



# NOTULEN

Vergadering van maandag 25 oktober 2021, 14.00 - 16.00 uur en 16.45 - 18.45 uur  
en dinsdag 26 oktober 2021, 9.00 - 12.00 uur, 13.45 - 15.45 uur en 16.45 - 18.45 uur

De vergadering wordt op maandag 25 oktober 2021 om 14.06 uur geopend onder voorzitterschap van Monika Hohlmeier (voorzitter).

## 25 oktober 2021, 14.00 - 16.00 uur

### 1. Aanneming van de agenda

De ontwerpagenda wordt aangenomen in de volgorde zoals blijkt uit deze notulen.

### 2. Mededelingen van de voorzitter

Punt 6 wordt achter gesloten deuren behandeld.

### 3. Goedkeuring van notulen van vergaderingen

- 27 september 2021 - 1 oktober 2021

PV – PE697.829v01-00

De notulen worden goedgekeurd.

## *Samen met de Commissie werkgelegenheid en sociale zaken (EMPL)*

### 4. Publieke hoorzitting over de capaciteit voor degelijke uitgavencontroles op de verhoogde begroting van het MFK en NGEU CONT/9/07341

Sprekers: Monika Hohlmeier, Lara Wolters, Eulalia Rubio (Institut J. Delors), Zsolt Darvas (Bruegel Institute), Mark Schelfhout (Europese Commissie, DG ECFIN), Jozsef Peter Martin (Transparency International Hungary), Frank Sébert (Europese Commissie, DG REGIO), Judit Oroszki (ERK), Andreas Bolkart (ERK), Katalin Cseh, Elzbieta Rafalska, Tomáš Zdechovský, Joachim Kuhs

De vergadering wordt om 16.35 uur geschorst.

\* \* \*

De vergadering wordt om 16.59 uur hervat.

**25 oktober 2021, 16.45 - 17.45 uur**

**5. Vervolgonderzoek naar mogelijk misbruik van EU-landbouwfondsen voor Slowakije**

CONT/9/07390

- Gedachtewisseling met vertegenwoordigers van de Europese Commissie en OLAF en met de Slowaakse minister van Landbouw

Sprekers: Monika Hohlmeier, Samuel Vlčan (Slowaakse minister van Landbouw), Michael Scannell (Europese Commissie, DG AGRI), Margarete Hofmann (OLAF), Michal Wiezik, Mikuláš Peksa, Tomáš Zdechovský

**25 oktober 2021, 17.45 - 18.45 uur**

**6. De OLAF-ervaring: a paradigmatisch geval van wanbeheer van Europese fondsen**

CONT/9/07405

- Gedachtewisseling met vertegenwoordigers van de Commissie en OLAF

Sprekers: Monika Hohlmeier, Ville Itälä (directeur-generaal, OLAF), Michael Scannell (Europese Commissie, DG AGRI), Tomáš Zdechovský, Daniel Freund, Joachim Kuhs, Amira Szony (OLAF), Francesco Albore (OLAF), Mikuláš Peksa

De vergadering wordt om 19.03 uur gesloten.

\* \* \*

De vergadering wordt om 9.08 uur geopend onder voorzitterschap van Monika Hohlmeier (voorzitter).

26 oktober 2021, 9.00 - 11.00 uur

\*\*\* Stemming op afstand \*\*\*

**7. Opening van de stemming op afstand: eerste ronde – amendementen**

**8. De impact van georganiseerde misdaad op de eigen middelen van de EU en op het misbruik van EU-middelen, met bijzondere aandacht voor gedeeld beheer vanuit het oogpunt van audit en controle**

CONT/9/04473

2020/2221(INI)

Rapporteur:

Tomáš Zdechovský (PPE)

PR – PE695.313v02-00

AM – PE697.562v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Goedkeuring ontwerpverslag

**Besluit:** Het ontwerpverslag wordt goedgekeurd: 29 stemmen voor en 1 tegen, bij 0 onthoudingen (zie uitslag van de hoofdelijke stemming en bijlage I).

**9. Evaluatie van de preventie maatregelen ter voorkoming van corruptie, onregelmatige uitgaven en het misbruik van EU- en nationale middelen bij noodfondsen en op crisisgerelateerde uitgaventerreinen**

CONT/9/04477

2020/2222(INI)

Rapporteur:

Michèle Rivasi (Verts/ALE)

PR – PE695.295v01-00

AM – PE695.296v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Goedkeuring ontwerpverslag

**Besluit:** Het ontwerpverslag wordt goedgekeurd: 27 stemmen voor en 1 tegen, bij 2 onthoudingen (zie uitslag van de hoofdelijke stemming en bijlage I).

**10. Digitalisering van de Europese rapportage, monitoring en controle**

CONT/9/06035

2021/2054(INL)

Rapporteur:

Maria Grapini (S&D)

PR – PE696.492v01-00

AM – PE697.748v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Goedkeuring ontwerpverslag

**Besluit:** Het ontwerpverslag wordt goedgekeurd: 28 stemmen voor en 1 tegen, bij 1 onthouding (zie uitslag van de hoofdelijke stemming en bijlage I)

**\*\*\* Einde van de stemming op afstand \*\*\***

**26 oktober 2021, 9.00 - 11.00 uur**

**11. Jaarverslag 2020 van de Europese Rekenkamer**

CONT/9/07387

Rapporteur:

Olivier Chastel (Renew)

- Presentatie van het jaarverslag over het begrotingsjaar 2020 door Klaus-Heiner Lehne, voorzitter van de Europese Rekenkamer
- In aanwezigheid van commissaris Johannes Hahn, verantwoordelijk voor begroting en administratie, en Tony Murphy, rapporterend lid van de Europese Rekenkamer

Sprekers: Monika Hohlmeier, Klaus-Heiner Lehne (voorzitter ERK), Johannes Hahn (commissaris voor Begroting en Administratie), Olivier Chastel, Tony Murphy (ERK), Tsvetelina Penkova, Viola von Cramon-Taubadel, Joachim Kuhs, Tomáš Zdechovský, Isabel García Muñoz, Markus Pieper

**26 oktober 2021, 11.00 - 12.00 uur**

***Europese gendergelijkheidsweek***

**12. Gendergelijkheid in de kwijting 2019**

CONT/9/07082

Rapporteur:

Katalin Cseh (Renew)

DT – PE696.479v02-00

- Gedachtewisseling

Sprekers: Monika Hohlmeier, Katalin Cseh, Tomáš Zdechovský, Isabel García Muñoz

De vergadering wordt om 11.50 uur geschorst.

\* \* \*

De vergadering wordt om 13.51 uur hervat.

**26 oktober 2021, 13.45 - 14.45 uur**

**\*\*\* Stemming op afstand \*\*\***

**13. Opening van de stemming op afstand: tweede ronde – eindstemming**

**\*\*\* Einde van de stemming op afstand \*\*\***

**14. Methode van de Europese Commissie voor verslaglegging en foutenpercentages, indeling in risicocategorieën en voorbehouden**

CONT/9/07354

- Gedachtewisseling met de vertegenwoordigers van de Commissie

Sprekers: Monika Hohlmeier, Rosa Aldea-Busquets (Europese Commissie, DG BUDG), Catherine Heldmaier-Regnier (Europese Commissie, DG BUDG), Joachim Kuhs

**26 oktober 2021, 14.45 - 15.45 uur**

***Met gesloten deuren***

**15. Coördinatorenvergadering**

De vergadering wordt om 15.55 uur geschorst.

