



CONT\_PV(2022)0314\_1

# ACTA

Reunión del 14 de marzo de 2022, de las 13.45 hasta las 18.00 horas,  
y del 15 de marzo de 2022, de las 9.00 a las 12.00 horas y de las 13.45 a las 18.30 horas

BRUSELAS

La reunión comienza el lunes 14 de marzo de 2022, a las 13.48 horas, bajo la presidencia de Monika Hohlmeier (presidenta).

14 de marzo de 2022, de las 13.45 a las 14.45 horas

1. **Aprobación del orden del día** CONT\_OJ(2022)0314\_1

Se aprueba el orden del día tal como figura en la presente acta.

2. **Comunicaciones de la presidencia**

3. **Mala gestión sistemática del Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural (Feader) en Bulgaria — Investigación sobre las casas de huéspedes**

CONT/9/08527

- Intercambio de puntos de vista con representantes de la OLAF

**Intervienen:** Gilles Boyer, Ville Itälä (OLAF), Christina Borchmann (Comisión Europea, DG AGRI), Petri Sarvamaa, Tsvetelina Penkova, Andrey Novakov.

14 de marzo de 2022, de las 14.45 a las 16.15 horas

*Conjuntamente con la Comisión de Industria, Investigación y Energía (ITRE)*

**4. Informe Especial n.º 02/2022 del TCE titulado «Eficiencia energética en empresas - Se da un cierto ahorro de energía, pero con insuficiencias en la planificación y selección de proyectos»**

CONT/9/08502

Ponente:

Petri Sarvamaa (PPE)

- Presentación del Informe Especial a cargo de Samo Jereb (miembro ponente del TCE)

**Intervienen:** Gilles Boyer, Cristian-Silviu Buşoi, Samo Jereb (TCE), Nicola de Michelis (Comisión Europea, DG REGIO), Petri Sarvamaa, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Claudia Canevari (Comisión Europea, DG ENER), Carlos Sanchez Rivero (Comisión Europea, DG ENER), Jutta Paulus

La reunión se suspende a las 15.45 horas.

\* \* \*

La reunión se reanuda a las 16.47 horas.

**14 de marzo de 2022, de las 16.45 a las 18.00 horas**

***Conjuntamente con la Comisión de Presupuestos (BUDG)***

**5. Estudio sobre la próxima revisión del Reglamento Financiero y la «galaxia presupuestaria» de la UE: cómo salvaguardar y reforzar los principios presupuestarios y el control parlamentario**

CONT/9/08505

- Presentación a cargo del Departamento Temático D

**Intervienen:** Gilles Boyer, Margarida Marques, Iain Begg (CEPS), Jorge Núñez Ferrer (CEPS), Monika Hohlmeier, Nils Ušakovs, Katalin Cseh, Michael Erhart (Comisión Europea, DG BUDG).

La reunión se suspende a las 17.41 horas.

\* \* \*

**15 de marzo de 2022, de las 9.00 a las 10.30 horas**

La reunión comienza a las 9.05 horas bajo la presidencia de Monika Hohlmeier (presidenta).

**\*\*\* Turno de votaciones \*\*\***

La votación de las enmiendas al punto 7 tiene lugar entre las 9.00 y las 10.00 horas y la

votación final entre las 13.45 y las 14.45 horas.  
**Estado de Derecho en 2021**  
CONT/9/07267  
2021/2180(INI)

**Informe de la Comisión sobre el**

Ponente de opinión:

Petri Sarvamaa (PPE)

PA – PE703.024v02-00

AM – PE719.707v01-00

Fondo:

LIBE\* – Terry Reintke (Verts/ALE)

PR – PE704.642v01-00

AM – PE719.809v01-00

Opiniones:

BUDG, CONT\*, JURI\*, AFCO, PETI

- Aprobación del proyecto de opinión

**Decisión:** Se aprueba el proyecto de opinión por 23 votos a favor, 7 votos en contra y 0 abstenciones.

(Véase la página de la votación nominal y el resumen de los resultados en el anexo I)

\*\*\* *Fin del turno de votaciones* \*\*\*

*Conjuntamente con la Comisión de Libertades Civiles, Justicia y Asuntos de Interior (LIBE)*

## **8. Situación actual de la participación de Eslovenia en la Fiscalía Europea**

CONT/9/08504

Intercambio de puntos de vista con Laura Codruța Kövesi (fiscal general europea)

**Intervienen:** Monika Hohlmeier, Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Laura Kövesi (Fiscalía Europea), Marjan Dikaučič (ministro de Justicia de Eslovenia), Ingrid Breit (Comisión Europea, DG JUST), , Petri Sarvamaa, Jeroen Lenaers, Caterina Chinnici, Franco Roberti, Ramona Strugariu, Moritz Körner, Daniel Freund, Konstantinos Arvanitis, Romana Tomc

**15 de marzo de 2022, de las 10.30 a las 12.00 horas**

*Conjuntamente con la Comisión de Transportes y Turismo (TRAN)*

## **9. Análisis n.º 05/2021 del TCE titulado «Grandes proyectos de infraestructuras de transporte: comparación del marco de la UE con el entorno internacional»**

CONT/9/08503

Ponente:

Petri Sarvamaa (PPE)

- Presentación del análisis por Annemie Turtelboom (miembro ponente del TCE)

**Intervienen:** Monika Hohlmeier, Karima Delli, Annemie Turtelboom (TCE), Eddy Liegeois (Comisión Europea, DG MOVE), Petri Sarvamaa, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Dominique Riquet, Mikuláš Peksa, Ciarán Cuffe, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Andrey Novakov

La reunión se suspende a las 11.55 horas.

