



NOTULEN

Vergadering van 7 november 2022, 15.00 - 16.30 uur,
en 8 november 2022, 9.00 - 12.30 uur en 14.30 - 18.30 uur

BRUSSEL

De vergadering wordt op maandag 7 november 2022 om 15.07 uur geopend onder voorzitterschap van Bas Eickhout (ondervoorzitter ENVI), Eider Gardiazabal Rubial (lid BUDG) en Gilles Boyer (ondervoorzitter CONT).

7 november 2022, 15.00 - 16.30 uur (gezamenlijke vergadering)

Gezamenlijke vergadering met de Begrotingscommissie (BUDG) en de Commissie milieubeheer, volksgezondheid en voedselveiligheid (ENVI)

1. Speciaal verslag 09/2022 van de Europese Rekenkamer getiteld “Klimaatuitgaven in de EU-begroting 2014-2020: Niet zo hoog als gerapporteerd”

CONT/9/10301

Rapporteur:

José Manuel Fernandes (PPE)

- Presentatie van het speciaal verslag door Joëlle Elvinger, rapporterend lid van de Europese Rekenkamer

Sprekers: Bas Eickhout (ENVI), Eider Gardiazabal Rubial (BUDG), Gilles Boyer (CONT), Joëlle Elvinger (ERK-lid), Federico Barbuto (Europese Commissie, DG BUDG), José Manuel Fernandes (CONT, schriftelijke verklaring), Tiemo Wölken (ENVI), Michal Wiezik (CONT), Nicolae Ștefănuță (ENVI), Rasmus Andresen (BUDG), Jutta Paulus (ENVI), Joachim Kuhs (BUDG), Zbigniew Kuźmiuk (BUDG) Silvia Modig (ENVI), Mikuláš Peksa, Martin Häusling (AGRI), Pär Holmgren (AGRI) en Benoît Biteau (AGRI).

De vergadering wordt om 16.23 uur gesloten.

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De vergadering wordt om 9.00 uur geopend onder voorzitterschap van Gilles Boyer (derde ondervoorzitter).

8 november 2022, 9.00 - 10.30 uur

2. Aanneming van de agenda

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

3. Mededelingen van de voorzitter

De voorzitter vestigt de aandacht van de leden op de informatie in CONT News.

4. Kwijting 2021: Algemene begroting van de EU – Europese Dienst voor extern optreden

CONT/9/09826

2022/2090(DEC) COM(2022)0323[10] – C9-0236/2022

Rapporteur:

Mikuláš Peksa (Verts/ALE)

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Gedachtewisseling met Josep Borrell Fontelles, hoge vertegenwoordiger van de Unie voor buitenlandse zaken en veiligheidsbeleid, in aanwezigheid van Marek Opióła, rapporterend lid van de Europese Rekenkamer

Sprekers: Gilles Boyer, Marek Opióła (ERK-lid), Josep Borrell Fontelles (hoge vertegenwoordiger van de Unie voor buitenlandse zaken en veiligheidsbeleid, EDEO), Mikuláš Peksa, Stefano Sannino (secretaris-generaal, EDEO), Jan Olbrycht, Gianmarco Di Vita (directeur-generaal, EDEO), Maria Grapini, Joachim Kuhs en Carina Ohlsson (AFET).

De vergadering wordt om 10.20 uur geschorst en om 10.30 uur hervat onder voorzitterschap van Petri Sarvamaa (lid CONT, coördinator PPE).

8 november 2022, 10.30 - 12.00 uur

5. Kwijting 2021: Algemene begroting van de EU – Commissie

CONT/9/09652

2022/2081(DEC) COM(2022)0323[01] – C9-0227/2022

Corapporteurs:

Jeroen Lenaers (PPE)

Monika Hohlmeier (PPE)

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Gedachtewisseling met commissaris Frans Timmermans, verantwoordelijk voor de Europese Green Deal, in aanwezigheid van Nikolaos Milionis, rapporterend lid

van de Europese Rekenkamer

Sprekers: Petri Sarvamaa, Nikolaos Milionis (ERK-lid), Frans Timmermans (commissaris voor de Europese Green Deal), Jeroen Lenaers, Maria Grapini, Olivier Chastel, Viola von Cramon-Taubadel en Joachim Kuhs.

