



CONT_PV(2020)0903_1

MINUTES

Meeting of 3 September 2020, 13.45-15.45

BRUSSELS

The meeting opened at 13.50 on Thursday, 3 September 2020, with Monika Hohlmeier (Chair) presiding.

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted in the form shown in these minutes.

2. Approval of minutes of meetings of:

- 25 June 2020 PV – PE655.693v01-00
- 6 July 2020 PV – PE655.661v01-00

Decision: The minutes were approved.

3. Chair's announcements

The Chair drew the attention of Members to the information in the CONT News.

4. 2018 discharge: General budget of the EU - Council and European Council

CONT/9/03070

2019/2057(DEC) COM(2019)0316[03] – C9-0052/2019

Rapporteur:

Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP)

PR – PE653.749v01-00

The following spoke:

Isabel García Muñoz, Olivier Chastel, Joachim Kuhs, Mikuláš Peksa, Tomáš Zdechovský

5. 2018 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Economic and Social Committee

CONT/9/03069

2019/2060(DEC) COM(2019)0316[06] – C9-0055/2019

Rapporteur:

Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP)

PR – PE653.766v02-00

The following spoke:

Tomáš Zdechovský, Isabel García Muñoz, Olivier Chastel, Joachim Kuhs, Mikuláš Peksa, Gilles Guillard (EESC, Director of Human Resources and Finance)

6. Restructuring of European Anti-Fraud Office

CONT/9/03513

- Exchange of views with OLAF representatives

The following spoke:

Monika Hohlmeier, Johannes Hahn (European Commission, Budget Commissioner, Ville Itälä (OLAF, Director-General), Jan Mulder (OLAF SC, Chair), Marian-Jean Marinescu, Caterina Chinnici, Katalin Cseh, Joachim Kuhs, Michèle Rivasi, Petri Sarvamaa, Cristiano Sebastiani (European Commission, Representative of the Central Staff Committee)

(In camera, from 15.40 to 16.00)

7. State of play of the review of the EIB's anti-money laundering ('AML') and countering the financing of terrorism ('CFT') processes

CONT/9/03539

- Exchange of views with EIB representatives

The following spoke:

Monika Hohlmeier, Nicholas Barclay (EIB, DG and Head of Compliance), Katalin Cseh, Bas Eickhout

8. Any other business

9. Next meetings

- 28 September 2020
- 1 October 2020

The meeting ended at 16.00.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNÍH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/
JELENLÉTI ÍV/REGISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
LISTÁ DE PREZENTÁ/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČÍH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/NÄRVAROLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Monika Hohlmeier (Chair), Isabel García Muñoz (1 st Vice-Chair), Caterina Chinnici* (2 nd Vice-Chair)*,
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Βουλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/ Nariai/Képviselek/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Olivier Chastel, Lefteris Christoforou, Corina Crețu*, Ryszard Czarnecki, Cristian Ghinea*, Joachim Kuhs, Tsvetelina Penkova, Sabrina Pignedoli, Michèle Rivasi*, Petri Sarvamaa, Angelika Winzig*, Lara Wolters, Tomáš Zdechovský*
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Katalin Cseh, Bas Eickhout*, Marian-Jean Marinescu*, Mikuláš Peksa

209 (7)
216 (3)
56 (8) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/ Päevakorra punkt/Σημείο της ημερήσιας διάταξης/Agenda item/Point OJ/Točka dnevnog reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkės punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Àgenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan)

*: remote participation

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair/Sur l'invitation du président/ Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/ Fuq stedina tač-'Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/ Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nõukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Vijeće/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)

Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)

Johannes Hahn (Budget Commissioner), Cristiano Sebastiani (Representative of the Commission's Central Staff Committee)
OLAF: Ville Itälä (Director-General), Jan Mulder (Chair, OLAF SC)