\* \* \*

La reunión se reanuda a las 13.49 horas.

### **15 de marzo de 2022, de las 13.45 a las 15.00 horas**

**11. Estudio titulado «Single Audit approach - root causes of the weaknesses in the work of the Members States management and audit authorities» (El planteamiento de auditoría única: causas fundamentales de las deficiencias en la labor de las autoridades nacionales de gestión y de auditoría de los Estados miembros)**

CONT/9/08525

Presentación a cargo del Departamento Temático D

**Intervienen:** Monika Hohlmeier, Jack Malan (Centro de Servicios de Evaluación Estratégica), Marta Dimauro (Centro de Servicios de Evaluación Estratégica), Petri Sarvamaa, Christina Borchmann (Comisión Europea, DG AGRI), Franck Sebert (Comisión Europea (DG REGIO/EMPL/DAC), Isabel García Muñoz, Angelika Winzig, Alin Mituța, Michaela Di Bucci (Comisión Europea, DG ECFIN), Markus Pieper.

### **15 de marzo de 2022, de las 15.00 a las 15.45 horas**

**12. Informe de ejecución sobre el Mecanismo de Recuperación y Resiliencia**

CONT/9/07920

2021/2251(INI)

Ponente de opinión:

Isabel García Muñoz (S&D)

PA – PE704.702v01-00

Fondo:

BUDG, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial

PR – PE719.652v01-00

ECON\* – (S&D)

Siegfried Mureșan (PPE)

Dragoș Pișlaru (Renew)

Examen del proyecto de opinión

**Intervienen:** Monika Hohlmeier, Isabel García Muñoz, Angelika Winzig, Alin Mituța, Michaela Di Bucci (Comisión Europea, DG ECFIN), Markus Pieper, Petri Sarvamaa.

La reunión se suspende a las 15.35 horas.

\* \* \*

La reunión se reanuda a las 16.50 horas.

**15 de marzo de 2022, de las 16.45 a las 17.30 horas**

**13. Misión de la Comisión CONT a Bulgaria — información actualizada sobre los preparativos**

CONT/9/08526

- Presentación e información actualizada a cargo de la presidencia

**Intervienen:** Monika Hohlmeier, Rafael López Sánchez (Comisión Europea, DG REGIO/EMPL/DAC), Andrey Novakov, Tsvetelina Penkova, Sophia in 't Veld, Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

**15 de marzo de 2022, de las 17.30 a las 18.30 horas**

**\*\*\* A puerta cerrada \*\*\***

**14. Reunión de los coordinadores**

**15. Asuntos varios**

**16. Próximas reuniones**

- 31 de marzo de 2022
- 20-21 de abril de 2022

La reunión termina a las 18.30 horas.

## Results of roll-call votes

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#### Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

7. The Commission's 2021 Rule of Law report

7.1 Final vote on decision

<b>23</b>	<b>+</b>
PPE	Lefteris Christoforou, José Manuel Fernandes, Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Petri Sarvamaa, Simone Schmiedtbauer, Angelika Winzig, Tomáš Zdechovský
Renew	Gilles Boyer, Olivier Chastel, Pierre Karleskind, Alin Mituța
S&D	Caterina Chinnici, Corina Crețu, Isabel García Muñoz, Claudiu Manda, Sándor Rónai, Lara Wolters
The Left	Luke Ming Flanagan, Younous Omarjee
Verts/ALE	Daniel Freund, Mikuláš Peksa, Michèle Rivasi

<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>
ECR	Ryszard Czarnecki, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Elżbieta Rafalska
ID	Matteo Adinolfi, Jean-François Jalkh, Joachim Kuhs
NI	Sabrina Pignedoli

<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**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/  
JELENĹTI ÍV/REGĪSTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/  
LISTĂ DE PREZENȚĂ/PREZENČNĂ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LĂSNĂOLOLISTA/NĂRVAROLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjetništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezidium/Birou/Předsednictvo/Předsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Monika Hohlmeier (Chair), Isabel García Muñoz (1 <sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair)*, Caterina Chinnici (2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair)*, Gilles Boyer (3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice-Chair), Tomáš Zdechovský(4 <sup>th</sup> Vice-Chair)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Βουλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/ Nariai/Képviselek/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Olivier Chastel*, Lefteris Christoforou*, Ryszard Czarnecki, Luke Ming Flanagan, Daniel Freund*, Mislav Kolakušić*, Alin Mituța*, Markus Pieper, Petri Sarvamaa, Angelika Winzig
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Pötagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Katalin Cseh, Sophia in 't Veld, Marian-Jean Marinescu*, Mikuláš Peksa*, Andrey Novakov, Tsvetelina Penkova, Sabrina Pignedoli, Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel, Ramona Strugariu*

