30. Reiterates its full endorsement of the Ombudsman’s recommendations on transparency of the Council legislative process, following the Ombudsman’s strategic inquiry (Case OI/2/2017/TE); believes that compliance with the Ombudsman's recommendations would enable citizens to be more involved and to better understand Union law making; welcomes the measures adopted by the Council in July 2020 to strengthen legislative transparency in line with the Ombudsman’s recommendations, including the proactive publication of progress reports on negotiations on draft legislative acts as well as the Council mandate for negotiations with Parliament; urges the Council to keep taking all the necessary measures to implement the Ombudsman’s recommendations;

**Amendment**

30. Reiterates its full endorsement of the Ombudsman’s recommendations on transparency of the Council legislative process, following the Ombudsman’s strategic inquiry (Case OI/2/2017/TE) and the case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) on transparency and access to documents; believes that compliance with the Ombudsman's recommendations would enable citizens to be more involved and to better understand Union law making; welcomes the measures adopted by the Council in July 2020 to strengthen legislative transparency in line with the Ombudsman’s recommendations, including the proactive publication of progress reports on negotiations on draft legislative acts as well as the Council mandate for negotiations with Parliament; regrets, however, that the decision-making process in the Council is still far from transparent; calls therefore on the Council to implement the relevant CJEU rulings according to their letter and spirit and not to circumvent them; urges the Council to keep taking all the necessary measures to implement the Ombudsman’s recommendations and the CJEU rulings without undue delay;

Or. en

Amendment 29
Sabrina Pignedoli

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 32**

32. Shares the Court’s concern about the absence of a common Union ethical framework governing the work of Member States’ representatives in the Council,

**Amendment**

32. Shares the Court’s concern about the absence of a common Union ethical framework governing the work of Member States’ representatives in the Council,
expressed in the Court’s Special Report no 13/2019; recalls the Council’s obligation to deal with high-level conflicts of interest, revolving doors and lobby transparency rules;

expressed in the Court’s Special Report no 13/2019; recalls the Council’s obligation to deal with **and resolve** high-level conflicts of interest and revolving doors and **to extend the existing mandatory** lobby transparency rules;

Or. it

**Amendment 30**

*Luke Ming Flanagan*

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 32 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

**Amendment**

32 a. **Strongly reiterates its call on the Council to bring the code of conduct for the President of the European Council in line with those of Parliament and the Commission in order to have rules in place to approve activities related to Union legislation after the President of the European Council leaves his or her post;**

Or. en

**Amendment 31**

*Sophia in 't Veld, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituţa, Gilles Boyer, Michal Wiezik, Olivier Chastel*

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 33**

*Motion for a resolution*

**Amendment**

33. Supports the Ombudsman’s remarks on the need to improve legislative transparency by recording and making the Member States’ positions more accessible, which has already been established in 2013 by CJEU case law**, and by making more trilogue documents available;
Amendment 32
Mikuláš Peksa
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 33

33. Supports the Ombudsman’s remarks on the need to improve legislative transparency by recording and making the Member States’ positions more accessible and by making more trilogue documents available; in a machine-readable format;

Amendment

33. Supports the Ombudsman’s remarks on the need to improve legislative transparency by recording and making the Member States’ positions more accessible and by making more trilogue documents available; in a machine-readable format;

Amendment 33
Sophia in 't Veld, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituța, Michal Wiezik

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 34 a (new)

34 a. Reiterates its call on the Council to use open-source technology in order to prevent vendor lock-in, to retain control over its own technical systems, to provide stronger safeguards for the privacy and data protection of the users, and to increase security and transparency for the public;

Amendment

34 a. Reiterates its call on the Council to use open-source technology in order to prevent vendor lock-in, to retain control over its own technical systems, to provide stronger safeguards for the privacy and data protection of the users, and to increase security and transparency for the public;
Amendment 34
Mikuláš Peksa
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 34 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