De vergadering wordt om 12.02 uur geschorst en om 12.07 uur hervat.

8 november 2022, 12.00 - 12.30 uur

6. Werkbezoek CONT aan Polen (18 t/m 20 juli 2022)

CONT/9/09445

- Verslaggeving aan de commissie over het werkbezoek van CONT aan Polen van 18 t/m 20 juli 2022

Sprekers: Petri Sarvamaa, Ramona Strugariu, Mikuláš Peksa en Joachim Kuhs.

De vergadering wordt om 12.22 uur geschorst.

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De vergadering wordt om 14.31 uur hervat onder voorzitterschap van Caterina Chinnici (tweede ondervoorzitter).

8 november 2022, 14.30 -16.00 uur

7. Kwijting 2021: Algemene begroting van de EU – Commissie

CONT/9/09652

2022/2081(DEC) COM(2022)0323[01] – C9-0227/2022

Corapporteurs:

Jeroen Lenaers (PPE)

Monika Hohlmeier (PPE)

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Gedachtewisseling met commissaris Stella Kyriakides, verantwoordelijk voor Gezondheid en Voedselveiligheid, in aanwezigheid van Joëlle Elvinger, rapporterend lid van de Europese Rekenkamer

Sprekers: Caterina Chinnici, Joëlle Elvinger (ERK-lid), Stella Kyriakides (commissaris voor Gezondheid en Voedselveiligheid), Jeroen Lenaers, Maria Grapini, Olivier Chastel, Michèle Rivasi en Joachim Kuhs.

De vergadering wordt om 15.48 uur geschorst en om 16.05 uur hervat.

8 november 2022, 16.00 - 17.00 uur

8. Gedeeltelijke vervanging van de leden van de Rekenkamer – kandidaat EE

CONT/9/10140

2022/0808(NLE) 12379/2022 – C9-0316/2022

Rapporteur:

Mikuláš Peksa (Verts/ALE)

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Presentatie van Keit Pentus-Rosimannus, door Estland voorgedragen kandidaat

Spreekers: Caterina Chinnici, Keit Pentus-Rosimannus (ERK-kandidaat), Mikuláš Peksa, Petri Sarvamaa, Maria Grapini en Gilles Boyer.

8 november 2022, 17.00 - 17.15 uur

***** Elektronische stemming *****

9. Stemming over de gedeeltelijke vervanging van de leden van de Rekenkamer – kandidaat EE

Besluit: De benoeming wordt goedgekeurd met 19 stemmen voor en 4 tegen, bij 2 onthoudingen.

De commissie brengt positief advies uit over de voordracht van de Raad voor de benoeming van Keit Pentus-Rosimannus tot lid van de Rekenkamer.

10. Afsluiting van de rekeningen van het Europees Grens- en kustwachtagentschap voor het begrotingsjaar 2020

CONT/9/10376

2022/2903(RSP)

Rapporteur:

Tomáš Zdechovský (PPE)

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Goedkeuring van het ontwerpbesluit over de afsluiting van de rekeningen

Besluit: Het ontwerpbesluit wordt goedgekeurd.

***** Einde elektronische stemming *****

De vergadering wordt om 16.59 uur geschorst en om 17.15 uur hervat.

8 november 2022, 17.15 - 18.30 uur

11. Bescherming van de financiële belangen van de Europese Unie – fraudebestrijding – jaarverslag 2021

CONT/9/10204
2022/2152(INI)

Rapporteur:

Sabrina Pignedoli (NI)

PR – PE737.341v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag

Sprekers: Caterina Chinnici, Sabrina Pignedoli, James Sweeney (directeur, OLAF), David Lega, Katalin Cseh en Mikuláš Peksa.

12. Rondvraag

13. Volgende vergaderingen

- 14 november 2022, Brussel
- 30 november - 1 december 2022, Brussel

De vergadering wordt om 17.51 uur gesloten.