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/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)	
Cristian-Silviu Bușoi, Jutta Paulus	4
Margarida Marques, Nils Ušakovs	5
Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Marjan Dikaučič, Franco Roberti, Moritz Körner, Konstantinos Arvanitis, Romana Tomc	8
Karima Delli, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Dominique Riquet, Ciarán Cuffe, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska	9



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

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

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nöukogu/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 (\*)

Claudia Canevari (DG ENER)\*, Nicola De Michelis (DG REGIO)\*, Michaela Di Bucci (DG ECFIN)\*, Michael Erhart (DG BUDG)\*, Lucas Garvia (DG BUDG)\*, Carlos Sanchez Rivero (DG ENER)\*

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 institūții și organe/Iné inštitúcie a orgány/Muut toimielimet ja elimet/Andra institutioner och organ

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/Inți účastnici/Dруги udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Iain Begg (CEPS), Marjan Dikaučič (Slovenian Minister of Justice), Marta Dimauro (Centre for Strategy & Evaluation Services), Laura Kövesi (EPPO), Jack Malan (Centre for Strategy & Evaluation Services), Margarida Marques, Jorge Núñez Ferrer (CEPS), Eulalia Rubio (Jacques Delors Institute)\*, Annemie Turtelboom (ECA)

<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/Segretarjat gruppi poliitiçi/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secretariado dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö/De politiska gruppernas sekretariat</p>	
PPE	Szymon Ananicz*, Oona Juonala*, Lars Loecke*, David Nosak*
S&D	Christina Avani*, Siobhan Dillon*, Rebeka Maršnjak*, Aurelien Mazuy*, Shane Murphy*, Diana Popova*
Renew	Eva De Troij*, Melek Fikri*, Beata Jurik*, Christian Kroedel*
ID	
Verts/ALE	
ECR	
The Left	Lide Iruin Ibarzabal*, Ondrej Madr*
NI	

<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 predsednika/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>Καбинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο του Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du secrétaire général/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Ġeneralsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli</p>	
<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/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>	<p>Monika Strasser*</p>

Правна служба/Service 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 Juridic/Právný 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/Secretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet
CONT: Evelyn Waldherr, Fernando Gallego Osuna, Hans Stander
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistenten
Asta Skripkienė*, Kameliya Velcheva

\* remote participation

- \* (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/Képvisező/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/Funçionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman

## **COORDINATORS' MEETING**

**Tuesday, 15 March 2022**

**17.30-18.30**

**Brussels, Visio/Remote meeting**

**(SPINELLI 3E2)**

### Draft agenda

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## Items for decision

### 1. New referrals:

#### 1.1. Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence, amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937 (2022/0051 COD)

According to the Commission the "Directive will set out a horizontal framework to foster the contribution of businesses operating in the single market to the respect of the human rights and environment in their own operations and through their value chains, by identifying, preventing, mitigating and accounting for their adverse human rights, and environmental impacts, and having adequate governance, management systems and measures in place to this end."

In particular, the proposed amendment aims to:

- (1) improve corporate governance practices to better integrate risk management and mitigation processes of human rights and environmental risks and impacts, including those stemming from value chains, into corporate strategies;
- (2) avoid fragmentation of due diligence requirements in the single market and create legal certainty for businesses and stakeholders as regards expected behaviour and liability;
- (3) increase corporate accountability for adverse impacts, and ensure coherence for companies regarding obligations under existing and proposed EU initiatives on responsible business conduct;
- (4) improve access to remedies for those affected by adverse human rights and environmental impacts of corporate behaviour;
- (5) being a horizontal instrument focussing on business processes, applying also to the value chain, this Directive will complement other measures in force or proposed, which directly address some specific sustainability challenges or apply in some specific sectors, mostly within the Union.

JURI is the responsible Committee and the text of the proposal etc. can be found [here](#). The Secretariat proposes that CONT does not provide an opinion since the proposal has limited relation with CONT core business.

#### **Proposal:**

Coordinators are invited to decide whether or not to provide an opinion.

### 2. Committee missions and public hearings in 2nd half of 2022

Requests concerning missions and public hearings for the second semester of 2022 have to be sent to the CCC Secretariat at the latest on 25 March. CONT Coordinators have been invited to send their proposals to the Secretariat by 7 March. The proposals received are listed in *Annex I*.

#### **Missions**

Concerning missions, Coordinators are reminded that at their meeting on 27 September 2021, Coordinators decided to plan for a mission to Poland in week 29 (18-22 July). Since this is technically in the second part of 2022, this mission has not been authorised by the CoP and needs to be presented in a request for second half of 2022. Members might also consider a mission to Luxemburg in order to combine a working visit to ECA with a visit of the EIB and the EPPO. Furthermore, ITER would welcome a CONT mission to its premises in Cadarache in order to show the progress of the ITER project. Coordinators are furthermore reminded of the modalities concerning missions:

- The annual quota for Missions within the EU, candidate and EEA countries for CONT is 25 Members. The Chair can take part in missions outside that quota. No more than 12 members (including the Chair) can take part in a mission.
- An ad hoc delegation (Delegations outside the EU, candidate and EEA countries) shall as a rule be composed by up to 7 committee (full or substitute) members, but the Conference of Presidents may authorise to send an ad hoc delegation with more or fewer members (see Article 21(1) of the CoP decision).
- Travel activities should in principle take place during the "turquoise" weeks (weeks 29, 34, 38, 44 and 51).
- The membership of committee missions or ad hoc delegations could be determined by using the rolling D'Hondt method.
- Because of the workload in the first stage of the discharge procedure, the Secretariat would not recommend a mission in weeks 44 and 51.