\* \* \*

De vergadering wordt om 16.50 uur hervat.

**26 oktober 2021, 16.45 - 18.45 uur**

**16. Workshop over de status van de uitvoering van aanbestedingsprocedures bij EU-agentschappen: de transparantie vergroten en de flexibiliteit beoordelen**

CONT/9/07391

Rapporteur:

Ramona Strugariu (Renew)

- Presentatie door de beleidsondersteunende afdeling Begrotingszaken (PolDep D)

Sprekers: Monika Hohlmeier, Ramona Strugariu, Valeria Rota, (ERK), Victoria Gil Casado (Europese Commissie, DG BUDG), Miroslava Scholten (Utrecht University), Tomáš Zdechovský, Joachim Kuhs, Søren Brostrup Nielsen (EEA), Herve Yves Caniard (Frontex), Nerimantas Steikunas (EMA)

**17. Rondvraag**

**18. Volgende vergaderingen**

- 8-9 november 2021

- 15 november 2021

De vergadering wordt om 18.54 uur gesloten.

## Results of roll-call votes

8. The impact of organised crime on own resources of the EU and on the misuse of EU funds with a particular focus on s hare d management from an auditing and control perspective .....	8
8.1 Final vote .....	8
9. INI Evaluation of Preventive measures for avoiding corruption, irregular spending and misuse of EU and national funds in case of emergency funds and crisis re late d s pending are as 9	
9.1 Final vote .....	9
10. Draft report with recommendations to the Commission on digitalisation of the Europe an reporting, monitoring and audit (2021/2054(INL)) .....	10
10.1 Final vote .....	10

### Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

## 8. The impact of organised crime on own resources of the EU and on the misuse of EU funds with a particular focus on shared management from an auditing and control perspective

### 8.1 Final vote

29	+
ECR	Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Vincenzo Sofo
ID	Matteo Adinolfi, Joachim Kuhs
NI	Sabrina Pignedoli
PPE	Lefteris Christoforou, José Manuel Fernandes, Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Petri Sarvamaa, Michal Wiezik, Angelika Winzig, Tomáš Zdechovský
Renew	Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu
S&D	Caterina Chinnici, Corina Crețu, Isabel García Muñoz, Maria Grapini, Tsvetelina Penkova, Lara Wolters
The Left	Luke Ming Flanagan, Younous Omarjee
Verts/ALE	Daniel Freund, Michèle Rivasi, Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

1	-
ID	Jean-François Jalkh

0	0



**9. INI Evaluation of Preventive measures for avoiding corruption, irregular spending and misuse of EU and national funds in case of emergency funds and crisis related spending are as**

**9.1 Final vote**

27	+
ECR	Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Vincenzo Sofo
NI	Sabrina Pignedoli
PPE	Lefteris Christoforou, José Manuel Fernandes, Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Petri Sarvamaa, Michal Wiezik, Angelika Winzig, Tomáš Zdechovský
Renew	Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu
S&D	Caterina Chinnici, Corina Crețu, Isabel García Muñoz, Maria Grapini, Tsvetelina Penkova, Lara Wolters
The Left	Luke Ming Flanagan, Younous Omarjee
Verts/ALE	Daniel Freund, Michèle Rivasi, Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

1	-
ID	Jean-François Jalkh

2	0
ID	Matteo Adinolfi, Joachim Kuhs

## 10. Draft report with recommendations to the Commission on digitalisation of the Europe an reporting, monitoring and audit (2021/2054(INL))

### 10.1 Final vote

28	+
ECR	Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Vincenzo Sofo
ID	Matteo Adinolfi, Joachim Kuhs
NI	Sabrina Pignedoli
PPE	Lefteris Christoforou, José Manuel Fernandes, Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Petri Sarvamaa, Michal Wiezik, Angelika Winzig, Tomáš Zdechovský
Renew	Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Pierre Karle skind, Ramona Strugariu
S&D	Caterina Chinnici, Corina Crețu, Isabel García Muñoz, Maria Grapini,
The Left	Luke Ming Flanagan, Younous Omarjee
Verts/ALE	Daniel Freund, Michèle Rivasi, Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

1	-
ID	Jean-François Jalkh

1	0
ECR	Ryszard Czarnecki

Corrections to votes and voting intentions	
+	Ryszard Czarnecki
-	
0	

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/  
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/ΚΟΗΛΟΛΙΓΑΤΕ ΝΙΜΕΚΙΡΙ/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/  
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNÍH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/  
JELENĹTI ÍV/REĢĪSTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/  
LISTĂ DE PREZENȚĂ/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČÍH/LĂSNĂOLOLISTA/NĂRVAROLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjetništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/Birou/Predsedníctvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Monika Hohlmeier, Isabel García Muñoz, Petri Sarvamaa*, Caterina Chinnici*
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Βουλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/ Nariai/Képviselők/Membri/Leden/Poslowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Lara Wolters, Tomáš Zdechovský, Joachim Kuhs, Katalin Cseh*, Michal Wiezik, Tsvetelina Penkova*, Markus Pieper, Olivier Chastel, Sabrina Pignedoli, Ryszard Czarnecki, Luke Ming Flanagan, Lefteris Christoforou*, Claudiu Manda*, Angelika Winzig*
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Supleanter
Maria Grapini, Mikuláš Peksa Elzbieta Rafalska, Viola von Cramon-Taubadel Ramona Strugariu, Pascal Durand*, Andrey Novakov*

(\*) remote participation

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/Τοčka dnevnog reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkés punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Τοčka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan)

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebētāji/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Obszerwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Oprazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Εσimehe 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
Samuel Vlčan (Slovakia, Minister Of Agriculture), Eulalia Rubio (Institut J. Delors), Zsolt Darvas (Bruegel Institute), Jozsef Peter Martin (Transparency International Hungary), Mirosława Scholten (Utrecht University)

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nðukogu/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/Komisja/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)
Mark Schelfhout (European Commission, DG ECFIN), Frank Sébert (European Commission, DG REGIO), Michael Scannell (European Commission, DG AGRI), Johannes Hahn (European Commissioner, DG BUDG), Rosa Aldea-Busquets (European Commission, DG BUDG), Catherine Heldmaier-Regnier (European Commission, DG BUDG), Victoria Gil Casado (European Commission, DG BUDG)
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 toimielimet ja elimet/Andra institutioner och organ
Judit Oroszki (ECA), Andreas Bolkart (ECA), Tony Murphy (ECA), Valeria Rota (ECA), Klaus-Heiner Lehne (ECA President), Margarete Hofmann (OLAF), Francesco Albore (OLAF), Ville Itälä (Director-General, OLAF), Amira Szony (OLAF), Søren Brostrup Nielsen (EEA), Herve Yves Caniard (Frontex), Nerimantas Steikunas (EMA)

Други участници/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/Ini účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistajat/Övriga deltagare