Uitslag van de hoofdelijke stemmingen

Inhoud

9. Stemming over de gedeeltelijke vervanging van de leden van de Europese Rekenkamer – kandidaat EE	7
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9. Stemming over de gedeeltelijke vervanging van de leden van de Europese Rekenkamer – kandidaat EE

Uitslag eindstemming	+: 19 -: 4 0: 2
Bij de eindstemming aanwezige leden	Matteo Adinolfi, Gilles Boyer, Corina Crețu, Luke Ming Flanagan, Isabel García Muñoz, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Alin Mituța, Jan Olbrycht, Markus Pieper, Michèle Rivasi, Sándor Rónai, Petri Sarvamaa, Angelika Winzig
Bij de eindstemming aanwezige vaste plaatsvervangers	Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Maria Grapini, Niclas Herbst, David Lega, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Andrey Novakov, Mikuláš Peksa, Sabrina Pignedoli, Elżbieta Rafalska, Ramona Strugariu, Viola von Cramon-Taubadel, Michal Wiezik

Verklaring van de gebruikte tekens:

+ : voor

- : tegen

0 : onthouding

**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 SĄRAŠAS/
JELENLÉTI ÍV/REĢISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
LISTĂ DE PREZENȚĂ/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/NÄRVAROLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjetništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezidium/Birou/Předsednictvo/Předsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Isabel García Muñoz (1 st VP) (2), Caterina Chinnici (2 nd VP) (2), Gilles Boyer (3 rd VP)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Βουλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/ Nariai/Képviselek/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Matteo Adinolfi (2), Olivier Chastel (2), Corina Crețu (2), José Manuel Fernandes (2), Luke Ming Flanagan (2), Joachim Kuhs, Ryszard Antoni Legutko (2), Alin Mîtuța (2), Jan Olbrycht (2), Markus Pieper (2), Michèle Rivasi (2), Sándor Rónai (2), Petri Sarvamaa (2), Angelika Winzig (2)
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Pötagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Bas Eickhout (1), Katalin Cseh, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Maria Grapini (2), Niclas Herbst (2), David Lega (2), Jeroen Lenaers (2), Marian-Jean Marinescu (2), Andrey Novakov (2), Mikuláš Peksa, Sabrina Pignedoli (2), Elżbieta Rafalska (2), Antonio Maria Rinaldi (2), Ramona Strugariu (2), Viola von Cramon-Taubadel (2), Michal Wiezik

209 (7)	
Carina Ohlsson (2) (AFET)	
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 dnevnoĝ 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)	
Rasmus Andresen (BUDG), Benoît Biteau (AGRI), Pär Holmgren (AGRI), Martin Häusling (AGRI), Silvia Modig (ENVI), Jutta Paulus (ENVI), Tiemo Wölken (ENVI), Nicolae Ștefănuță (ENVI)	Item 1

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/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
Keit Pentus-Rosimannus

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/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)	
Federico Barbuto (DG BUDG), Stella Kyriakides (Commissioner for Health and Food Safety), Frans Timmermans (Commissioner for European Green Deal)	
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 toimielimet ja elimet/Andra institutioner och organ	
ECA	Joëlle Elvinger, Nikolaos Milionis, Marek Opiola
EEAS	Josep Borrel Fontelles (High Representative/Vice-President), Stefano Sannino (Secretary-General), Gianmarco Di Vita (Director-General for Budget and Administration)
OLAF	James Sweeney (Director)

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 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/Segretarjat gruppi poliitici/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>	
<p>PPE S&D Renew ID Verts/ALE ECR The Left NI</p>	

<p>Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinet 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>Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinet 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>	
<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, Director for Budgetary Affairs</p>

Πравна 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/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
Evelyn Waldherr, Anca Balcanu, Kaare Barslev, Caterina Benincasa, Cristina Degueldre, Fernando Gallego Osuna, Benoît Lefort, Diego Rasetti, Hans Stander
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assistenten
Anna Aresu, Kameliya Velcheva

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/
 Pirmininkas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predsedá/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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 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/
 Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/UrządNIK/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/
 Tjänsteman

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2022

15:00 - 16:30

BRUSSELS, JÓZSEF ANTALL (4Q2)

TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2022

09:00 – 12:30 and 14:30 - 18:30

BRUSSELS, ALTIERO SPINELLI (3G-2)

Monday 7 November 2022, 15:00 – 16:30 (joint meeting)

Joint meeting with the Committees on Budgets (BUDG) and Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI)

1. EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS SPECIAL REPORT 09/2022 ON “CLIMATE SPENDING IN THE 2014-2020 BUDGET - NOT AS HIGH AS REPORTED”

CONT/9/10301



Presentation of the special report by reporting ECA Member Joëlle Elvinger

Rapporteur: [José Manuel Fernandes](#) (EPP)
Administrator: Kaare Barslev

Addressing climate change through internal policies and cooperation with international partner is a key priority for the EU. The EU committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions under the Kyoto Protocol and work towards a global climate-mitigation target of limiting global warming to “well below” 2°C under the Paris Agreement. In 2011, the Commission announced its objective for increasing the proportion of the EU budget related to climate to at least 20% for 2014-2020. In 2021, the Commission reported that it had met the target, having spent €216 billion (20.1 %) on climate-relevant measures. The 2021-2027 EU budget includes an increased target of 30 % on climate action.

The objective of the audit was to determine whether the Commission had reported relevant and reliable climate-spending information for 2014-2020. The Court examined how the Commission applied its methodology in assessing climate spending, as well, as how the reported expenditure contributed to climate action. Furthermore, the expected changes in tracking climate spending post-2020 were also reviewed. The Court also produced this report in order to help the Commission improve the future reporting on climate spending.



Overall, the reporting on climate spending was assessed to be unreliable. It involved significant approximation and tracked only the potential positive impact on climate without evaluating the final contribution to EU climate goals. The analysis indicated that the Commission overstated climate spending by at least €72 billion, over 80 % of which was from agricultural funding. This means that around 13 % of the 2014-2020 EU budget was spent on climate action, which was well below the 20% target.

The meeting is a joint CONT-BUDG-ENVI meeting and will be co-chaired by a vice-chair from CONT, a vice-chair from ENVI and a representative from BUDG. The meeting is structured in following way:

- Presentation of the report by the reporting ECA Member, Joëlle Elvinger;
- Initial comments by the Commission representative;
- Comments and questions from the CONT rapporteur and Members from the three committees;
- Replies from ECA and the Commission representative.

Tuesday 8 November 2022, 09:00 - 10:30

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair draws attention to the following points:

Interpretation was requested in the following languages:

DE EN FR IT ES ET* PT CS HU PL RO HR

* ET requested on 8 November 2022 from 14:30 to 18:30

Webstreaming

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

4. 2021 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE

CONT/9/09826

[2022/2090\(DEC\)](#)



Exchange of views with Josep Borrell Fontelles, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy in the presence of ECA reporting Member Marek Opiola

Rapporteur:

(Greens/EFA)

Administrator:

[Mikuláš Peksa](#)

Kaare Barslev

Shadow rapporteurs:

Marian-Jean Marinescu (EPP), **Claudiu Manda** (S&D), **Alin Mituța** (Renew), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID), **Richard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Luke Ming Flanagan** (The Left)

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is a functionally autonomous body of the European Union, separate from the General Secretariat of the Council and from the Commission. It is treated as an institution for the purposes of the Financial Regulation and therefore, subject to the procedure of discharge provided for in Article 319 of the TFEU and in Article 263 of the Financial Regulation.

The EEAS is placed under the authority of the High Representative/Vice-President (HRVP) of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Mr Josep Borrell Fontelles, who is invited to the CONT meeting for a discharge hearing with Members on the implementation of EEAS budget and activities during the financial year 2021.



In accordance with the timetable for the discharge procedure, the written questions addressed to the EEAS were sent on 10 October 2022. The answers received from the EEAS were sent to CONT Members on 27 October, and are available on the CONT website.

The questions from the questionnaire deal with budgetary and financial management, internal management, performance and internal control, human resources including equality and staff well-being, digitalisation, cybersecurity and data protection, buildings and security, environment and sustainability, interinstitutional cooperation, communication and multilingualism.