The Secretariat reminds in relation to the proposal to go to Hungary that general elections will be held in April.

The Secretariat would propose Coordinators to confirm the mission to Poland in week 29 and decide on two further missions for autumn in weeks 38 and 44.

#### **Public hearings:**

The agenda for meetings in autumn is largely dedicated to the annual discharge cycle. Given the insecurity of available meeting time depending on the further evolution of the pandemic, the Secretariat would recommend to plan for only one public hearing to take place in October/November.

#### **Proposal:**

Coordinators are invited to decide on the missions and public hearings for 2nd half of 2022.

### **3. Item of the Palestinian schoolbooks on the agenda for an upcoming CONT meeting**

The Chair proposed to put a discussion on the Palestinian schoolbooks and the new study cards inciting terrorism on the agenda for an upcoming CONT meeting as a follow-up to the CONT meeting of 1/2 September 2021, in line with the decision of Coordinators in their meeting of 12 July 2021. In a written procedure, a majority of Coordinators did not support this proposal (S&D, Renew, Greens and The Left).

At the meeting on 28 February, several Coordinators asked for more information from the Chair concerning this item. The following message had been sent from the Secretariat on 23 February at 11:57:

*"Dear colleagues,*

*Last year's hearing on Palestinian textbooks showed that the content of many Palestinian textbooks does not match the requirements of an unbiased and hate-free curriculum and many horrendous examples remain part of the material taught in schools. While the Commission confirmed that it would undertake a continuously stringent approach and work on a roadmap with the Palestinian Authority to improve the content, the review of the latest material for Palestinian pupils has shown the situation is deteriorating. This is contrary to what has been discussed and agreed during last year's hearing. Given the direct link of EU funding to the Palestinian school system and the Union's interest for peace and stability in the region, the issue thus remains of concern to the CONT committee and requires an expeditious follow-up discussion by the committee.*

*Furthermore, the set-up of last year's hearing was designed to avoid a political debate on Palestine and Israel and instead give room exclusively to the study conducted by the*

Georg Eckert Institute.

A decision was made to not invite a representative of the Palestinian Authority, nor the organisation impact, which reviews the textbooks. The floor was given to the authors of the study, the Commission and the EEAS as the interlocutor on the ground, which allowed a focused and thematic discussion.

In the light of the release of new worrisome school material, I believe it would be of great interest and value to the Committee to organise a follow-up meeting to discuss the new material and broaden the discussion room by extending the invitation this time to the Palestinian education minister or a another representative of the Palestinian education ministry (who already requested to be part of the first hearing), the experts of im-pact as well as the responsible Commission colleagues from DG NEAR to discuss the new study cards and the roadmap, which was highlighted during last year's discussion. The study cards are attached for your consideration.

As a former Minister of Education I can only stress the importance of unbiased and hate-free schoolbooks to allow pupils of all ages a regular school experience.

I hope you share my view and I am looking forward to discuss this matter during the next Coordinator's meeting.

Kind regards,

Monika Hohlmeier"

The study cards can be found in Annex II.

### **Proposal:**

Coordinators are invited to discuss whether to put the item of the Palestinian schoolbooks and the new study cards on the agenda for an upcoming CONT meeting.

## **Items for information**

### **4. 2023 Budget - Pilot projects and preparatory actions (PP-PAs)**

Coordinators will find the [draft calendar key dates of the 2023 Budget procedure](#).

Coordinators attention is drawn to the upcoming deadline for tabling indicative PP-PA proposals to BUDG for pre-assessment by the European Commission, which has been set by the BUDG Committee for 1 April, 17.00.

At this stage, Members may submit PP-PA proposals to BUDG for pre-assessment by the European Commission using the form available [here](#): proposals that are signed or co-signed by a BUDG Member or Substitute Member can be tabled directly to the BUDG Committee. In case that no signer or co-signer is a Member or Substitute Member of BUDG, but only of CONT, it would be possible for that PP-PA proposal to be tabled by CONT. In that case the proposal must be sent to the CONT Secretariat before Wednesday 23 March 17.00. CONT Coordinators will take a decision if any proposals received are to be submitted to BUDG at their meeting on 31 March, before the deadline the following day.

Additional information on the PP-PA procedure can be found [here](#). The European Commission's interim report can be found [here](#). The list of PP-PAs that could be renewed in 2021 is available [here](#), and a "frequently asked questions" document has been made available [here](#).