Други институции и органи/Otras instituciones y organismos/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner og organer/Andere Organe und Einrichtungen/Muud institutsioonid ja organid/Λοιπά θεσμικά όργανα και οργανισμοί/Other institutions and bodies/Autres institutions et organes/Druge institucije i tijela/Altre istituzioni e altri organi/Citas iestādes un struktūras/Kitos institucijos ir įstaigos/Más intézmények és szervek/Istituzjonijiet u korpi ohra/Andere instellingen en organen/Inne instytucje i organy/Outras instituições e outros órgãos/Alte instituții și organe/Iné inštitúcie a orgány/Muut toimetused ja elimet/Andra institutioner och organ

EIB	Nicholas Barclay (DG and Head of Compliance)
EESC	Gilles Guillard (Director of Human Resources and Finance)

Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Inii účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppenes sekretariat/ Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Sekretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Tajništva klubova zastupnika/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretoriai/ Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi politici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Sekretariado dos grupos políticos/Sekretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/ De politiska gruppernas sekretariat	
PPE	
S&D	
Renew	Orsolya Balogh, Antoine Jacquemard
ID	
Verts/ALE	Robert Godina
ECR	
GUE/NGL	Elisa Reschini
NI	

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantselei/Γραφείο του Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Ured predsednika/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Președinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli	
Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/ Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο του Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Ġeneralsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/ Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/ Generalsekreterarens kansli	
Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/ Directorate-General/Direction générale/Glavna uprava/Direzione generale/Ġenerāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/ Direktorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES	
DG IPOL	
DG EXPO	
DG EPRS	
DG COMM	
DG PERS	
DG INLO	
DG TRAD	
DG LINC	
DG FINS	
DG ITEC	
DG SAFE	

Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právni služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Őigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/ Service juridique/Pravna služba/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/ Wydział prawny/Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten
Michaël Allik
Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusssekretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία της επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétariat de la commission/Tajništvo odbora/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Sekretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/ Sekretariat komisji/Sekretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet
Evelyn Waldherr
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Assisztens/Asyent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assisterter
Veronika Patyi-Horvath

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/
Pirmininkas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predsedna/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
- (VP) = Заместник-председател/Vicepresidente/Místopředseda/Næstformand/Stellvertretender Vorsitzender/Aseesimees/Αντιπρόεδρος/
Vice-Chair/Potpredsjednik/Vice-Président/Potpredsjednik/Priekšsēdētāja vietnieks/Pirmininko pavaduotojas/Alelnök/ Vīci
'Chairman'/Ondervoorzitter/Wiceprzewodniczący/Vice-Présidente/Vicepreşedinte/Podpredseda/Podpredsednik/
Varapuheenjohtaja/Vice ordförande
- (M) = Член/Miembro/Člen/Medlem./Mitglied/Parlamendiliige/Βουλευτής/Member/Membre/Član/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képvisező/
Memburu/Lid/Członek/Membro/Memburu/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
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Funcionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Uffċjal/Ambtenaar/Urzędnik/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/
Tjänsteman

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER 2020

13:45 to 15:45

Remote participation of Members

*Any Members present in Brussels can attend the meeting in room **József Antall (JAN) 4Q1***

13:45 - 14:15

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The draft agenda and meeting documents are available in the [meeting file](#).

2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair draws attention to the following points:

Languages available

FR DE IT EN EL ES CS BG and RO

[Webstreaming](#)

The meeting will be webstreamed and can be followed live via the [CONT webpage](#).

Adoption of Coordinators' recommendations:

The **summaries of Coordinators' recommendations** were circulated to the Members as follows:

- Summary of recommendations of meeting of 6 July 2020 circulated on 10 July 2020;
- Summary of recommendations of the written procedure of 6 July 2020 was circulated on 17 July 2020; and

If no objections are received before the end of the meeting, these recommendations will be deemed approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- 25 June 2020 PV – PE655.693v01-00
- 6 July 2020 PV – PE655.661v01-00

4. 2018 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - COUNCIL AND EUROPEAN COUNCIL