34 a. Encourages the Council to prioritize open source technology in order to retain control over its own technical systems, avoid dependency and vendor lock-in, provide stronger safeguards for user’s privacy and data protection, and increase security and transparency for the public;

Or. en

Amendment 35
Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Elżbieta Rafalska, Joachim Stanisław Brudziński

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 34 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

34 a. Encourages the Council to maintain control over its own technical systems, provide stronger safeguards for privacy and increase security and transparency for the public;

Or. en

Amendment 36
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 35

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35. Observes that the Council’s
buildings policy since 2004 aims to ultimately accommodate all its activities in Brussels in geographically concentrated buildings under its ownership; encourages the Council to adjust its building strategy in order to take into account the working arrangements that will likely become part of long-lasting or permanent working modes, \textit{in particular with regard to} shared spaces or multipurpose areas;

Or. en

\textbf{Amendment 37}  
Mikuláš Peksa  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

\textbf{Motion for a resolution}  
\textbf{Paragraph 39}

\begin{multicols}{2}

39. Notes the increased audience on several social media platforms from 2019 to 2020 with an increase of 39 \% in visits to the Council’s website, approximately 443 000 followers on Facebook (an increase of 8 \%), approximately 561 000 followers on Twitter (an increase of 22 \%) and approximately 167 000 followers on Instagram (an increase of 37 \%); observes that there were more than 16 million visits to the Council’s website in 2020; encourages the Council to establish a presence on free and open-source social media networks, such as Mastodon, to achieve further transparency and broader outreach to Union citizens;

Or. en

\end{multicols}

\textbf{Amendment 38}  
Isabel García Muñoz

\textbf{Motion for a resolution}  
\textbf{Paragraph 39}
39. Notes the increased audience on several social media platforms from 2019 to 2020 with an increase of 39% in visits to the Council’s website, approximately 443,000 followers on Facebook (an increase of 8%), approximately 561,000 followers on Twitter (an increase of 22%) and approximately 167,000 followers on Instagram (an increase of 37%); observes that there were more than 16 million visits to the Council’s website in 2020;

Or. en

Amendment 39
Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Elżbieta Rafalska, Joachim Stanislaw Brudziński
on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 44

44. Emphasises Parliament's prerogative to grant discharge pursuant to Article 319 TFEU as well as the applicable provisions of the Financial Regulation and Parliament’s Rules of Procedure; reiterates that this prerogative allows the Union to maintain transparency, democratic scrutiny and accountability towards Union taxpayers;

Or. pl

Amendment 40
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 45

Motion for a resolution

45. Stresses the well-established and respected practice followed by Parliament over the course of almost twenty years of granting discharge to all Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies; recalls that the Commission has declared its inability to oversee the implementation of the budgets of the other institutions; stresses the reiterated view of the Commission that the practice of giving discharge to each institution for their administrative expenditure should continue to be pursued;

Amendment

45. Stresses the well-established and respected practice followed by Parliament over the course of almost twenty years of granting discharge to all Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies; recalls that the Commission has declared its inability to oversee the implementation of the budgets of the other institutions; stresses the reiterated view of the Commission that the practice of giving discharge to each institution for their administrative expenditure should continue to be pursued directly by Parliament;

Or. en

Amendment 41
Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Elżbieta Rafalska, Joachim Stanisław Brudziński
on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 45

Motion for a resolution

45. Stresses the well-established and respected practice followed by Parliament over the course of almost twenty years of granting discharge to all Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies; recalls that the Commission has declared its inability to oversee the implementation of the budgets of the other institutions; stresses the reiterated view of the Commission that the practice of giving discharge to each institution for their administrative expenditure should continue to be pursued;

(Does not affect the English version.)