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

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

**6. Documents received for information - see Annex III**

**7. Any other business**

**8. Date of next Coordinators' meeting**

- 31 March 2022



# NEWSLETTER

## COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY, 14 MARCH 2022**

13:45 - 16:15 and 16:45 - 18:00

**TUESDAY, 15 MARCH 2022**

09:00 - 12:00 and 13:45 - 15:45 and 16:45 - 18:30

*Room: SPINELLI 3E-2 and remote participation with Interactio*

**Monday, 24 January 2022, 13:45 - 14:45**

### 1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

### 2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair draws attention to the following points:

**Languages available (due to the limitations of DG LINC, not all requested languages have been granted)**

FR DE IT EN EL ES PT<sup>1</sup> CS HU PL SL<sup>2</sup> RO HR<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>PT will be available only on 15 March during 16:45 - 18:45

<sup>2</sup>SL will be available only on 14 March during 09:00-12:00

<sup>3</sup>HR will be available on 14 March

#### Webstreaming

The meeting will be webstreamed and can be followed live via the [CONT webpage](#), except for the parts *in camera*.

#### **Adoption of Coordinators' recommendations**

Summary of the Coordinators' recommendations of the meeting on 28 February 2022 was circulated to the Members on 7 March 2022.

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

### 3. SYSTEMIC MISMANAGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (EAFRD) IN IN BULGARIA – THE GUESTHOUSES INVESTIGATION CONT/9/08527

## Exchange of views

Administrator: Diego Rasetti

This is the follow up to the exchange of views held in camera on 25 October 2021. The agenda item refers to a specific typology of fraud investigated by OLAF: the disbursement of EU funds for the construction or renovation of houses to be converted in - or used as - guest-houses, to support tourism and rural-communities activities, but indeed used only as private residence by the beneficiaries, that are often local administrators, politicians or in general politically exposed persons (PEPs).

In October 2021, OLAF reported to CONT about an on-going investigation on reiterated cases of fraud affecting this kind of operations. This report was consistent with what highlighted in the study requested by CONT Committee on the *"Impact of Organised Crime on the EU's Financial Interests"*, according to which the construction of "fake" guest houses that are in fact used as private homes is a recurrent case<sup>1</sup>. Situations of apparent conflict of interests within the authorities entrusted with awarding decisions and controlling tasks were also reported by media.

OLAF's investigation on this matter has been recently finalised: in the light of OLAF's findings and AGRI's remarks, the exchange aims at understanding if the concerns about the high probability of occurrence of this kind of fraud, in similar types of supporting measures, are well grounded. Additionally, and irrespective of the time of occurrence of the misconducts (in some case dating back to the programming period 2007-2013), the analysis of such findings can allow identifying present weaknesses in the national management and control systems that can jeopardize the effective and compliant implementation of EU co-funded activities. Moreover, the reputational damage adds up to the financial impact of such cases: in the media<sup>2</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, ineffective prevention measures and inadequate control systems by the Member States, not properly addressed by the Commission.

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 is expected maintaining 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 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.

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1

[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)

2 <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/>

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.

The debate will allow a better understanding on how the above architecture effectively works, and it will give the opportunity of exploring possible remedies to be integrated in the framework currently in force to mitigate the risk and enhance the detection and prevention of similar malpractices.

**Monday, 14 March 2022, 14:45 - 16:15**

**Joint agenda point with the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)**

#### **4. ECA SPECIAL REPORT 02/2022: ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN ENTERPRISES - SOME ENERGY SAVINGS BUT WEAKNESSES IN PLANNING AND PROJECT SELECTION**

CONT/9/08502

**Presentation of the special report by reporting ECA Member Samo Jereb**



Rapporteur:

[Petri Sarvamaa \(EPP\)](#)

Administrator:

Kaare Barslev

Achieving energy efficiency means improving the ratio of output to energy input, either by reducing the energy consumption needed to achieve the same output or by achieving more output with the same energy input. Energy efficiency is an important part of the EU ambition to become carbon-neutral by 2050. Greater energy efficiency improvements would be required in the future if the EU is to meet this objective.

The European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund have been the most significant of the EU funds aiming at improving energy efficiency in enterprises, allocating €2.4 billion in the period 2014-2020.

The Court examined whether funds have been soundly spent, by analysing if the Commission and Member States assessed the appropriate use of EU funds considering the energy efficiency objectives, if Member States' procedures promoted the selection of efficient projects, and if the results of the funding could be demonstrated.

The Court has drawn a number of conclusions based on their work and presented recommendations to the Commission.

Member of ECA, Mr Samo Jereb will present the Special Report and the Commission representative will give some initial comments. Afterwards firstly the rapporteur and then Members from CONT and ITRE will alternate in giving their comments and pose questions to the Court and the Commission.

**Monday, 14 March 2022, 16:45 - 18:00**

**Joint agenda point with the Committee on Budget (BUDG)**

#### **5. STUDY ON "THE NEXT REVISION OF THE FINANCIAL REGULATION AND THE EU BUDGET**

## GALAXY - HOW TO SAFEGUARD AND STRENGTHEN BUDGETARY PRINCIPLES AND PARLIAMENTARY OVERSIGHT"

CONT/9/08505



### Presentation by *Iain Begg* and *Jorge Núñez Ferrer*

Rapporteur:  
[Nils Ušakovs \(S&D\)](#)

[Monika Hohlmeier \(EPP\)](#),

Administrator:

Alex Delasnerie

The Commission published in March 2021 a roadmap for a targeted revision of the Financial Regulation. The proposal was foreseen to be published in December 2021. When agreeing on the MFF, the institutions declared that they will assess and as appropriate revise the provisions on external assigned revenue and reporting on borrowing and lending (Joint declaration 2020/C 444 I/06). The Commission later indicated, in a technical meeting, that the calendar for presenting the legislative proposal was delayed, without further indication.

