



PROTOKÓŁ

Posiedzenie w dniu 15 listopada 2021 r. w godz. 13.45–16.15 i 16.45–18.45

BRUKSELA

Sala: József Antall (6Q2)

Monika Hohlmeier (przewodnicząca) otworzyła posiedzenie w poniedziałek 15 listopada 2021 r. o godz. 13.57.

15 listopada 2021 r. w godz. 13.45–14.45

1. Przyjęcie porządku dziennego

Projekt porządku dziennego został przyjęty z następującymi zmianami:

- Przełożono punkt 7.

2. Komunikaty przewodniczącej:

Przewodnicząca zwróciła uwagę posłów na informacje zawarte w CONT News.

3. Zatwierdzenie protokołów posiedzeń

- 14 października 2021 r. PV – PE699.149v01-00

Protokół został zatwierdzony.

4. Sprawozdanie Europejskiego Trybunału Obrachunkowego w sprawie wykonania budżetu UE – stan z końca 2020 r.

CONT/9/07518

- Prezentacja sprawozdania – *François-Roger Cazala*, członek ETO sporządzający

sprawozdanie

Głos zabrali: Monika Hohlmeier, François-Roger Cazala (członek ETO), Bernhard Windisch (Komisja Europejska, DG BUDG), Olivier Chastel, Tsvetelina Penkova, Mikuláš Peksa.

15 listopada 2021 r. w godz. 14.45–16.15

5. Absolutorium za rok 2020: budżet ogólny UE – Komisja Europejska CONT/9/06482

2021/2106(DEC) COM(2021)0381[01] – C9-0258/2021

Sprawozdawca:

Olivier Chastel (Renew)

Przedm. właśc.:

CONT

Opiniodaw.:

AFET, DEVE, INTA, BUDG, ECON, EMPL, ENVI, ITRE, IMCO, TRAN,
REGI, AGRI, PECH, CULT, JURI, LIBE, AFCO, FEMM, PETI

- Wymiana poglądów z komisarz do spraw innowacji, badań naukowych, kultury, edukacji i młodzieży *Mariya Gabriel* w obecności członka ETO sporządzającego sprawozdanie *Mihailsa Kozlovs*

Głos zabrali: Monika Hohlmeier, Mihails Kozlovs (członek ETO), Mariya Gabriel (komisarz ds. innowacji, badań naukowych, kultury, edukacji i młodzieży), Olivier Chastel, Tsvetelina Penkova, Mikuláš Peksa, Ramona Strugariu.

Ramona Strugariu (posłanka do PE) przewodniczyła posiedzeniu w godz. 15.56–16.15.

Posiedzenie zawieszono o godz. 16.15

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Olivier Chastel (poseł do PE) wznowił posiedzenie o godz. 16.53.

15 listopada 2021 r. w godz. 16.45–18.15

6. Absolutorium za rok 2020: budżet ogólny UE – Komisja Europejska CONT/9/06482

2021/2106(DEC) COM(2021)0381[01] – C9-0258/2021

Sprawozdawca:

Olivier Chastel (Renew)

Przedm. właśc.:

CONT

Opiniodaw.:

AFET, DEVE, INTA, BUDG, ECON, EMPL, ENVI, ITRE, IMCO, TRAN,
REGI, AGRI, PECH, CULT, JURI, LIBE, AFCO, FEMM, PETI

- Wymiana poglądów z komisarzem do spraw miejsc pracy i praw socjalnych *Nicolasem Schmitem* w obecności członków ETO sporządzających sprawozdanie *Lazarosa Lazarou* i *Pietra Russo*

Głos zabrali: Olivier Chastel, Lazaros Lazarou (członek ETO), Pietro Russo (członek ETO), Nicolas Schmit (komisarz ds. miejsc pracy i praw socjalnych), Monika Hohlmeier (uwagi pisemne), Tsvetelina Penkova, Mikuláš Peksa.

Tomáš Zdechovský (poseł do PE) przewodniczył posiedzeniu w godz. 17.39–18.17.

15 listopada 2021 r. w godz. 18.15–18.45

7. **Udział komisji CONT w delegacji komisji LIBE do Lublany (Słowenia) w dniach 13–15 października 2021 r.**

CONT/9/07511

- Sprawozdanie dla komisji – Mikuláš Peksa

Punkt ten przełożono na posiedzenie w dniach 29–30 listopada.