Amendment

42

Or. pl

Amendment 42
Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Elżbieta Rafalska, Joachim Stanisław Brudziński
on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 46

Motion for a resolution

46. Stresses that the current situation, where the Council refuses to collaborate with Parliament in the context of the annual budgetary discharge procedure, makes it impossible for Parliament to make an informed decision on granting discharge, and that this has a lasting negative effect on both institutions and discredits the management and democratic scrutiny of the Union budget; regrets the Council’s continuing refusal to engage in loyal cooperation in the framework of the discharge procedure that has lasted for more than a decade;

Amendment

46. Stresses that the current situation, where Parliament can only check the reports of the Court and of the European Ombudsman as well as the information on the Council’s website but does not receive written or oral answers from the Council during the annual discharge procedure, i.e., the Council refuses to collaborate with Parliament in the context of the annual discharge procedure, makes it impossible for Parliament to make an informed decision on granting discharge, and that this has a lasting negative effect on both institutions and discredits the management and democratic scrutiny of the Union budget; regrets the Council’s continuing refusal to engage in loyal cooperation in the framework of the discharge procedure that has lasted for more than a decade;

Or. pl

Amendment 43
Sophia in ’t Veld, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituţa

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 46

Motion for a resolution

46. Stresses that the current situation, where the Council refuses to collaborate with Parliament in the context of the annual budgetary discharge procedure, makes it impossible for Parliament to make an informed decision on granting discharge, and that this has a lasting negative effect on both institutions and

Amendment

46. Deplores that the Council for more than a decade has shown that it does not have any political willingness to collaborate with Parliament in the context of the annual budgetary discharge procedure which makes it impossible for Parliament to make an informed decision on granting discharge; underlines that this
discredits the management and democratic scrutiny of the Union budget; regrets the Council’s continuing refusal to engage in loyal cooperation in the framework of the discharge procedure that has lasted for more than a decade; attitude has had a lasting negative effect on both institutions and has discredited the management and democratic scrutiny of the Union budget and on the trust of citizens in the Union as a transparent entity; deeply regrets the Council’s continuing refusal to engage in loyal cooperation in the framework of the discharge procedure that has lasted for more than a decade; refuses therefore, at this time, to grant discharge to the Council;

Amendment 44
Mikuláš Peksa
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 48

Motion for a resolution

48. Believes that a revision of the Treaties is necessary to streamline the discharge procedure, making it clearer and more transparent, especially by giving Parliament the explicit competence to grant discharge to all institutions, bodies, offices and agencies individually;

Amendment

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 45
Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Elżbieta Rafalska, Joachim Stanisław Brudziński
on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 48

Motion for a resolution

48. Believes that a revision of the Treaties is necessary to streamline the discharge procedure, making it clearer and more transparent, especially by giving Parliament the explicit competence to grant discharge to all institutions, bodies, offices and agencies individually;

Amendment

In respect of the Council's specific role as an institution giving

Or. en
discharge procedure, making it clearer and more transparent, especially by giving Parliament the explicit competence to grant discharge to all institutions, bodies, offices and agencies individually; recommendations on the discharge procedure, reiterates its requests to the Council to give discharge recommendations with respect to the other Union institutions;

Amendment 46
Sophia in 't Veld, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituța

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 49

49. Regrets that the COVID-19 pandemic and the exceptional situation experienced have been used as an excuse for not resuming interinstitutional negotiations on the discharge procedure; remains nevertheless convinced that an agreement on this matter is possible and, therefore, calls on the Council to resume negotiations without undue delay in order to find a solution in the current framework of the discharge procedure while securing the differentiation and respect of the respective roles of Parliament and the Council;

49. Considers it unacceptable that the COVID-19 pandemic and the exceptional situation experienced have been used as an excuse for not resuming interinstitutional negotiations on the discharge procedure; remains nevertheless convinced that an agreement on this matter is possible if the Council were to show any political willingness to collaborate; calls, therefore, on the Council to resume negotiations without undue delay in order to find a solution in the current framework of the discharge procedure if it is interested in showing Union citizens that it takes proper budget control and transparency seriously;

Or. pl

Or. en