On 24 November 2021, the EP expressed its expectations for this revision on the basis of a joint BUDG-CONT report of initiative on *The revision of the Financial Regulation in view of the entry into force of the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework*.

Over the last two decades, the combined effect of multiple crises and low ceilings in the Multi-Annual Financial Framework (MFF) has led to the emergence of a "galaxy" of EU funds and instruments with variable participation of Member States and a diverse range of decision-making and accountability procedures (as developed amongst other in *"The European Budgetary Galaxy"*, European Constitutional Law Review, Richard Crowe, 2017).

BUDG Members requested a study on this topic, which was managed by Policy department D and drafted by external experts.

A pre-release version of the study, sent to BUDG and CONT Members on 8 March 2021, analyses the impacts of recent developments of the EU budget "galaxy" on the EU governance and the ability of the European Parliament to fulfil its role as budget authority. The conclusions of the study include proposals for reforms needed in order to ensure that the EU budget and financial rules reflect the realities the EU is facing.

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**Tuesday, 15 March 2022, 09:00 - 10:30**

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

## **6. OPENING OF THE REMOTE VOTING PROCEDURE: FIRST ROUND - VOTE ON AMENDMENTS**

**The precise opening and closing times of the votes, provisionally set from 09.00 to 10.00 will be announced by the Chair.**

## **7. THE COMMISSION'S 2021 RULE OF LAW REPORT**

CONT/9/07267 - [2021/2180 \(INI\)](#)



### **Adoption of a draft opinion**

Rapporteur for the opinion: [Petri Sarvamaa \(EPP\)](#)  
Administrator: Benoît Lefort

Shadow Rapporteurs: **Isabel Garcia Munoz (S&D), Pierre Karleskind (RE), Elzbieta Rafalska (ECR), Younous Omajee (The Left)**

Responsible committee: LIBE  
Rapporteur: [Terry Reintke \(The Greens\)](#)

The draft opinion from the CONT Committee to the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs on the Commission's 2021 Rule of Law Report was considered in the CONT meeting of 10 February. The Members of the Committee tabled 55 amendments and the Draftsperson has suggested 6 compromise amendments to the Shadow Rapporteurs, which are put to the vote. Notably, the draft opinion calls, once again, on the Commission to implement the Rule of Law Conditionality Regulation without any further delay by sending written notifications within the meaning of article 6(1) of the Regulation to concerned Member States. It also calls on the Commission to present in its future reports an assessment of the fulfilment of the conditions of the Rule of Law Conditionality Regulation.

In addition, the draft opinion recalls its request to the Commission to include country-specific recommendations on how to address the concerns identified for the respect of the Rule of law. It stresses that the annual reports fail to make a clear distinction between Member States with isolated shortcomings and those with systemic rule of law deficiencies, and accordingly, calls on the Commission to make this distinction in future annual reports.

Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Adoption	LIBE	20-21 April
Adoption of report	Plenary	18-19 May

**The precise opening and closing times of the votes, provisionally set from 09.00 to 10.00 will be announced by the Chair**

**\*\*\* END OF VOTE \*\*\***

**8. CURRENT STATE OF PLAY WITH REGARD TO SLOVENIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR OFFICE - EPPO**

CONT/9/08504



**Exchange of views with Laura Codruța Kövesi,  
European Chief Prosecutor**

Administrator: Diego Rasetti

The European Chief Prosecutor, Ms Laura Kövesi, will give to the CONT and LIBE Members an update on the operational status of the European Public Prosecutor Office (EPPO), having specific regard to recent reports by the Slovenian press about legislative changes or legislative proposals amending the national criminal law rules on the statute of limitation. Such modifications would affect the operational effectiveness of the EPPO : should the amendments be adopted as proposed, for the vast majority of offences under the competence of the EPPO, prosecutors would have drastically less time to investigate, and thus would be unable to do it properly in all cases, while many ongoing cases would need to be closed immediately and definitively.

According to EPPO, under the current criminal procedural framework, this would represent a de facto amnesty for many cases of fraud against the EU budget in Slovenia. Additionally, the European Chief Prosecutor also noted with utmost concern that such amendments would negatively affect investigations and prosecutions initiated in other Member States participating in the EPPO in the cases where any assisting measure needs to be performed in Slovenia.

Because the European Chief Prosecutor concluded that the ongoing developments are indicators of the risk to hamper the effectiveness of criminal prosecution of cases of fraud in Slovenia (including tax fraud, tax evasion and corruption), a letter was addressed to the European Commission in line with Recital 16 of Regulation (EU) 2020/2092 of 16 December 2020 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union Budget. Recital 16 of the Regulation notes that the identification of breaches of rule of law principles requires a thorough qualitative assessment by the Commission, which should take into account relevant information from available sources and recognised institutions, including, inter alia, the European Public Prosecutor's Office. The Budgetary Control Committee invited the EPPO to share the letter, but the European Prosecutor declined under the limitations imposed by the current legal framework.

Slovenian Minister of Justice, Marjan Dikaučič, has kindly accepted to intervene at the exchange of views and will provide additional information for a constructive debate.