8. **Sprawy różne**

9. **Następne posiedzenia**

- 29–30 listopada 2021 r.

- 6 grudnia 2021 r.

Posiedzenie zamknięto o godz. 18.17

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

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| Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezidium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*) |
| Monika Hohlmeier (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, Tsvetelina Penkova, Tomáš Zdechovský |
| Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Pötagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter |
| Mikuláš Peksa, Ramona Strugariu |

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| 209 (7) |
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| 216 (3) |
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| 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/Darbotvarkēs punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan) |
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| Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer |
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| 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 |
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| Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nöukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Vijeće/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*) |
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| Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisja/Komissio/Kommissionen (*) |
| Mariya Gabriel (Commissioner responsible for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth); Nicolas Schmit (Commissioner responsible for Jobs and Social rights), Bernhard Windisch, Nicolas Clisson, Jean Subtil, Mateja Munda (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/Istituzzjonijiet 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 toimieliimet ja elimet/Andra institutioner och organ |
| ECA |
| François-Roger Cazala, Mihails Kozlovs, Lazaros Lazarou, Pietro Russo, Bogdan Sinca, Edite Dzalbe, Laura Graudina, Jean-Francois Hynderick, Michal Machowski, Helena Piron |

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| Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Dруги sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Iní účastníci/Dруги udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare |
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| <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 sihteeristöt/De politiska grupernas sekretariat</p> | |
| PPE | |
| S&D | Anna Ksiączakova |
| Renew | Stephanie Antoine-Jacquemard, Beata Jurik |
| ID | |
| Verts/ALE | Robert Godina |
| ECR | |
| The Left | |
| NI | |

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| <p>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 predsjednika/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Preşedinte/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/Ġeneralsekretāra 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</p> | |
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| <p>Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Directorate-General/Direction générale/Glavna uprava/Direzione generale/Ġenerāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direttorat Generali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat</p> | |
| DG PRES | |
| DG IPOL | Monika Strasser, Niels Fischer |
| DG EXPO | |
| DG EPRS | |
| DG COMM | |
| DG PERS | |
| DG INLO | |
| DG TRAD | |
| DG LINC | |
| DG FINS | |
| DG ITEC | |
| DG SAFE | |

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| <p>Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Öigusteenistus/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 Jurídico/Právný servis/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten</p> |
| <p>Aleksandra Kerestelieva</p> |
| <p>Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusseksretariat/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/Secretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet</p> |
| <p>Evelyn Waldherr, Kaare Barslev, Giulia Bastianello, Fernando Gallego Osuna, Benoît Lefort, Ana Maria Nogueira, Diego Rasetti, Paulus Johannes Stander, Kristyna Zavelova</p> |
| <p>Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistenten</p> |
| <p>Kameliya Velcheva</p> |

- * (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/Képviselő/Membru/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membru/Člen/Poslanec/Jāsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Длъжностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Dužnosnik/Funcionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/Urządник/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE MEETING MONDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2021

13.45 – 16.15 and 16.45 – 18.45

Room: József Antall (6Q2)

15 November 2021, 13.45 – 14.45

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The CONT 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

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 MEETING

- 14 OCTOBER 2021 PE699.149v01-00

4. REPORT OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE EU BUDGET - STATUS AT THE END OF 2020

CONT/9/07518



Presentation of the report by reporting ECA Member, François-Roger Cazala

Rapporteur:
Administrators:
Gallego Osuna

[Olivier Chastel](#) (Renew)
Kaare Barslev / Fernando

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 reporting Member of the European Court of Auditors, Mr François-Roger Cazala, will present the main conclusions of the Report on the performance of the EU budget - Status at the end of 2020. His intervention will focus on Chapter 1, "Performance framework", while the specific chapters will be discussed in the respective hearings.

For the financial year 2020, the Court of Auditors has, for the second time, split the annual report in two parts. This second part covers the performance of spending programmes under the EU budget. The first part of the annual report was presented to the CONT Committee on 26 October.



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*) concerning 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.