Consideration of the second draft report

Rapporteur: [Tomáš Zdechovský](#) (EPP)
Administrator: Charlotte Kutzenberger

Shadow Rapporteurs: Isabel García Muñoz (S&D), Cristian Ghinea (EEAS, CoR, EDPS) (RE), Martina Dlabajova (ECA) (RE), Ramona Strugariu (CoJ) (RE), Olivier Chastel (Council, EESC, Ombudsman) (RE), Joachim Kuhs (ID), Mikuláš Peksa (Greens), Raffaele Fitto (ECR), Luke Ming Flanagan (GUE/NGL)

The decision to grant discharge for 2018 was postponed in May 2020, as in previous years.

In his second draft report, the Rapporteur recalls that the Council has refused to cooperate in the discharge procedure for ten years and that, as a result, Parliament has refused to grant discharge.

The draft report concentrates on future perspectives based on the mandate received by Parliament's Conference of Presidents to reopen negotiations with the Council on the discharge procedure.

According to the mandate, the negotiating team is composed of the Chair of Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control, Ms Monika Hohlmeier, the 1st Vice-Chair Ms Isabel García Muñoz and the Rapporteur of the Council discharge 2018, Mr Tomáš Zdechovský.

The negotiations will have to ensure that the difference between the respective roles of both institutions in the discharge procedure will be guaranteed. While both institutions need a similar factual basis for their deliberations, it is up to the Council to deliver a recommendation and up to Parliament to take a decision.

The start of the negotiations has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Court of Auditor's report and other background documents (including DG's annual activity reports, final accounts, etc.) can be found on the [CONT website](#). All language versions of the draft report, amendments and the reference documents can be consulted on the [CONT website](#).

Event	Body	Date
Deadline for tabling amendments	CONT	10 September 2020 at 14.00
Vote	CONT	1 October 2020 (tbc)
Adoption	Plenary	tbc

5. 2018 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

CONT/9/03069 - [2019/2060\(DEC\)](#)



Consideration of the second draft report

Rapporteur: [Tomáš Zdechovský](#) (EPP)
Administrator: Charlotte Kutzenberger

Shadow Rapporteurs: Isabel García Muñoz (S&D), Cristian Ghinea (EEAS, CoR, EDPS) (RE), Martina Dlabajova (ECA) (RE), Ramona Strugariu (CoJ) (RE), Olivier Chastel (Council, EESC, Ombudsman) (RE), Joachim Kuhs (ID), Mikuláš Peksa (Greens), Raffaele Fitto (ECR), Luke Ming Flanagan (GUE/NGL)

Based on the outcome and recommendations of an investigation on harassment of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), the decision to grant discharge for 2018 to the EESC was postponed in May 2020 in order to be informed on the measures taken to address this case.

In his second draft report, the Rapporteur recalls the facts of the case, namely acts of harassment, inappropriate behaviour and misconduct of a senior member of the EESC.

The draft report describes in detail the measures taken by the EESC with respect to the member concerned and in order to prevent further cases of harassment. The case has been transmitted to the Belgian authorities.

The Rapporteur highlights and welcomes that the EESC initiated an in-depth assessment on the overall existing framework supporting its zero-tolerance policy towards harassment.

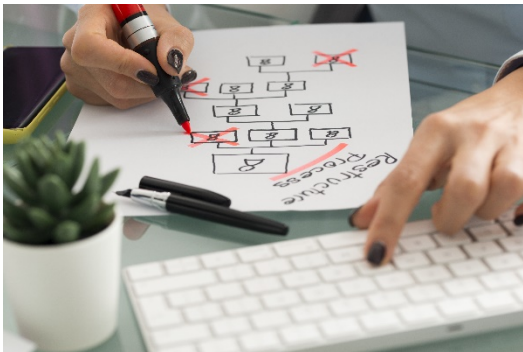
The Court of Auditor's report and other background documents (including DG's annual activity reports, final accounts, etc.) can be found on the [CONT website](#). All language versions of the draft report, amendments and the reference documents can be consulted on the [CONT website](#).