<p>Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppenes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats 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/Secretariado dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö/De politiska grupernas sekretariat</p>	
<p>PPE S&amp;D Renew ID Verts/ALE ECR The Left NI</p>	

<p>Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantseleri/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</p>	
<p>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/Generalsekretära 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 generalného tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli</p>	
<p>Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Directorate-General/Direction générale/Glavna uprava/Direzione generale/Ģenerāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direktorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat</p>	
<p>DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG EPRS DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG LINC DG FINS DG ITEC DG SAFE</p>	

Πравна служба/Service Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Óigusteenistus/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
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
Diego Rasetti, Kaare Barslev, Fernando Gallego Osuna, Cristina Degueldre, Kristyna Zavelova, Ana Maria Nogueira, Evelyn Waldherr, Giulia Bastianello, Caterina Benincasa, Anna Aresu, Chiara Chiodo, Juan Pedro Diaz Martinez, Hans Stander
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assistenten
Kameliya, Velcheva, Asta Skripiene

- \* (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/  
 Pirmininkas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predseda/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/Képviselő/  
 Membru/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membru/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Длъжностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Dužnosnik/  
 Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/Urządник/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/  
 Tjänsteman

## CONT Vote 26 October 2021

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

**The impact of organised crime on own resources of the EU and on the misuse of EU funds with a particular focus on share d management from an auditing and control perspective**

<b>50</b>	<b>Amendments adopted</b>
	LIBE 1 A, 6, 7, CA 1, 12, 13, 36, LIBE 4, CA 2, AGRI 2, AGRI 7, AGRI 8, AGRI 9, AGRI 10 A, AGRI 11, AGRI 22, AGRI 25, 18, LIBE 13, CA 3, 23, 24, 25, CA 4, 29, 30, CA 5, 35, CA 6, CA 7, AGRI 19, 46, 47, CA 8, CA 9, 57, 58, 59, 61, CA 10, 68, 69, 73, CA 11, LIBE 10, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

<b>1</b>	<b>Amendments rejected</b>
	71

<b>78</b>	<b>Amendments fallen (including not vote d/withdrawn)</b>
	LIBE 1 B, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 62, AGRI 1 A, AGRI 1 B, AGRI 12, AGRI 13, AGRI 3, AGRI 4, AGRI 5, AGRI 6, AGRI 10 B, AGRI 14, AGRI 15, AGRI 16, AGRI 17 B, AGRI 20, AGRI 21, 19, 20, 21, 22, 38, 60, 26, 27, 28, AGRI 17 A, 33, 34, 39, 40, AGRI 18, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 31, 48, 49, 54, 50, 51, 52, 53, 55, 56, 64, 65, 66, 70, 72, 74, 75, 76, 77, 37, 32, 63, AGRI 23, AGRI 24, LIBE 2, LIBE 3, LIBE 5, LIBE 6, LIBE 7, LIBE 8, LIBE 9, LIBE 11, LIBE 12

**INI Evaluation of Preventive measures for avoiding corruption, irregular spending and misuse of EU and national funds in case of emergency funds and crisis related spending are as**

<b>64</b>	<b>Amendments adopted</b>
	24, 25, CA 1, 28, 29, CA 2, CA 3, CA 4, CA 5, CA 6, 49, 50 Part 1, 50 Part 2, 51, 52, 54, CA 7, CA 8, 60, 62, CA 9, CA 10, CA 11, CA 12, 74, 75, 76, CA 13, 80, CA 14, CA 15, CA 16, 88, CA 17, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, CA 18, 101, 102, 103, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, CA 19, CA 20, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, CA 21

<b>1</b>	<b>Amendments rejected</b>
	30

<b>76</b>	<b>Amendments fallen (including not vote d/withdrawn)</b>

26, 27, 31, 32, LIBE 3, 33, 34, 36, LIBE 5, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, LIBE 8, LIBE 10, 42, 43, 44, 46, LIBE 1, LIBE 2, LIBE 6, 45, 47, 48, LIBE 4, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, LIBE 12, LIBE 14, 61, 63, 64, 65, 66, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 77, 78, 79, LIBE 9, 81, 83, LIBE 7, 67, 82, 53, 84, 85, 86, 87, 104 Part 1, 104 Part 2, LIBE 11, 89, LIBE 13, 97, 98, 99, 100, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 22

**Draft report with recommendations to the Commission on digitalisation of the Europe an re porting, monitoring and audit (2021/2054(INL))**

<b>52</b>	<b>Amendments adopted</b>
	31, CA 15, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 Part 1, CA 4, CA 5, CA 6, 46 Part 1, CA 7, 49, 50, CA 8, CA 13, 56, 57, 58, 59, CA 14, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 68, CA 9, 71, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77, 1, CA 10, CA 1, 6, 7, CA 11, 11, 12, CA 2, CA 3, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, CA 12

<b>5</b>	<b>Amendments rejected</b>
	38 Part 2, 46 Part 2, 67, 21, 28

<b>37</b>	<b>Amendments fallen (including not vote d/withdrawn)</b>
	32, 33, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 60, 61, 69, 70, 74, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 29, 30





## COORDINATORS' MEETING

**26 October 2021**

**14:45 - 15:45**

**Brussels, Visio/Remote meeting**

**(meeting room SPINELLI 3E2)**

### Summary of Coordinator's recommendations

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**Present:**

Coordinators: EPP: Tomáš ZDECHOVSKY and Petri SARVAMAA (Deputy Coordinator)  
S&D: Claudiu MANDA  
Renew: Olivier CHASTEL  
Greens: Viola VON CRAMON-TAUBADEL (Deputy Coordinator)  
ID: Joachim KUHS  
ECR: Ryszard CZARNECKI  
The Left: Luke Ming FLANAGAN

## **Items for decision**

### **1. New referrals:**

- 1.1. Opinion under Rule 57 RoP on the AFET INI report on "control of implementation of EU funds in Lebanon"**
- 1.2. Opinion to the LIBE INI on the second annual RoL report from the Commission attribution**
- 1.3. Opinion to ECON under rule 56 on the Anti-Money Laundering Authority (AMLA), 2021/0240(COD)**

### **Decision:**

Coordinators decided that:

- Renew will have the rapporteurship for the opinion under Rule 57 RoP on the AFET INI report on "control of implementation of EU funds in Lebanon";
- EPP will have the rapporteurship for the opinion to the LIBE INI on the second annual RoL report from the Commission attribution;
- EPP will have the rapporteurship opinion to ECON under rule 56 on the Anti-Money Laundering Authority (AMLA), 2021/0240(COD).

There was furthermore agreement on the following elements:

- Coordinators would for the future try to coordinate the distribution of reports/opinions before Coordinators meetings;
- Groups will communicate the names of rapporteurs to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

### **2. Outcome of and follow-up to the CONT Coordinators meeting on 12 October**

### **Decision:**

Coordinators approved the summary of the discussions at the CONT Coordinators meeting on 12 October, which will be updated with some more elements from the Greens and The Left based on their written contributions.

Coordinators approved the setting up of a working group to deal with a possible update of the regulatory framework and technical aspects of the discharge procedure

consisting of representatives from the CONT Secretariat and the legal service, political advisors and assistants.