The presentation of the European Court of Auditors' Annual Report marks the beginning of the discharge cycle related to the year 2020. 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 Report of the European Court of Auditors on the performance of the EU budget - Status at the end of 2020 will be published in English on the ECA website eca.europa.eu. It will also be available on the [CONT website](#) after publication.

15 November 2021, 14.45 – 16.15

5. 2020 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN COMMISSION
CONT/9/06482 - [2021/2106\(DEC\)](#)



Discharge hearing with Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner responsible for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, in the presence of reporting ECA member Mihails Kozlovs

Rapporteur:
Administrators:
Gallego Osuna

[Olivier Chastel](#) (Renew)
Kaare Barslev / Fernando

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 CONT Committee will hold a hearing with Commissioner Gabriel in the context of the discharge procedure for the Commission for financial year 2020.

Research policy is part of Chapter 4 in the European Court of Auditors' Annual Report entitled "Competitiveness for growth and jobs – MFF heading 1a". The Commission's Directorate-General on Research and Innovation, DG RTD, implements EU funds under this policy field, which in 2019 represented 13,9 % of the total EU budget (EUR 24,1 billion in payments).

DG Research and Innovation is responsible for the Horizon 2020 and the Euratom framework programmes. 2020 was the last year of implementation of Horizon 2020 and intensive preparations of its successor Horizon Europe - the largest R&I programme globally, with the agreed budget of EUR 95.5 billion. DG RTD's expenditure is implemented mainly in direct management in the form of grants to public or private beneficiaries participating in projects. DG RTD had a reservation in its Annual Activity Report for 2019, concerning the Seventh Framework Programme, as its residual error rate was above the materiality threshold at 3,52 %, but due to the new "de minimis rule", there are no reservations open in 2020.



In 2020, 64 (i.e. 48%) of the 133 transactions examined contained errors. For this Chapter, the error was estimated by the Court to reach 3.9%. The ECA results indicate that the level of error remains high for research and innovation expenditure, which was the main source of error, especially as regards personnel costs, and much lower for the rest of the sub-heading. According to the ECA, The Commission has taken action to improve the quality of its ex post audits. However, its supervision and review thereof still has weaknesses. It has revised the method for calculating the representative error rate for Horizon 2020, leading to an increase of 0.41 percentage point.

The discharge hearing will be based on information provided in public documents, such as

- the Court of Auditors' 2020 Annual Report, and
- the new Annual Report on Performance of the EU budget, as well as
- the Commission's Integrated Financial and Reporting package, and
- the 2020 Annual Activity Report of DG RTD.

All the relevant documents can be found on the [CONT website](#).

In accordance with the timetable for the discharge procedure, the written questions for this meeting were sent to the Commission on 28 October 2020, answers were received on Wednesday 10 November and forwarded to the CONT Members immediately.

It is proposed that the hearing with Commissioner Gabriel proceeds as follows:

- Introduction by the reporting Member of the ECA, Mihails Kozlovs, who will present the findings of the respective chapters of the Annual Report 2020, and the Report on the performance of the EU budget;
- Commissioner Gabriel will reply to this introduction;
- CONT Rapporteur and shadow rapporteurs will put questions to the Commissioner and the ECA followed by answers (using the ping-pong system);
- Other Members will question the Commissioner and/or the ECA;
- Closing remarks by the Commissioner.

CONT Timetable

| Event | Body | Date |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Consideration of the draft report | CONT | 10 February 2022 |
| Deadline for amendments | CONT | 1 March 2022 |
| Adoption of draft report | CONT | 31 March 2022 |
| Adoption of report | Plenary | May 2022 |

The meeting will be suspended until 16.45

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15 November 2021 October 2021, 16.45 – 18.45

6. 2020 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN COMMISSION

CONT/9/06482 - [2021/2106\(DEC\)](#)



Discharge hearing with *Nicolas Schmit*, Commissioner responsible for Jobs and Social Rights, in the presence of reporting ECA members *Lazaros Lazarou* and *Pietro Russo*

Rapporteur:
Administrators:
Gallego Osuna

[Olivier Chastel](#) (Renew)
Kaare Barslev / Fernando

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 CONT Committee will hold a hearing with Commissioner Schmit in the context of the discharge procedure for the Commission for financial year 2020.

