AMENDMENTS
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Draft report
Tomáš Zdechovský
(PE698.960v01-00)

2020 discharge - European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL)
(2021/2120(DEC))
Amendment 1
Ramona Strugariu, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța, Katalin Cseh

Proposal for a decision 1
Paragraph 1

1. Grants the Executive Director of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2020 / Postpones its decision on granting the Executive Director of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2020;

Or. en

Amendment 2
Ramona Strugariu, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța, Katalin Cseh

Proposal for a decision 2
Paragraph 1

1. Approves the closure of the accounts of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) for the financial year 2020 / Postpones the closure of the accounts of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) for the financial year 2020;

Or. en

Amendment 3
Ramona Strugariu, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța,
Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 2

2. Notes that, according to the Court’s report, the Agency paid a cancellation fee for a hotel booking for a training event in Budapest due to the COVID-19 restrictions; notes the Court’s finding that if the Agency had invoked the "force majeure" clause in the framework contract instead, it could have cancelled the reservation without cost; notes in addition that the event had been planned on 29 June 2020, when the situation in Hungary was already uncertain; notes with regret that the Agency did not take the necessary steps to protect the financial interests of the Union and that the related payment is therefore deemed irregular by the Court;

Amendment

2. Notes with concern that, according to the Court’s report, the Agency paid a cancellation fee for a hotel booking for a training event in Budapest due to the COVID-19 restrictions; highlights the Court’s finding that if the Agency had invoked the "force majeure" clause in the framework contract instead, it could have cancelled the reservation without cost; notes in addition that the event had been planned on 29 June 2020, when the situation in Hungary was already uncertain; regrets that the Agency did not take the necessary steps to protect the financial interests of the Union and that the related payment is therefore deemed irregular by the Court;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4

4. Notes that, despite the COVID-19 outbreak, the Agency continued to increase its outreach with the number of training participants increasing by 13%; notes that, on 30 April 2020, the Agency launched a new Law Enforcement Education (LEEd) platform; notes that the pilot CEPOL Knowledge Centre on Counter Terrorism was set up, having the mandate to elaborate a comprehensive multiannual training portfolio;

Amendment

4. Welcomes the fact that, despite the COVID-19 outbreak, the Agency continued to increase its outreach with the number of training participants increasing by 13%; notes that, on 30 April 2020, the Agency launched a new Law Enforcement Education (LEEd) platform; notes that the pilot CEPOL Knowledge Centre on Counter Terrorism was set up, having the mandate to elaborate a comprehensive multiannual training portfolio;
Amendment 5
Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 a (new)

6 a. Expresses its satisfaction that the Agency's trainings are closely aligned with the requirements voiced by the EU Policy Cycle EMPACT groups, while expertise was secured from Member States, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol), the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust), the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, the European Judicial Training Network, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, the European Asylum Support Office, the European Cybercrime Centre, the European Cybercrime Training and Education Group, the International Criminal Police Organization and other stakeholders;

Amendment 6
Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 10

10. Observes that there were 16 resignations in 2020 (versus 6 in 2019) due to either the closure of Western Balkans project or due to new job opportunities in and outside the Agency; notes that the
higher staff fluctuation had a significant impact on the organisation, on top of the COVID-19 pandemic, and that interim staff and seconded national experts have been contracted to fill in for staff absences and to cope with peak periods;

call on the Commission to engage in an active dialogue with the Agency in order to address those issues;

Amendment 7
Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 10 a (new)

Motion for a resolution Amendment

10 a. Underlines that insufficient office space and uncertainty about the Agency's headquarters premises creates further operational difficulties; calls on the Commission to engage in an active dialogue with the Agency and the host Member State in order to address those shortcomings;

Amendment 8
Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 14

Motion for a resolution Amendment
Notes the Agency’s existing measures and ongoing efforts to secure transparency and the prevention and management of conflicts of interest; expresses satisfaction that the Agency has set up and implemented a code of administrative behaviour in 2019, the Anti-Fraud Sub-Strategy and Policy on Management of Conflict of Interest in 2020; notes with satisfaction that declarations of interests and CV’s of management board members and senior management are published on the Agency’s website; notes that the declarations on conflicts of interest and confidentiality for the remunerated experts are collected and screened before signature of contract;

Welcomes the Agency’s existing measures and ongoing efforts to secure transparency and the prevention and management of conflicts of interest; expresses satisfaction that the Agency has set up and implemented a code of administrative behaviour in 2019, the Anti-Fraud Sub-Strategy and Policy on Management of Conflict of Interest in 2020; notes with satisfaction that declarations of interests and CV’s of management board members and senior management are published on the Agency’s website; notes that the declarations on conflicts of interest and confidentiality for the remunerated experts are collected and screened before signature of contract;

Amendment 9
Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 22

Notes that the Agency does not have a policy regarding cyber security and the protection of the digital records; notes with concern that the Agency was subject to a cyberattack that led to a temporary shutdown of online training activities for approximately 3 weeks; calls on the Agency to inform the discharge authority regarding its efforts in the area of cyber security;

Regrets that the Agency does not have a policy regarding cyber security and the protection of the digital records; notes with concern that the Agency was subject to a cyberattack that led to a temporary shutdown of online training activities for approximately 3 weeks; calls on the Agency to inform the discharge authority regarding its efforts in the area of cyber security;

Amendment 10
Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 22 a (new)

22 a. Welcomes the introduction of new IT tools, namely SPEEDWELL for financial workflow, SYSPER for human resources and ARES for document management, in an effort to increase administrative efficiency;

Amendment 11
Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Olivier Chastel, Gilles Boyer, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 23 a (new)

23 a. Notes that the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) launched an investigation in 2020 into a case of external fraud in the Agency; notes that this investigation was launched at the request of the Agency and that following the investigation conclusions from early 2021, the Agency has already started to implement the recommendations of OLAF;