The working group cannot take decisions but can submit proposals to the Coordinators.

### **3. Rapporteurs for public hearings**

#### **Decision:**

Coordinators decided:

- to continue with the system whereby all political groups are invited to propose experts for public hearings;
- that there will not be appointed rapporteurs for public hearings;
- that political groups are welcome to notify the Secretariat if they have Members interested to follow a public hearing more closely.

### **4. Draft position paper from CCC Chair Tajani on the outcome of the consultation "Rethinking Parliamentary Democracy"**

#### **Decision:**

Coordinators decided that a letter should be sent to the Chair of the CCC asking to continue allowing remote voting in Committee and, when necessary and desired by Members, to continue the practice of holding meetings in hybrid format with the possibility of remote participation.

### **5. Request from AGRI to have one or two members participating in the CONT mission to Italy/Rome in week 21, 2022**

#### **Decision:**

Coordinators decided to invite one member of the AGRI Committee to participate in the CONT mission to Italy/Rome in week 21.

### **6. Request from LIBE to have one member participating in the CONT mission to Poland in week 29, 2022**

#### **Decision:**

Coordinators decided to invite one member of the LIBE Committee to participate in the CONT mission to Poland in week 29.

## **7. Request from LIBE to be associated with the CONT public hearing concerning investigative journalism**

### **Decision:**

Coordinators decided that Members of LIBE are invited to participate in the public hearing concerning investigative journalism and that LIBE can propose one expert to this hearing. LIBE will be informed that CONT expects that the same will apply for LIBE hearings, which partially concern CONT competences, without always involving the CCC on these matters.

## **8. Screening of ECA reports**

<b><i>Report</i></b>	<b><i>Title</i></b>	<b><i>Date of publication</i></b>	<b><i>Pol.group</i></b>	<b><i>Secretariat's/Chair's proposal</i></b>
ECA SR 24/2021	Performance-based financing in Cohesion policy: worthy ambitions, but obstacles remained in the 2014-2020 period	21 Oct 2021	EPP	To be presented in CONT, possibly jointly with REGI

### **Decision:**

Coordinators approved the proposal.

## **Items for information**

### **9. State of play of appointments on CONT files**

- [Work in progress document](#)
- [Overview of the points](#)

### **10. Documents received for information - see Annex VII**

### **11. Any other business**

EPP proposed to appoint rapporteurs when it was decided to put ad hoc issues on the CONT agenda. The proposal was supported and should be implemented through separate decisions concerning rapporteurships for such ad hoc issues.

The Chair proposed the setting up of an EP/ECA working group to discuss the future ECA annual performance reporting. Such a working group would consist of approximately 5 members of ECA, 4 CONT Members and 3 participants from the CONT Secretariat. The Chair proposed that she and Olivier Chastel (as rapporteur for the Commission discharge) should be members of the working group and asked the political groups to nominate two other participants.

## **12. Time and date of next Coordinators' meeting**

- 29-30 November 2021

# NEWSLETTER

## COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2021**

13.45 – 14.00 (*joint committee procedure (Rule 58)*)

*and*

14.00 – 16.00 and 16.45 – 18.45

**TUESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2021**

9.00 – 12.00 and 13.45 – 15.45 and 16.45 – 18.45

*Room: Altiero Spinelli 3E2 and remote participation with Interactio*

**25 October 2021, 13.45 – 14.00 - Joint Committee Procedure (Rule 58)**

### 1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

### 2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*\*\* REMOTE VOTING TIME \*\*\***

***The remote voting session for BUDG-CONT votes is scheduled for:***

***Monday, 25 October 2021, 14.00-15.00 - vote on amendments***

***-Monday, 25 October 2021, 16.45-17.45 - final vote***

***All Members taking part in the vote (present either in committee meeting room or via remote participation) will vote via the application EP-Vote.***

### 3. THE REVISION OF THE FINANCIAL REGULATION IN VIEW OF THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE 2021-2027 MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

CJ13/9/07111 - [2021/2162\(INI\)](#)



**Younous Omarjee** (The Left)

## Adoption of draft report

Rapporteurs: BUDG [Nils Ušakovs](#) (S&D) and CONT [Monika Hohlmeier](#) (PPE)

Administrators: BUDG Emiliano Imeroni / CONT Hans Stander

Shadow rapporteurs: **Angelika Winzig** (PPE), **Claudiu Manda** (S&D), **Pascal Durand** (Renew), **Nicolae Ștefănuță** (Renew), **Rasmus Andresen** (Greens/ALE), **Daniel Freund** (Greens/ALE), **Hélène Laporte** (ID), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Bogdan Rzońca** (ECR) and

The Commission announced in spring 2021 that they would present a proposal for the targeted revision of the Financial Regulation in December 2021. This revision is meant to align the Financial Regulation with the MFF 2021-2027 and NextGenerationEU. Parliament decided, in a joint committee procedure, to draft an own initiative report that would present to the Commission the Parliament's views on the revision. This own initiative report will be voted in Committee, and is planned for adoption in plenary in the November II session.

In the draft report, Parliament expresses its views on how democratic oversight and accountability can be reinforced, in particular as regards external assigned revenue and off-budget instruments. The draft report also contains the Parliament's views on how the protection of the EU budget can be improved in the Financial Regulation.

The Members of the Committees on Budgets and on Budgetary Control tabled 152 amendments to the draft report. On this basis, 18 compromise amendments were agreed by the Rapporteurs and Shadow Rapporteurs, on matters ranging from allining the Financial Regulation with the Rule of Law conditionality to addressing conflicting professional interests in procurement procedures.

Event	Body	Date
Adoption in Plenary	Plenary	November 2021

**\*\*\* END OF REMOTE VOTING TIME\*\*\***

## 4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

## 5. NEXT MEETINGS

**25 October 2021, 14.00 – 16.00**

### 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

- 25 October, from 16.45-18.45 - DE EN FR IT EL ES PT CS PL SK RO

- All other sessions: DE EN FR IT EL ES PT CS HU PL RO.

### Webstreaming

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

## 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- 27 September-1 October 2021

PV – PE697.829v01-00

## IN ASSOCIATION WITH COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (EMPL)

### 4. PUBLIC HEARING ON "CAPACITY FOR PROPER EXPENDITURE CONTROLS OF THE INCREASED BUDGET OF THE MFF AND NGEU"

CONT/9/07341





## Public hearing - see programme below

Rapporteurs: [Katalin Cseh](#) (Renew), [Lara Wolters](#) (S&D)

Administrator: Diego Rasetti

The public hearing is intended to present the main component of Next Generation EU (NGEU), namely the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) and how it combines with the new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), jointly deploying an unprecedented

volume of resources to achieve the fundamental objectives mainly identified in the recovery and resilience plans and by the MFF priorities. The implementing actions of both the instruments will occur in a context of pressure and urgency, generating a potentially relevant level of risk of mismanagement. The detection of such risk and the measures to be adopted for mitigating it, in particular for prevention and where needed for correction, would be discussed together with the features that effective controlling systems should provide in such circumstances.