The documents of particular relevance for the hearing are:

- The ECA 2021 Annual Report, chapter 9;
- The EEAS 2021 Annual Activity Report;
- The Annual accounts of the EEAS for the financial year 2021;
- The EEAS follow-up report to the discharge for the financial year 2020.

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

The discharge hearing is expected to proceed as follows:

- Introduction by the reporting Member of the European Court of Auditors, Mr Marek Opiola, who will present the findings of the ECA Annual Report 2021;
- Introductory statement by HRVP Josep Borrell Fontelles on the EEAS work and achievements;
- The CONT rapporteur and shadows will ask questions to EEAS staff and or ECA using the ping-pong system.

CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Consideration of the draft report	CONT	23-24 January 2023
Deadline for amendments	CONT	31 January 2023
Adoption of draft report	CONT	27-28 February 2023
Adoption of report	Plenary	May 2023

Tuesday 8 November 2022, 10:30 - 12:00

5. 2021 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - COMMISSION

CONT/9/09652

[2022/2081 \(DEC\)](#)

*Exchange of views with Commissioner **Frans Timmermans**, responsible for European Green Deal in the presence of ECA reporting Member **Nikolaos Milionis***



Co-Rapporteurs:

[Jeroen Lenaers](#) (EPP)
[Monika Hohlmeier](#) (EPP)

Paulus Johannes Stander
Fernando Gallego Osuna

Administrators:

Shadow rapporteurs:

Maria Grapini (S&D), **Olivier Chastel** (Renew), **Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel** (Greens/EFA), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Luke Ming Flanagan** (The Left)

Executive Vice President Timmermans is responsible for the European Green Deal. This key policy of the Von der Leyen Commission aims at transforming the EU into a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy, ensuring:

- no net emission of greenhouse gases by 2050;
- economic growth decoupled from resource use;
- no person and no place left behind.

Financially speaking, most expenditure related to achieving these targets does not fall directly under Mr Timmermans' responsibility. The importance of the European Green Deal is however significant, and expenditure from EU funds and instruments must meet specific goals to ensure its implementation. For example, one third of the EUR 1.8 trillion investments from the NextGenerationEU Recovery Plan, and the EU's Multi-annual Financial Framework will finance the European Green Deal.



Tracking that all investments indeed meet the green requirements and that the EU funds are used to meet the ambitious targets is of the utmost importance. The European Court of Auditors made important observations in this regard in its Annual Report for 2021, and in several special reports.

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

CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Consideration of the draft report	CONT	9 February 2023
Deadline for amendments	CONT	17 February 2023
Adoption of draft report	CONT	22-23 March 2023
Adoption of report	Plenary	May 2023

Tuesday, 8 November 2022, 12:00 - 12:30

6. CONT MISSION TO POLAND (18 - 20 JULY 2022)

CONT/9/09445



Reporting back to committee from CONT mission to Poland on 18 - 20 July 2022

Chair of the mission:
(EPP)

[Monika Hohlmeier](#)

Administrator:

Benoît Lefort

The mission's objective was first to focus on ongoing developments in Poland concerning the protection of the EU budget in relation to the Rule of law-conditional Regulation.

The objective was also to include a visit to Frontex, which has its headquarters in Warsaw, in order to evaluate the progress made by the Agency in fulfilling the conditions laid down in the 2020 discharge report, to support mutual cooperation between the Agency and the Commission, and to understand Frontex' strategy in the framework of its immense staff increase over a short period of time.