This issue follows previous EPPO remarks, also brought at the joint CONT and LIBE meeting on 1 October, where the EU's Chief Prosecutor had condemned the failure of Slovenia to delegate its prosecutors to the EPPO, leading to a "prosecuting gap" which could have resulted in weakening the effectiveness of the anti-fraud architecture and leaving the EU budget in Slovenia unprotected. This issue appears resolved by the appointment of two Slovenian delegated prosecutors in November 2021, even if it occurred on a "temporary basis" only (the Slovenian Government having determined that the current appointment procedure had not been concluded in line with the state Prosecution Service Act because an insufficient number of candidacies had been put forward).

As additional information to the Members, to underline the intertwined dynamics of the current situation with the implementation of the Rule of Law Conditionality Regulation, it is to be mentioned that the European Chief Prosecutor, Ms Laura Kövesi, has addressed a second letter to the European Commission, in light of the same Recital 16 of the Rule of Law Conditionality Regulation, expressing concern over Poland's refusal to cooperate with the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO). According to the Chief Prosecutor, Poland has conditioned the signature of a working arrangement with the EPPO to a prior approval of an amendment of the Polish Criminal procedure code that would allow recognition of the EPPO as competent authority. This has resulted in Poland consistently rejecting the EPPO's requests for judicial cooperation since the start of the EPPO's operations. The letter stresses that the EPPO is unable to obtain evidence located in

Poland, and that it has currently 23 ongoing investigations involving said country, which is the highest number of any non-participating Member State.<sup>3</sup>

**Tuesday, 15 March, 10:30 – 12:00**

## **JOINT AGENDA POINT WITH THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND TOURISM (TRAN)**

### **9. ECA REVIEW No 05/2021: THE EU FRAMEWORK FOR LARGE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS: AN INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON**

CONT/9/08503



#### **entation of the review by reporting ECA member Annemie Turtelboom**

Rapporteur:

[Petri Sarvamaa \(PPE\)](#)

Administrator:

Giulia Bastianello

The reporting ECA Member Annemie Turtelboom will present her review on large transports infrastructure projects to Members of the CONT and TRAN Committees and invited members of REGI Committee.

Large infrastructure projects play a key role in the delivery of the EU Trans-European Transport Network. Since 2013, one of the EU's main objectives is to complete a "core network" of transport infrastructures by 2030 and a "comprehensive network" to ensure the accessibility and connectivity of all regions in the EU by 2050. The ECA review compares how the EU and several countries (Australia, Canada, United States, Switzerland, France and Norway) deliver transport infrastructure projects, thereby identifying examples of other practices which could be useful for the Commission and policy-makers when providing future EU support. This review will also serve as a contribution to the ongoing review of the TEN-T regulation.

When putting the weaknesses identified in the EU framework into a global perspective, the ECA did not identify any practice in the selected countries which could address those related to the strategy definition process. Moreover, four out of the six EU co-funded projects analysed have smaller deviations between actual costs and their estimated budgets than the global benchmark.

However, for the processes related to coordination, selection, monitoring and ex post evaluation, the ECA considers that the Commission and policymakers could take inspiration from practices observed abroad. This is also the case for the delays, as most of the six EU co-funded projects did experience on average longer schedule delays than comparable projects worldwide.

Four challenges were identified for the Commission:

- I. How to achieve a stronger alignment between EU and national transport strategies, and obtain a better oversight of project planning and implementation along the main transport corridors?
- II. How to ensure at project selection stage that sufficient scrutiny is taken of cost-benefit analyses? How to reconsider its approach to selecting projects and allocating the EU-funding to further reduce the administrative burden for project promoters?
- III. How to move to a more risk-based approach in its monitoring of EU co-funded projects while broadening its scope by requiring project promoters to report also on outcome indicators and stakeholder acceptance?
- IV. How to ensure that large transport infrastructure projects co-funded by the EU are systematically

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<sup>3</sup> The EPPO release on the situation in Poland: <https://www.eppo.europa.eu/en/news/letter-sent-european-commission-regarding-polands-refusal-cooperate-epo>

evaluated ex post, with the focus on the outcomes achieved rather than financial indicators or outputs?

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**Tuesday, 15 March, 13:45 – 15:00**

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

## **10. 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.*

**\*\*\* END OF VOTE \*\*\***

## **11. STUDY ON "SINGLE AUDIT APPROACH - ROOT CAUSES OF THE WEAKNESSES IN THE WORK OF THE MEMBERS STATES MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT AUTHORITIES" - PRESENTATION OF SECOND INTERIM REPORT**

CONT/9/08525



***Presentation of the second interim report by [Jack Malan](#) and [Marta Dimauro](#), Centre for Strategy and Evaluation Services (CSES)***

Rapporteur: [Monika Hohlmeier \(EPP\)](#)

Administrator:

Rita Calatozzolo

The study objectives are:

- Gain a comprehensive insight into the causes of the problems the national authorities face in implementing the European Union budget.
- Assess the quality and reliability of the authorities' work, their independence, specific weaknesses in the management and control systems.
- Assess the cooperation with relevant players such as other national authorities, national supreme audit authorities, ECA, Commission, OLAF and possibly the EPPO.
- Analyse the extent of respect and application of European and international applicable standards (e.g. auditing standards).