The public hearing will offer a review and analysis of the state of play of the recovery and resilience plans submitted by the Member States to the European Commission. The experts will discuss how this facility crosses with the new MFF and in particular the possible overlapping and duplications of some MFF co-funded activities with those pursued by the RRF. The RRF will be analysed by the experts having specific regard to the controlling system adopted by the European Commission, the role of Member States and the likely more complex coordination and cooperation with the national audit authorities.

Overall, the debate will pave the way to a better understanding on how the future discharge procedure could be built, how the European Court of Auditors will give assurance and report to the discharge authority, and how the effectiveness of EP scrutiny could be safeguarded.



The expert panel is composed by representatives from the European Court of Auditors and the European Commission and other organisations and think tanks (Transparency International, the Brussels European and Global Economic Laboratory- BRUEGEL and Institut Jacques Delors). The Committee has invited the following speakers:

- Mrs. Eulalia RUBIO, Institut J. Delors
- Mr. Zsolt DARVAS, Bruegel
- Mr. Jozsef Peter MARTIN, Director, Transparency International Hungary
- Mr. Mark SCHELFHOUT, Head of Unit, Control, planning and evaluation, Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN)
- Mr. Frank SÉBERT, Director, Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion (DG REGIO)
- Mrs. Judit OROSZKI, European Court of Auditors
- Mr. Andreas BOLKART, European Court of Auditors

## PROGRAMME

### Public remote hearing on

*“Capacity of proper expenditure controls of the increased budget of the MFF and NGEU”*

**25 October 2021 (14.00-16.00)**

**Brussels, Altiero Spinelli, room 3E2, and remote participation**

14:00 - 14:03	Opening remarks and introduction by the Chair, Ms Hohlmeier
14:03 - 15:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The NGEU and the new MFF - To balance urgency and controls - <i>Eulalia Rubio, Institut Delors Think Tank</i></li><li>• An overview of the Recovery &amp; Resilience Plans - <i>Zsolt DARVAS, Bruegel Institute (TBC)</i></li><li>• Corruption risks around EU funds – what is at stake in Hungary - <i>Mr. Jozsef Peter MARTIN, Transparency International Hungary</i></li><li>• NGEU : Auditing the Recovery &amp; Resilience Facility - <i>Mr Mark SCHELFHOUT, Head of Unit, Control, planning and evaluation, Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN)</i></li><li>• New MFF Auditing Cohesion, ERDF &amp; ESF+ - <i>Mr. Frank SÉBERT, Director, Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion (DG REGIO)</i></li><li>• Auditing the new MFF and NGEU - a strategic challenge for the ECA - <i>Mrs. Judit Oroszki, Mr. Andreas Bolkart, European Court of Auditors</i></li></ul>
15:05 - 15:55	Questions, replies, debate
15:55 - 16:00	Closing remarks by the Chair

*The meeting will be suspended until 16.45*

\* \* \*

*25 October 2021, 16.45 – 17.45*

## 5. FOLLOW-UP ON INVESTIGATIONS OF POSSIBLE MISUSE OF EU FUNDS FOR AGRICULTURE IN SLOVAKIA

CONT/9/07390

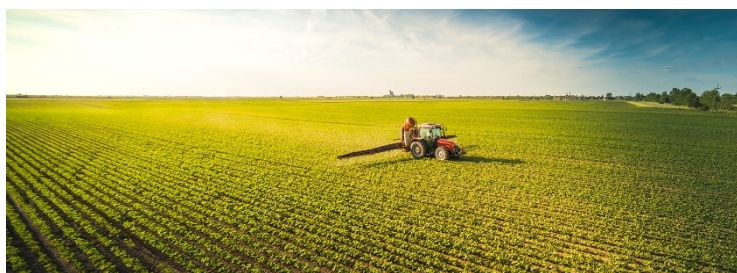
### Exchange of views with representatives of the European Commission, OLAF and Slovakian Minister of Agriculture

Administrator: Fernando Gallego Osuna

The European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) closed three administrative investigations<sup>1</sup> in 2020 into possible misuse of EU funds for agriculture in Slovakia. Findings include **irregularities in direct payments and systemic weaknesses in national verification procedures.**

The first investigation analysed applications with **claims that overlapped on given land plots.** The investigation did not confirm any irregular payments, as it found that the land plots were declared ineligible for the given year by the Paying Agency and therefore no EU funds were at stake.

The second investigation was closed in June 2020 and focused on applications submitted by one company suspected of intentionally claiming EU payments on **ineligible land.** The investigation established numerous issues, for example ineligibility of the land due to the fact that its main use was other than agricultural activity.



The third investigation was closed in December 2020. The investigation identified how certain areas that had been claimed for years by some companies were in fact **not covered by legally valid lease contracts.**

In addition to the specific payment-related findings, the OLAF's investigations uncovered several **weaknesses in the control and management system** for direct payments in Slovakia. The OLAF found that **controls are very limited on whether the disposal of land by an applicant is lawful.** The OLAF's analysis also revealed that the internal verification procedures adopted by the Slovak national authority in charge of the management of agricultural land under State ownership or land without a known private owner should be improved as regards its **transparency and legal certainty.**

Another related issue, the **Dobytkár case**<sup>2</sup>, also under investigation, originated with the Slovak Agricultural Paying Agency. The corruption scheme existed for fourteen years and was based on a simple principle: People with ties to Slovak oligarchs and the Direction party and the Slovak National Party founded intermediary agencies for procuring subsidies. Their contacts at the ministry granted them access to internal rules and assessment criteria. The applications they made were much more successful than the applications of any other entities who tried to win EU and state support without their "assistance". Investigators of the National Criminal Agency (Národná kriminálna agentúra - NAKA) verified at least 14 projects with a combined

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/media-corner/news/21-01-2021/olaf-closes-cases-eu-agricultural-funds-slovakia\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/media-corner/news/21-01-2021/olaf-closes-cases-eu-agricultural-funds-slovakia_en)

<sup>2</sup> <https://european-pirateparty.eu/the-slovak-mafia/>

value of EUR 4.5 million. In 13 projects bribes were paid and the projects were successful, in one case the applicant refused corruption and the project was not admitted by the APA. For a detailed recollection of this case, please refer to the 2020 CONT Briefing “The Dobytkár corruption and money laundering scandal”.

In relation with these cases, both the Directorate-General for Agriculture (DG AGRI) and the Slovak Administration launched their own audits. The Slovak government contracted PwC to carry out a forensic audit<sup>3</sup> discovering that previous fraud cases included enormous fees for consultants, intentional reassessments of individual projects, and false assessments of the financial health of the companies benefitting from the payments. **The fraudulent activities are alleged to have started back in 2006**, and the agency’s previous director Juraj Kožuch is now under investigation.