- Members emphasised their wish to see EU recovery funds reach as many people and organisations in Poland, given all that they have been doing to help those fleeing the war against Ukraine and the damage done by the pandemic.
- However, Members highlighted that the European Parliament needs to ensure that EU taxpayers' money is protected and fairly distributed, and raised concerns following their visit to Poland. It seems that there were systemic problems caused by the Government that prevent Poland from meeting all conditions for receiving the EU money.
- Members made an effort to look from all angles at the distribution and management of EU funds in Poland, to check whether there were systems in place to protect the EU's financial interests. Members focused on current EU funding under shared management, and found that the systems to protect and control the EU funds were in place. However, Members asked the Government to make up for the damage done to SMEs that were made victims of the misuse of funds by letterbox companies in cooperation with big companies.
- After speaking with Government and opposition politicians, prosecutors and judges, NGO representatives, journalists, paying and oversight authorities, as well as the Polish Supreme Audit, Members underlined they had to analyse the complaints and concerns around particular cases in-depth. There were signs that the distribution of public funds, including EU money, was increasingly politicised, and that the complicated criteria for the receipt of EU funds hampered its fair distribution.
- Members expressed their fears about the lack of an independent judiciary, and political interventions into the work of judges and prosecutors, which gave them reason to be concerned about a growing systemic problem with the independent verification of the spending of EU funds. Members expected respect for the separation of powers, which is a fundamental pillar of European law. Members also called on the Polish government to urgently start cooperating with the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO), so that EU-wide tax fraud and money laundering schemes could be properly prosecuted.

- Following the revelation of the restrictions in place on Poland's national court of auditors, Members emphasised that it was crucial for the audit authorities to be independent, protected and empowered to do all audits as they deemed appropriate. Members expressed strong concerns about the ongoing political pressure on members of the court, the prohibition on nominations of court members and the necessary staff, and the refusal of their access to necessary documents in order to prevent the court of auditors fulfils its mandate.
- Members concluded they would follow-up on the information they received during their visit, and would include it in 2023's discharge process, as well as passing it on to the Commission, the European Court of Auditors, the EU anti-fraud watchdog OLAF and the EPPO.

Tuesday 8 November 2022, 14:30 - 16:00

7. 2021 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - COMMISSION

CONT/9/09652

[2022/2081\(DEC\)](#)



Exchange of views with Commissioner [Stella Kyriakides](#), responsible for Health and Food Safety in the presence of ECA Reporting Member [Joëlle Elvinger](#) for the SR on Vaccine procurement

Co-Rapporteurs : [Jeroen Lenaers](#) (EPP)
[Monika Hohlmeier](#) (EPP)

Administrators: Paulus Johannes Stander
Fernando Gallego Osuna

Shadow rapporteurs:

Maria Grapini (S&D), **Olivier Chastel** (Renew), **Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel** (Greens/EFA), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Luke Ming Flanagan** (The Left)

Under Commissioner Kyriakides' responsibility, the Commission played a key role in the successful vaccine role out in the EU in 2021, notably through the joint procurement of vaccines. Also, the Commissioner was responsible for the Emergency Support Instrument, that supported Member States to mitigate the immediate consequences of the pandemic and anticipate the needs related to the recovery. In addition, under the Commissioner's responsibility, the EU Digital COVID Certificate Regulation entered into application on 1 July 2021 that facilitated the safe free movement of citizens within the EU during the pandemic.

In 2021, expenditure in the policy area Public Health increased in comparison to previous years, given the new EU4Health Programme with an envelope of EUR 5.3 billion (2021-2027), which is more than eleven times higher than the previous Health Programme (EUR 452 million for 2014-2020). As in previous years, about 80% of the 2021 budget were implemented by an executive agency.

DG SANTE's spending in the policy area Food Safety is based on the Single Market Programme (SMP) through a dedicated food chain strand of EUR 1,7 billion (2021-2027). The funding of the Food Safety policy remained relatively stable compared to the previous MFF with a budget of EUR 1,8 billion (2014-2020). For the first time in 2021, DG SANTE delegated large parts of the budget for Single Market Programme to the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (about 74%).

The member of the Court of Auditors present at this hearing is Ms Joelle Elvinger, responsible for the SR on Vaccine procurement. The Court's Annual Report did not contain findings relevant for this hearing.