The area of Jobs and Social Rights is covered under Chapter 5 “Economic, social and territorial cohesion” of the Court’s annual report. In 2020, cohesion represented a 34.3% of the total payments, for an amount of EUR 59.5 billion. Spending under this sub-heading focuses on reducing development disparities between the different Member States and regions of the EU and strengthening all regions’ competitiveness. Specifically, these objectives are implemented through, among others, the European Social Fund (ESF), which aims to encourage a high level of employment and the creation of more and better jobs, including measures through the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) targeting regions with a high youth unemployment rate.

Responsibility for implementing the multiannual operational programmes is shared between the Commission (including, among others, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL)) and the Member States.

Audit authorities had reported quantifiable errors in the assurance/closure packages for 64 of the 213 transactions sampled by the ECA from assurance and closure packages. These errors concerned ineligible costs (43), public procurement (21), accounting and calculation errors (six), state aid (two), and missing supporting documents (one). According to the ECA, the number and impact of the errors detected demonstrate that the controls in place do not yet sufficiently mitigate the high inherent risk of error in this area. This particularly concerns managing authorities whose verifications are ineffective for preventing or detecting irregularities in the expenditure declared by beneficiaries. Other errors are the result of decisions taken by managing authorities themselves.

Regarding the error rates, DG EMPL reported rates of 1.4 % for the KPI and 1.9 % for maximum risk. The ECA indicates that DG EMPL did not take full account of possible errors beyond those detected. If DG EMPL had applied the same approach as DG REGIO, its maximum rate would have been 2.1 %.

The discharge hearing will be based on information provided in public documents, such as

- the Court of Auditors' 2020 Annual Report, and
- the new Annual Report on Performance of the EU budget, as well as
- the Commission's Integrated Financial and Reporting package, and
- the 2020 Annual Activity Report of DG EMPL.

All the relevant documents can be found on the [CONT website](#).

In accordance with the timetable for the discharge procedure, the written questions for this meeting were sent to the Commission on 28 October 2020, answers were received on Wednesday 10 November and forwarded to the CONT Members immediately.

It is proposed that the hearing with Commissioner Schmit proceeds as follows:

- Introduction by the reporting Members of the ECA, Lazaros Lazarou and Pietro Russo, who will present the findings of the respective chapters of the Annual Report 2020, and the Report on the performance of the EU budget;
- Commissioner Schmit will reply to this introduction;
- CONT Rapporteur and shadow rapporteurs will put questions to the Commissioner and the Court followed by answers (using the ping-pong system);
- Other Members will question the Commissioner and/or the ECA;
- Closing remarks by the Commissioner.

CONT Timetable

| Event | Body | Date |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Consideration of the draft report | CONT | 10 February 2022 |
| Deadline for amendments | CONT | 1 March 2022 |
| Adoption of draft report | CONT | 31 March 2022 |
| Adoption of report | Plenary | May 2022 |

15 November 2021, 18.15 – 18.45

7. CONT PARTICIPATION IN LIBE MISSION TO LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA ON 13-15

OCTOBER 2021

CONT/9/07511



Reporting back to committee by [Mikuláš Peksa](#)

Administrator:

Ana Maria Nogueira

A LIBE mission to Slovenia took place on 12-13 October. The LIBE Monitoring Group on Democracy, Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights (DRFMG) mission aimed at taking stock of the latest developments in the country regarding the situation of the rule of law, the state of the media freedom and pluralism and the fight against corruption. At the request of the CONT Coordinators to participate to the evaluation of the situation concerning the rule of law in Slovenia, for budgetary control matters and CONT's

competence, Mr Mikuláš Peksa joined the LIBE mission. He will report back to the CONT Committee on the main findings.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9. NEXT MEETINGS

- 29 - 30 November 2021
- 6 December 2021

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

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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](#)"

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

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

Brochure of the workshop "[The EU borrowing strategy for NGEU: design, challenges and opportunities](#)"

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

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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](#)"

BUDG

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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 "Single Audit approach - root causes of the weaknesses in the work of the Member States' management and audit authorities"

- Study "Identifying patterns of fraud with EU funds under shared management, similarities and differences between member states"

- Briefing "The Early-detection and exclusion system"

CONTACTS

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