Juraj Kožuch was the director of the Slovak Paying Agency until April 2020, under the Slovak Minister of Agriculture Gabriela Matečná. She was replaced by Minister Ján Mičovský (between 21 March 2020 to 1 April 2021), under whose mandate the Slovak Paying Agency had three different directors (Beatrix Galandová between April and May 2020, Tibor Guniš between May and November 2020, and Jaroslav Jánoš, between November 2020 and June 2021). **On June 2021, Samuel Vlčan was appointed Minister of Agriculture, nominating Jozef Kiss as the new director of the Paying Agency.**

In October 2021, DG AGRI provisionally suspended the accreditation of the Slovak Paying Agency, as a result of corruption cases for which several of its former officials are being prosecuted. The Slovak Agency was recommended to implement 72 remedial measures in order to continue delivering payments to farmers. On 15 October, Minister Samuel Vlčan announced<sup>4</sup> **that the Paying Agency had regained its accreditation and could restart its activities.**

**25 October 2021, 17.45 – 18.45**

## **6. THE OLAF EXPERIENCE: A PARADIGMATIC CASE OF MISMANAGEMENT OF EUROPEAN FUNDS**

CONT/9/07405

### **Exchange of views with Commission and OLAF representatives**

Administrator: Diego Rasetti

#### **IN CAMERA SESSION UNDER CONFIDENTIALITY REGIME - PARTICIPATION FOR MEPS ONLY**

Under the Regulation in force, the European Anti-Fraud Office’s (OLAF) mission includes to contribute to the design and the development of methods of preventing and combating fraud, corruption and any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union. The Director-General reports regularly to the European Parliament on the findings of investigations carried out by the Office. In this exchange of views, OLAF will share the lesson learnt in the course of its investigations on guest-houses projects co-funded in several Member states mainly with resources from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

The possibility to co-finance these projects with the aim of supporting rural economy (encouraging tourism activities in the rural areas) is offered in many Member States. The Member States have the responsibility for project selection and control of the eligibility through the competent Paying Agencies. The operation, comprising an investment in infrastructure or productive investments, maintains its original objective within five years from its completion and the Member State’s authorities should ensure it, via regular administrative checks and on-the-spot visits as well as *ex-post* checks. The effectiveness and efficiency of national authorities in carrying out of such verifications and controls are audited by the Commission’s services (Directorate-General for

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<sup>3</sup> [https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/short\\_news/audit-reveals-large-scale-fraud-of-eu-funds-in-slovak-agricultural-paying-agency/](https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/short_news/audit-reveals-large-scale-fraud-of-eu-funds-in-slovak-agricultural-paying-agency/)

<sup>4</sup> <https://newsnow.tasr.sk/featured/vlcan-ppa-has-passed-european-audit-will-regain-accreditation/>

Agriculture and Rural Development).

The protection of the EU financial interests is guaranteed by the Commission's conformity clearance, allowing the application of financial corrections in case of deficiencies of the management and control systems of the Member States and where their implementation does not comply with the EU rules.

Additionally, where OLAF detects irregularities, further recovery procedures are possible on the ground of the Office's financial recommendations.

Moreover, in case of fraudulent irregularities, the European Public Prosecutor Office (EPPO) can launch judicial proceedings that are followed-up by the Commission's services.

Finally, OLAF also frequently drafts administrative recommendations addressed to the spending directorate-general, providing analyses of the systemic cases of fraud and irregularities and indicating the possible remedies to the competent Commission's service.

However, and in spite of what just mentioned above, the guest-houses projects are prone to frauds and irregularities.

According to the recent study requested by CONT Committee "*Impact of Organised Crime on the EU's Financial Interests*", amongst the violations identified in the field of agricultural funding, the construction of "fake" guest houses that are in fact used as private homes is a recurrent case<sup>5</sup>. Amongst the frequently used malpractices in this area are false claims of targeted financing and abuse of positions. Situations of conflict of interests within the authorities entrusted with awarding decisions and controlling tasks are frequent. According to studies<sup>6</sup> and data accessible in open sources (e.g. NGO Center for the Study of Democracy) in some Member States, violations have been found at 88 % of 288 guest houses inspected in the framework of a control campaign in this sector. According to the same source, irregularities in the area of guest houses in a specific Member State was estimated to reach over 23mIn Euro.

The reputational damage adds up to the financial impact of such cases. On the media<sup>7</sup>, several cases have been reported in the last years about abuses that have involved also politically exposed persons, suggesting that the issue is related to undetected conflict of interests, not effective prevention measures and inadequate control systems by the Member States, not properly addressed by the Commission.

The debate *in camera* will offer insights for a better understanding of the problem and will give the opportunity of exploring possible remedies to be integrated in the framework currently in force to mitigate the risk and enhance detection and prevention of similar malpractices.

\* \* \*

**26 October 2021, 9.00 – 11.00**

## **7. OPENING OF THE REMOTE VOTING PROCEDURE: FIRST ROUND - AMENDMENTS**

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[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/697019/IPOL\\_STU\(2021\)697019\(ANN01\)\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/697019/IPOL_STU(2021)697019(ANN01)_EN.pdf)

6 <https://extranet.greens-efa.eu/public/media/file/1/6769>

7 <https://euelectionsbulgaria.com/the-biggest-fraud-with-eu-money-in-bulgaria-so-far-the-guesthouses-scam/>  
<https://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/news/fraud-with-agricultural-funds-in-bulgaria-will-eu-prosecutor-take-notice/>  
<https://sofiaglobe.com/2019/05/01/bulgaria-state-fund-agriculture-official-resigns-over-link-to-guest-house/>

**\*\*\* REMOTE VOTING TIME \*\*\***

**Opening of the remote voting procedure: first round - amendments**

**The precise opening and closing times of the votes, provisionally set from 9.00 to 10:00, will be announced by the Chair.**

***All Members taking part in the vote (present either in committee meeting room or via remote participation) will vote via the application EP-Vote.***

**8. THE IMPACT OF ORGANISED CRIME ON OWN RESOURCES OF THE EU AND ON THE MISUSE OF EU FUNDS WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON SHARED MANAGEMENT FROM AN AUDITING AND CONTROL PERSPECTIVE**

CONT/9/04473- [2020/2221\(INI\)](#)

**Adoption of draft report**



Rapporteur: [Tomáš Zdechovský](#) (EPP)

Administrator: Fernando Gallego Osuna

Shadow Rapporteurs: **Caterina Chinnici** (S&D), **Ramona Strugariu** (Renew), **Mikulas Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Matteo Adinolfi** (ID), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR) and **Luke Ming Flanagan** (The Left)

This own-initiative report looks into the impact of organised crime on own resources of the EU and on the misuse of EU funds with a particular focus on shared management from an auditing and control perspective.

The report details the different types of fraud carried out by organised crime impacting the EU finances, from revenue fraud, for which value-added tax fraud is a significant component, to the misuse of common agricultural policy funds, including land grabbing. Fraud in public procurement and coronavirus-related fraud activities, including fraud concerning health infrastructure, is also covered.

The report calls on the Commission and Member States to consider a more coherent use of all the available tools to detect and tackle fraud, particularly the Arachne IT platform and EDES. It also calls on the Commission to start developing a common approach for assessing the impact of organised crime in EU finances and tackling it together with the Member States.