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



CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Consideration of the draft report	CONT	9 February 2023
Deadline for amendments	CONT	17 February 2023
Adoption of draft report	CONT	22-23 March 2023
Adoption of report	Plenary	May 2023

Tuesday 8 November 2022, 16:00-17:00

8. PARTIAL RENEWAL OF MEMBERS OF THE COURT OF AUDITORS – ET NOMINEE

CONT/9/10140

[2022/0808\(NLE\)](#)



Rapporteur: [Mikuláš Peksa](#) (Greens/EFA)

Administrator: Kaare Barslev

Shadow rapporteurs: **Petri Sarvamaa** (EPP),
Claudiu Manda (S&D), **Gilles Boyer** (Renew)

Hearing of Keit Pentus-Rosimannus, candidate nominated by Estonia

The Members of the European Court of Auditors are appointed for a term of six years. In accordance with Article 286(2) of the TFEU the Council, after consulting the European Parliament, shall adopt the list of Members drawn up in accordance with the proposals made by each Member State.

Appointments to the ECA are submitted to Parliament's plenary on the basis of a report from CONT. The report takes into account the requirement of Article 286(1) of the TFEU: "*The Members of the Court of Auditors shall be chosen from among persons who belong or have belonged in their respective States to external audit bodies or who are especially qualified for this office. Their independence must be beyond doubt.*", as well as other considerations.

In Parliament, the procedure is defined in Rule 129 RoP. According to Rule 129 (1), "candidates nominated as Members of the Court of Auditors shall be invited to make a statement before the committee responsible and to answer questions put by members. The committee shall vote on each nomination separately by secret ballot."

In preparation for the hearing, the candidate has been asked to answer a questionnaire prepared by CONT.

The hearing is structured as follows:

- Opening of the hearing by the Chair;
- The candidate will give an opening statement (maximum of 8 minutes);
- The CONT Rapporteur and shadow-rapporteurs will put questions to the candidate using the ping-pong system;
- Other members will question the candidate (catch-the-eye if time permits);
- Concluding remarks by the Chair.

After the hearing, the committee will hold an evaluation of the candidate in camera, and then proceed to vote on his appointment.

According to Rule 129 (1), the committee shall vote by secret ballot. Members shall indicate whether they give a favourable opinion, a negative opinion or abstain.

The format of reports on candidates for membership of the Court of Auditors is defined in Parliament's resolution of 4 February 2014, which implies that amendments cannot be tabled for this report.

The draft report will be finalised, according to the outcome of the evaluation and the vote in committee. The candidate's CV and the answers to the questionnaire are annexed to the report.

The report for plenary will state that Parliament delivers either a favourable or a negative opinion on the appointment of the candidate. The vote in Plenary is planned for November II (21 - 24 November). The draft report is available on the CONT website.

Tuesday 8 November 2022, 17:00 - 17:15

***** Electronic vote *****

9. VOTE ON THE PARTIAL RENEWAL OF MEMBERS OF THE COURT OF AUDITORS - ET NOMINEE

10. CLOSURE OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2020

CONT/9/10376

[2022/2903\(RSP\)](#)



Rapporteur: [Tomáš Zdechovský](#) (EPP)
Administrator: Paulus Johannes Stander

Adoption on the motion for decision on closure of accounts

On 18 October, the Parliament voted in Plenary to refuse discharge to the acting executive director of the European Border and Coastguard Agency (Frontex) for the year 2020, after having postponed the decision on discharge in spring.

Usually, when a decision to grant discharge is taken, the accounts of the Agency are also closed. However, since discharge has been refused, the rules of procedure of the Parliament stipulate that a separate decision on the closure of the accounts needs to be taken. That is being done with the current vote.

***** End of electronic vote *****

Tuesday 8 November 2022, 17:15 - 18:30

11. PROTECTION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION'S FINANCIAL INTERESTS - COMBATING FRAUD - ANNUAL REPORT 2021

CONT/9/10204

[2022/2152\(INI\)](#)



Rapporteur : [Sabrina Pignedoli](#) (NI)

Administrator: Diego Rasetti

Consideration of draft report

Deadline for tabling amendments: 16 November 2022, 14.00

Shadow rapporteurs : **David Lega** (EPP), **Caterina Chinnici** (S&D), **Katalin Cseh** (Renew), **Mikuláš Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Matteo Adinolfi** (ID), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR)

The CONT Committee has requested to draw up an own-initiative report on the protection of the European Union's financial interests. The INI report is based on, among other sources, the Commission's 33rd annual report on the Protection of EU's financial interests (PIF report 2021), presented on 13 October 2022 by Commissioner Hahn in the CONT Committee. The Rapporteur, Ms Pignedoli, will present her draft report in Committee, and hear from the Shadow rapporteurs and the other Members. Commission's representatives will also be present in the circumstance.