Event	Body	Date
Deadline for tabling amendments	CONT	10 September 2020 at 14.00
Vote	CONT	1 October 2020 (tbc)
Adoption	Plenary	tbc

14:15 - 15:00

6. RESTRUCTURING OF EUROPEAN ANTI-FRAUD OFFICE

CONT/9/03513



Exchange of views with OLAF representatives

Administrator: Aleksi Hyvatti

The European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) is currently the only EU body mandated to detect, investigate and stop fraud with EU funds. OLAF can independently investigate matters relating to fraud, corruption and other offences affecting the EU financial interests concerning all EU expenditure, some areas of EU revenue, and suspicions of serious misconduct by EU staff and members of the EU institutions.

OLAF revised its organisation chart on 16 June 2020. The new organisation builds on the experience gained and the challenges faced by OLAF over the past years, and reflects OLAF's objectives and business needs for the years to come. The new OLAF structure aims to allow for adequate prioritising of all activities, while adapting to the new anti-fraud landscape and to the arrival of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO).

CONT Committee is organising an exchange of views with OLAF and Commission representatives on the restructuring of OLAF, in order to receive more detailed information about the background and implications of the reorganisation.

In the exchange of views, CONT Committee will receive more specific information on the revised organisation chart and the reasoning behind the changes made, particularly on the level of senior management and directorates. The OLAF and Commission representatives are expected to explain the background of the restructuring, in particular: the preparatory evaluations conducted; the financial implications and impact on staff; and the organisational solutions chosen to ensure operational continuity and facilitate future cooperation with the European Public Prosecutor's Office.

More information on OLAF and its activities can be found on the Office's [website](#).

15:00 - 15:45

In camera

7. STATE OF PLAY OF THE REVIEW OF THE EIB'S ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING ('AML') AND COUNTERING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM ('CFT') PROCESSES

CONT/9/03539



Exchange of views with EIB representatives

Administrator: Olivier Sautière

Although the EIB has formally committed to applying "zero tolerance to fraud and corruption", a Luxembourgish paper (Luxtimes) recently reported whistleblowing complaints at the EIB ([Link to Luxtimes article](#)) highlighting weaknesses in the EIB's internal governance mechanisms and a disregard for anti-money laundering rules and practices, in particular in terms of due diligence and know-your-customers checks when the EIB finances projects worldwide. These shortcomings in the EIB's internal mechanisms and governance structures were also highlighted in the [report](#) on 'Control of the financial activities of the EIB - annual report 2018' voted in plenary session on 9 July 2020.

In its response letter of 6 July 2020 to the CONT committee's request for information, the EIB informed that the EIB's internal audit service had carried out in 2019 a review of the anti-money laundering ("AML") and countering the financing of terrorism ("CFT") processes and stated that this review highlighted both 1) some shortcomings with regard to compliance with certain AML/CFT requirements and 2) the need for further improvements in the Bank's AML/CFT procedures and policies as well as control environment. In order to plan and execute all work necessary to close the gaps identified in this Internal Audit review, a task force was set up involving all the relevant EIB's Governing Bodies.

This exchange of views will take stock of these findings, the progress made by the EIB in mitigating and closing identified compliance gaps and the current situation of the EIB's due diligence controls in order to fully align with the Anti-Money Laundering Directives ([AMLD IV](#) and [AMLD V](#)) as well as best practices and standards prescribed by the Financial Action Task Force ([FATF](#)).