**Timetable**

Event	Body	Date
Adoption in Plenary	Plenary	December 2021

## 9. EVALUATION OF PREVENTIVE MEASURES FOR AVOIDING CORRUPTION, IRREGULAR SPENDING AND MISUSE OF EU AND NATIONAL FUNDS IN CASE OF EMERGENCY FUNDS AND CRISIS-RELATED SPENDING AREAS

CONT/9/04477 - [2020/2222\(INI\)](#)



### Adoption of draft report

Rapporteur: [Michèle Rivasi](#) (Greens/EFA)  
Administrator: Ana Maria Nogueira

Shadow Rapporteurs: **Andrey Novakov** (EPP), **Isabel García Muñoz** (S&D), **Ramona Strugariu** (Renew), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR) and **Luke Ming Flanagan** (The Left)

Evidence indicates that corruption is likely to adversely affect long-term economic growth through its impact on investment, taxation, public expenditures and human development. Corruption is also likely to undermine the regulatory environment and the efficiency of state institutions as rent-seeking distorts incentives and decision making processes. Corruption is also an aggravating factor in crises - corruption and emergencies feed off each other, creating a vicious cycle of mismanagement, abuse and deeper crises. The COVID-19 pandemic was seen by some as an opportunity to take advantage of the emergency to abuse their power for private gain. A wave of corruption-related incidents linked to the current situation underscores the importance of continuing and strengthening transparency and accountability efforts. In many countries, responses to COVID-19 have seen breaches of anti-corruption standards such as cutting corners in procurement processes. Government pandemic response plans and policies do not give enough attention to anti-corruption and governance. Plans need to involve anti-corruption actions from the start, as well as identifying and assessing corruption risks. They should also promote integrity, transparency, accountability and participation in order to minimise corruption in future pandemics.

Curbing corruption requires government ownership of reforms, international cooperation, and a joint effort with civil society and the private sector. The Lisbon Treaty took the direction of reinforcing the role of the European Parliament, to bring about more coherence and democratic accountability. This draft report proposes concrete measures regarding the design, promotion and implementation of better anti-corruption policies.

Event	Body	Date
Adoption in Plenary	Plenary	December 2021

## 10. DIGITALISATION OF THE EUROPEAN REPORTING, MONITORING AND AUDIT

CONT/9/06035 - [2021/2054\(INL\)](#)



## Adoption of draft report

Rapporteur: [Maria Grapini](#) (S&D)  
Administrator: Kaare Barslev

Shadow Rapporteurs: **Monika Hohlmeier** (EPP), **Olivier Chastel** (Renew), **Mikulas Peksa** (Greens), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR) and **Luke Ming Flanagan** (The Left)

The draft report contains a concrete legislative proposal on the setting up of an integrated and interoperable electronic information and monitoring system on those ultimately benefitting, directly or indirectly from Union funding. The proposal is that the Commission shall develop such a system and make it available to the financial actors and entities responsible for tasks of budget implementation. The system shall also include a single data-mining and risk-scoring tool to access and analyse data. Such a system would ensure more efficiency in overseeing who is benefitting from Union's funds and thereby help in preventing fraud, detecting conflict of interests, and ensuring greater transparency about ultimate beneficiaries. The report is also a follow-up to the work the CONT Committee has done over several years in order to ensure transparency about the largest beneficiaries of EU funds. The report is intended as an input for the Commission's work on proposals for the upcoming revision of the Financial Regulation.

Members have proposed 77 amendments and, on that basis, 15 compromise amendments have been proposed. The proposed amendments, among other things, specify some data that needs to be collected and propose to lower the ownership threshold for publication of information of final beneficiaries.

### Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Adoption in Plenary	Plenary	November 2021

**\*\*\* END OF REMOTE VOTING TIME\*\*\***

**26 October 2021, 9.00 – 11.00**

## 8. EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS' ANNUAL REPORT 2020

CONT/9/07387





**Presentation of the Annual Report concerning the financial year 2020, by the President of the Court, Klaus-Heiner Lehne**

**In the presence of Commissioner Johannes Hahn, responsible for Budget and Administration, and ECA Member, Tony Murphy**

Rapporteur:

[Olivier Chastel](#) (Renew)

Kaare Barslev / Fernando Gallego Osuna

Administrators:

Shadow Rapporteurs: **Monika Hohlmeier** (EPP), **Tsvetelina Penkova** (S&D), **Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel** (Greens/EFA), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR) and **Luke Ming Flanagan** (The Left)



The President of the European Court of Auditors will present the main conclusions of the annual report of the Court for the financial year 2020.

According to Article 287 of the TFEU, the ECA draws up an annual report at the end of each financial year. This report, including the statement of assurance (DAS - *Declaration d'Assurance*) on the reliability of the accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions, is considered by the Council and the Parliament in the framework of the discharge procedure under

Article 319 of the TFEU.

Upon examination of all relevant documents and a series of hearings with Commissioners in the EU's main spending areas, Parliament will decide in spring 2022 - acting on a recommendation from the Council - whether to grant discharge to the Commission and other EU bodies in respect of the implementation of the EU budget for the year 2020.

The 2020 Annual Report as well as the 2020 EU Audit in brief will be published on Tuesday 26 October in 23 EU official languages on the [ECA website](#). It will also be available on the [CONT website](#) after publication.



**26 October 2021, 11.00 – 12.00**

**European Gender Equality Week**

## **9. GENDER EQUALITY IN THE DISCHARGE 2019**

CONT/9/07082



### **Exchange of views**

Rapporteur: [Katalin Cseh](#) (Renew)  
Administrator: Hans Stander

From 25 to 29 October 2021, the European Parliament organises the EU Gender Equality week 2021. The CONT Committee contributes to the activities of the week with an exchange of views on how gender has featured in the 2019 discharge procedure.

To support the exchange of views, the Rapporteur has prepared a [working document](#) that summarises the way 'gender', in all its aspects, has featured in the 52 discharge reports of the discharge procedure for 2019.

The exchange of views is aimed at discussing what the experience of the Members is with gender in the discharge, in their role of Rapporteur, Shadow Rapporteur or as a regular Member of the Budgetary Control Committee. It is also aimed at exploring the questions of if and how the practice of reporting on gender equality in the discharge procedure can be improved.

In this light, it is important to note that the Commission has expressed a strong commitment to gender budgeting and to including more sex-disaggregated data in its reports. This increases the availability of gender related information in the documents that feed into the discharge procedure and therefore improve the way gender can be covered in the discharge reports.



***The meeting will be suspended until 13.45***

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**26 October 2021, 13.45 – 14.45**

## **13. OPENING OF THE REMOTE VOTING PROCEDURE: SECOND ROUND - FINAL VOTE**

**\*\*\* REMOTE VOTING TIME \*\*\***

***Opening of the remote voting procedure: second round- final vote  
The precise opening and closing times of the votes, provisionally set from 13.45 to 14.45, will  
be announced by the Chair.***

***All Members taking part in the vote (present either in committee meeting room or via remote participation) will vote via the application EP-Vote.***

**\*\*\* END OF REMOTE VOTING TIME\*\*\***

## **10. EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S METHODOLOGY FOR REPORTING AND ERROR RATE, RISK CATEGORISATION, AND RESERVATIONS**

CONT/9/07354

### **Exchange of views with Commission representatives**

Administrator: Fernando Gallego Osuna

For the AAR 2020, the Commission has changed its methodology regarding the risk categorisation for calculating the error rate depending on the level of risk at payment. In addition to differentiating between high risk and low risk expenditure, a third category of medium risk has been added.