The Rapporteur's analysis includes considerations on the the main 2021 milestones, amongst them the beginning of the operational activities of the EPPO, the entry into force of the Regulation on the general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget and of the amended OLAF Regulation, the Commission's proposal for a targeted amendment (recast) of the Financial Regulation, and the adoption of the Recovery and Resilience Facility Regulation, which allows, together with the new MFF , the deployment of an unprecedented amount of resources with a corresponding increase of the risk of fraud and mismanagement.

In her draft report, Ms Pignedoli has relaunched topics already highlighted in the previous Parliament's resolutions such as the review of the detection trends for fraudulent and not-fraudulent irregularities and the transposition of the PIF, AML-CFT and Whistle-blowers Directives. The presented text includes a section on the major threats, such as transnational and organised crime and corruption, in particular perpetrated via cross-border modalities and use of off-shore, which make their countering more demanding and resource-absorbing and their impact more harmful on the civil society and the legal economy. Another section is devoted to the need to enhance the support that IT, digitalisation and related technologies are expected to provide to the protection of the financial interests. Amongst the calls on the Commission, there is also the request to submit a legislative proposal on mutual administrative assistance in those areas of European fund spending that are not yet endowed with this important tool.

In approaching and assessing the overall state of play of the protection of the Union's financial interests, the draft report embraces a perspective consistent with the design of the anti-fraud architecture, shaped in the last years by the co-legislators, and whose main structure has reached a major milestone with the starting of the operational activities of the EPPO, in June 2021. The Rapporteur reiterates the need for a Commission reporting tool more responsive to the need of bringing into light the dynamics and processes of such architecture. The report stresses that the anti-fraud composite institutional structure has been designed to detect, prevent and combat fraud and other misconducts affecting the EU financial interests by interaction amongst the multi-layered network of cooperation: the horizontal coordination amongst EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and the vertical relationships between EU authorities and national authorities, and between EU authorities and international organisations.

CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Deadline for amendments	CONT	16 November 2022
Adoption of draft report	CONT	5 December 2023
Adoption of report	Plenary	January 2023

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13. NEXT MEETINGS

- 14 November 2022 (Brussels)
- 30 November - 1 December 2022 (Brussels)

PAPERLESS PROGRAMME (INTERNAL USERS ONLY)

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

[Publications Catalogue 2019 - 2022](#)

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Briefing "[Gender equality in the college of the European Court of Auditors \(October 2022\)](#)"

Briefing "[Instruments and Tools at EU Level and Developed at Member State Level to Prevent and Tackle Fraud - ARACHNE](#)"

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

Briefing "[Tracking the EU Commissioners' commitments - Von der Leyen Commission, 2019 - 2024: Johannes Hahn](#)"

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Study "[Identifying patterns of fraud with EU funds under shared management, similarities and differences between member states](#)"

Briefing "[Nominations for Members of the European Court of Auditors](#)" (Cyprus and Malta)

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](#)"

Briefing "[Nominations for Members of the European Court of Auditors](#)" (Slovenia, Czech Republic, Latvia)

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

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

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

Workshop Proceedings "[Missing Trader Fraud: definition, effects, prevention and solutions](#)"

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

BUDG

Briefing "[Research for REGI, CONT and BUDG Committees - Cohesion Policy Calendar \(2021-2027 and 2014-2020 Programming Periods\)](#)"

Workshop Proceedings "[The EU borrowing strategy for NGEU: design, challenges and opportunities](#)"

Briefing "[Solidarity and Wealth Tax](#)"

Study "[Climate mainstreaming in the EU Budget 2022 update](#)"

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

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](#)”

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

BUDG

Study “The tools for tackling the breaches of the rule of law that constitute a risk to the EU budget”

Study on “Social tracking methodology for the EU budget”

CONT

Study “The European Commission’s use of consultants in preparing legislation”

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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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