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9. NEXT MEETINGS

- 28 September 2020 (Brussels)
- 1 October 2020 (Brussels)

PAPERLESS PROGRAMME (INTERNAL USERS ONLY)

Access CONT committee meeting documents on [eMeeting](#) or any CONT committee information on [eCommittee](#)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact the [CONT Secretariat](#) or visit the [website](#) of the CONT committee

NEWS FROM POLICY DEPARTMENT - BUDGETARY AFFAIRS

Recent Publications

CONT

At a Glance "[Nominations for Members of the European Court of Auditors](#)"

In-depth Analysis "[Follow up to the 2009 and 2014 Studies on the Code of Conduct for Commissioners - Improving Effectiveness and Efficiency](#)"

In-depth Analysis "[Gaps and Errors in the TED database](#)"

Study "[The European Public Prosecutor's Office: Strategies for coping with complexity](#)"

Study "[Effectiveness of cohesion policy: learning from the project characteristics that produce the best results](#)"

BUDG

Briefing "[Next Generation EU - Where are assigned revenue? Which impact in 2021?](#)"

Study "[How EU funds tackle economic divide in the European Union](#)"

Study "[Documenting climate mainstreaming in the EU budget - making the system more transparent, stringent and comprehensive](#)"

Briefing "[Assigned revenue in the Recovery Plan - The frog that wishes to be as big as the ox?](#)"

Study "[A Just Transition Fund - How the EU budget can best assist in the necessary transition from fossil fuels to sustainable energy](#)" (Available in [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#))

Briefing "[The net operating balances: Variants, emerging numbers and history](#)" (Available in [DA](#), [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [NL](#), [PL](#), [SV](#))

Briefing "[Why net operating balances are a distorted indicator of a Member State's benefit from the EU budget](#)" (Available in [DA](#), [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [NL](#), [PL](#), [SV](#))

Briefing "[The benefits of EU membership are not measured by net operating balances](#)" (Available in [DA](#), [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [NL](#), [PL](#), [SV](#))

Briefing "[Strategies to overcome the 'juste retour' perspective on the EU budget](#)" (Available in [DA](#), [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [NL](#), [PL](#), [SV](#))

At A Glance "[The net operating balances or the 'juste retour' approach](#)" (Available in [DA](#), [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [NL](#), [PL](#), [SV](#))

At A Glance "[Net operating balances indicator: A distorted indicator of a Member State's benefit from the EU budget](#)" (Available in [DA](#), [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [NL](#), [PL](#), [SV](#))

At A Glance "[EU membership benefits: Not measured by net operating balances](#)" (Available in [DA](#), [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [NL](#), [PL](#), [SV](#))

At A Glance "[How to overcome the 'juste retour' obsession](#)" (Available in [DA](#), [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [NL](#), [PL](#), [SV](#))

At A Glance "[I want my money back': The history of national rebates](#)" (Available in [DA](#), [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [NL](#), [PL](#), [SV](#))

Study "[Pilot projects and preparatory actions \(PP/PA\) in the EU budget 2014-2019](#)"

Forthcoming Publications

CONT

- Study 'The largest 50 beneficiaries in each EU Member State of CAP and cohesion funds'

- Study 'MEP's pension rights before and after the Members Statute in 2009'

The European Parliament has concluded a **new framework contract on external expertise** in the field of budgetary affairs, mainly for the BUDG and CONT committees. Following on a public call for tenders, seven bids have been received, checked and evaluated. Service contracts for the years 2020-24 have been signed with the following consultancies and think-tanks:

AEGIS, a network of academics from different universities, the main partners from Spain, Germany and Italy;

Blomeyer & Sanz Ltd., based in Spain, leading a group of institutes from Austria, Czechia, Germany, Italy and

Poland;

Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), a research think-tank from Brussels, with partners from Belgium, France, Latvia and UK;

Centre for Strategy & Evaluation Services LLP (CSES), a consultancy from UK and Ireland;

Deloitte Belgium, an audit company;

European Economic Research Ltd. (Europe-Economics), a consultancy from UK;

Mr Ivailo KALFIN, a former MEP and former Minister in Bulgaria, with some associated experts.

For more information see the publication of the procurement outcome:

<https://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:215928-2020:TEXT:EN:HTML> or contact the Policy Department: poldep-budg@europarl.europa.eu

CONTACTS

Policy Department for Budgetary Affairs

poldep-budg@ep.europa.eu

[Policy Department Webpage](#)

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