Other topics, such as the reporting of the error rate and the overall impact on reservations, could be discussed by DG BUDG in connection with this topic.

For 2020, on the one hand, the Commission estimates the risk at closure at 0.9% overall. Based on its detailed and bottom-up approach, the Commission argues that it is in a position to demonstrate the differentiated situation for the funds managed. Accordingly, the Commission considers that:

- lower risk expenditure, with a risk at payment below 1.9%, represent 56% of the total expenditure,
- medium risk expenditure, with a risk at payment between 1.9% and 2.5%, represent 16% of the total expenditure and,
- higher risk expenditure, with a risk at payment above 2.5% or serious weaknesses identified, represent 28% of the total expenditure.

On the other hand, the European Court of Auditors classifies risk according to different criteria, resulting in two broad categories: high risk expenditure, subject to simplified rules and is mainly composed of entitlements-based payments; and high risk expenditure, with more complex rules, and composed mainly of reimbursement-based payments.

It was proposed to invite the Commission (DG BUDG) to this CONT meeting to explain and discuss the new methodology for categorising the risk at payment and the impact this may have on the calculation of the error rate.

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**26 October 2021, 14.45 – 15.45**

## **15. COORDINATORS' MEETING**

**Meeting held *in camera* with the remote participation tool Interactio**



Coordinators present in Brussels can attend the meeting in room: **Altiero Spinelli 3E2**.

*The meeting will be suspended until 16.45*

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**26 October 2021, 16.45 – 18.45**

## **16. WORKSHOP ON "THE STATE OF IMPLEMENTING PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES IN EU AGENCIES: ENHANCING TRANSPARENCY AND ASSESSING FLEXIBILITY"**

CONT/9/07391

**Presentation by Policy Department on Budgetary Affairs (PolDep D)**



Rapporteur: [Ramona Strugariu](#) (Renew)  
Administrator: Rudolfs Verdins (PolDep D)

The workshop aims to inform the Members of the Budgetary Control Committee on the subject of procurement procedures in EU decentralised agencies and the control measures in place. The workshop will assess transparency of the procurement procedures, whether the current rules and procedures provide the necessary flexibility, how digitalisation changes the procurement, and make recommendations for the future.

The workshop will comprise interventions of the European Court of Auditors, the European Commission, a presentation by *Dr Miroslava Scholten* (Utrecht University), and interventions of three agencies: European Environmental Agency (which currently presides over the EU agencies Network), European Border and Coast Guard Agency, and European Medicines Agency.

The speakers will outline the legislation, rules and procedures, which define and shape the procurement process in EU decentralised agencies. The workshop will assess whether the current legal framework and set of procedures fit well the various size agencies and provide for the necessary flexibility for the procurement needs specific to the EU decentralised agencies, it will tackle possible weaknesses, both in the EU decentralised agencies procurement process itself, as well as in its accountability and control mechanisms, and assess whether the procedures are commensurate or they may present an administrative burden. The workshop will also look into new techniques, the ways in which digital technologies come into play, and how those are proving useful in procurement procedures.

## **17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

## **18. NEXT MEETINGS**

- 8-9 November 2021
- 15 November 2021

**Thursday 28 October 2021, 9.15 – 10.45**

*Brussels - Room: József Antall (2Q2) and remote participation*

**Joint meeting ENVI-CONT-ECON (under ENVI slot)**

ENVI(2021)1028\_1

**Exchange of views with the European Court of Auditors on the Special Report 22/2021: Sustainable finance: More consistent EU action needed to redirect finance towards sustainable investment**

The draft agenda of the meeting was sent to Members on 20 October 2021.  
The draft agenda and meeting documents are available in the [meeting file](#)

**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

### [Publications Catalogue 2019 - 2021](#)

#### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

##### CONT

Study [Requirements for a unique beneficiary database](#)

Proceedings of the workshop [Missing Trader Fraud: definition, effects, prevention and solutions](#)

Study [Impact of Organised Crime on the EU's Financial Interests](#)

Briefing [Budgetary control of the Sustainable Development Goals in the EU budget](#)

Briefing [The financial management of visitor groups to the national parliaments](#)

At a Glance [The Impact of Organised Crime on the EU's Financial Interests](#)

Proceedings of the workshop [The EU's current role in GRECO and ambitions for the future: How to move towards full membership](#)

Briefing [EU cooperation with the Group of States against Corruption \(GRECO\): how to move towards full membership](#)

Background note on [Simplification" for the CONT hearing](#)

Briefing [Missing Trader Intra-Community Fraud](#)

Study [The largest 50 beneficiaries in each EU Member State of CAP and cohesion funds"](#)

Proceedings of the workshop [Use of big data and AI in fighting corruption and misuse of public funds - good practice, ways forward and how to integrate new technology into contemporary control framework"](#)

Study [MEP's pension rights before and after the Members Statute in 2009](#)

Study [Special advisers to the Commission \(2014 - 2019\)](#)

Briefing [Gender and geographical balance in the governance structures of Horizon 2020](#)

Briefing [Horizon 2020: Geographical balance of beneficiaries](#)

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

Documentation workshop [Open spaces at EU institutions versus traditional work spaces: justification, evolution, evaluation and results](#)

##### BUDG

Briefing: ["The Sustainable Development Goals in the EU budget"](#)

Briefing ["The financial management of visitor groups to the national parliaments"](#)

Briefing ["The integration of the European Development Funds into the MFF 2021 - 2027"](#)

In-depth Analysis ["Implementation of the EU Trust Funds and the Facility for Refugees in Turkey"](#) Update - March 2021

In-depth Analysis ["Reform of the EU own resources"](#)

Briefing ["EU Gender budgeting: where do we stand?"](#)

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

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

Study ["How EU funds tackle economic divide in the European Union"](#) (Available in [DE](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#), [RO](#))

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

stringent and comprehensive”

#### FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

##### BUDG

- Study "The new EFSD+ and the EIB's external lending mandate"
- Briefing "The borrowing strategy for Next Generation EU: design, challenges and opportunities"
- Study "Recovery, Brexit, Off-Budget instruments... what should be addressed in the next revision of the Financial Regulation?"
- Study "New EU own resources: possibilities and limitations of steering effects and sectoral policy co-benefits"
- Study "Locations of the EU decentralised agencies"
- Study "The Management Boards of the Decentralised Agencies"
- Study "The "cost of non-EU – agencies", focusing on the health and safety cluster of the EU decentralised agencies"

##### CONT

- Study "Identifying patterns of fraud with EU funds under shared management, similarities and differences between member states"
- Briefing "The Early-detection and exclusion system"

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

##### BUDG

- Workshop on [The EU borrowing strategy for Next Generation EU: design, challenges and opportunities](#)

##### CONT

- Workshop on [The state of implementing procurement procedures in EU Agencies: enhancing transparency and assessing flexibility](#)

#### CONTACTS

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Policy Department Webpage: <https://poldepnet.in.ep.europa.eu/home/budgetary-affairs/presentation-of-poldep-d.html>

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