CSES submitted a first interim report mid-January, containing the findings of the research at that point. The second interim report further develops the assessment with additional feedback from the interview programme with Member States and a preliminary analysis of the survey results. The study will be finalised by 31 March.



**Tuesday, 15 March, 15:00 - 15:45**

## 12. IMPLEMENTATION REPORT ON THE RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FACILITY

CONT/9/07920 [2021/2251\(INI\)](#)



### Consideration of draft opinion

Rapporteur for the opinion: [Isabel García Muñoz \(S&D\)](#)  
Administrator: Hans Stander

Shadows Rapporteurs: **Angelika Winzig** (PPE), **Alin Mituța** (Renew),  
**Younous Omarjee** (The Left)

Responsible committees: BUDG, ECON  
Rapporteurs: BUDG [Eider Gardiazabal Rubial](#)  
(S&D)  
ECON [Siegfried Mureșan](#) (PPE), [Dragoș Pișlaru](#) (Renew)

The Recovery and Resilience Facility (the Facility) was adopted in December 2020, as a performance-based instrument, where payments are conditional on the achievement of milestones and targets. These milestones and targets are agreed between the Member States and the Commission, and adopted by the Council, in National Recovery and Resilience Plans, and in so-called operational arrangements.

In 2021, EUR 36 billion pre-financing was made available to Member States that had submitted a plan that was approved by the Council. One payment on the achievement of agreed milestones and targets was made in 2021, to Spain, for a total amount of 10 billion euro.

Now that implementation of the Facility is coming up-to-speed, with more Member States submitting payment requests, the importance of the protection of the EU financial interests is shifting from making sure that the right instruments are included in the plans, to actual checks, audits and control in the Member States. Also, the importance of reliable data on the performance of Member States, measuring whether milestones and targets are really achieved, is increasing.

These issues are reflected in the opinion that the CONT Committee provides to the joint BUDG-ECON committee on their implementation report on the Recovery and Resilience Facility. The opinion focuses indeed on the protection of the EU financial interests in the Facility. Concrete examples are the use of risk-scoring tool ARACHNE, the importance of having information on final beneficiaries in the implementation of the Facility, and the suggestion to make approval of national plans (and their updates) conditional on respect of the rule of law.

The opinion of CONT will feed into the implementation report of the joint BUDG-ECON Committee that will be voted on 16 or 17 May 2022 in a joint BUDG-ECON Committee meeting.

CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Deadline for amendments	BUDG-ECON	18 March 2022, 14:00 hrs
Adoption of draft opinion	CONT	20-21 April 2022
Adoption of report	BUDG-ECON	16-17 May 2022

**Tuesday, 15 March, 16:45 – 17:30**

## 13. CONT MISSION TO BULGARIA - UPDATE ON PREPARATION

CONT/9/08526

## Presentation and update by the Chair

Administrator: Ana Maria Nogueira

Initially planned for November 2021, the mission is taking place in April 2022.

Following the sanctions imposed on some Bulgarian individuals by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), for their extensive roles in corruption in Bulgaria, the CONT Committee held an exchange of views with the European Commission and the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) on the management of EU funds in Bulgaria.



The mission is intended as a follow of previous discussions on the allegations about corruption and misuse of public funds in Bulgaria, potentially affecting the EU financial interests. CONT Members wish to meet several entities directly or indirectly responsible for the administration and implementation of the EU funds in Bulgaria.

The European Court of Auditors and the European Commission are expected to join the European Parliament mission to Bulgaria.

**Tuesday, 15 March, 17:30 – 18:30**



\*\*\* *In Camera* \*\*\*

### 14. COORDINATORS' MEETING

### 15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### 16. NEXT MEETINGS

- 31 March 2022 (Brussels)
- 20-21 April 2022 (Brussels)

#### PAPERLESS PROGRAMME (INTERNAL USERS ONLY)

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

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

## NEWS FROM POLICY DEPARTMENT - BUDGETARY AFFAIRS

### Recent Publications

#### CONT

Briefing "[Budgetary transfers in the EP in 2021 - still in the wake of the crisis](#)"

Briefing "[The EP's response to the COVID-19 crisis: budgetary impact](#)"

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

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

Brochure of the workshop "[The state of implementing procurement procedures in EU Agencies: enhancing transparency and assessing flexibility](#)"

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](#)"

#### BUDG

Study "[The new EFSD+ and the EIB's external lending mandate](#)"

Study "[Financing of political structures in EU Member States](#)"

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](#)"

In-depth Analysis "[Next Generation EU borrowing: a first assessment](#)"

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 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](#))

## Forthcoming Publications

### CONT

Study "The European Commission's use of consultants in preparing legislation"

Study "Different Practices on Side-Earnings of the Public Office-Holders and Functionaries"

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"

### BUDG

Study "The next revision of the financial regulation and the EU Budget galaxy: How to safeguard and strengthen budgetary principles and parliamentary oversight?"

Study "Documenting climate mainstreaming in the EU Budget" (update 2022)

Study "New EU own resources: possibilities and limitations of steering effects and sectoral policy co-benefits"

Workshop Proceedings "The EU borrowing strategy for NGEU: design, challenges and opportunities"

## CONTACTS

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