



NOTULEN

Vergadering van 5 december 2022, 15.00 - 18.30 uur

BRUSSEL

De vergadering wordt op maandag 5 december 2022 om 15.05 uur geopend onder voorzitterschap van Monika Hohlmeier (voorzitter).

5 december 2022, 15.00 - 16.30 uur

1. Aanneming van de agenda

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

2. Mededelingen van de voorzitter

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

3. 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 Johannes Hahn, commissaris voor Begroting en Administratie, in aanwezigheid van de voorzitter van de Europese Rekenkamer Tony Murphy (Jaarverslag) en van de rapporterende leden van de Europese Rekenkamer Jan Gregor (Financieel en begrotingsbeheer), Marek Opiola (Ontvangsten) en François-Roger Cazala (Prestaties).

Sprekers: Monika Hohlmeier, Tony Murphy (voorzitter ERK), Jan Gregor (lid ERK), Marek Opiola (lid ERK) en François-Roger Cazala (lid ERK), Johannes Hahn (commissaris voor Begroting en Administratie), Jeroen Lenaers (schriftelijke verklaring door Angelika Winzig), Isabel García Muñoz (namens Maria Grapini), Olivier Chastel, Daniel Freund, Jan Olbrycht.

De vergadering wordt om 16.31 uur geschorst en om 16.37 uur hervat.

5 december 2022, 16.30 - 18.00 uur

4. Openbare hoorzitting over instrumenten en hulpmiddelen op EU-niveau die zijn ontwikkeld op het niveau van de lidstaten om fraude en financiële en economische misdrijven te voorkomen en aan te pakken, teneinde goede praktijken vast te stellen bij de bescherming van de financiële belangen van de EU

CONT/9/10178

- Zie afzonderlijke ontwerpagenda

Sprekers: Monika Hohlmeier, Victoria Gil Casado (Europese Commissie, DG BUDG), Mylène Maussire (Europese Commissie, DG BUDG), Franck Sébert (Europese Commissie, DG REGIO), Athanasios Maraslis (Europese Commissie, DG EMPL), Krzysztof Iwanski (Europese Commissie, DG EMPL), Jan Olbrycht, Caterina Chinnici, Ramona Strugariu, Mikuláš Peksa, Sabrina Pignedoli, Joachim Kuhs, Alberto Nastasia (Guardia di Finanza, Italië), Radoslaw Antoszek (Ministerie van Fondsen en Regionaal Beleid, Polen).

De vergadering wordt om 18.00 uur geschorst en om 18.02 uur hervat

5 december 2022, 18.00 - 18.30 uur

***** Stemming *****

5. 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

AM – PE738.710v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Goedkeuring ontwerpverslag

Het ontwerpverslag wordt goedgekeurd: 19 stemmen voor en 1 tegen, bij 2 onthoudingen (zie uitslag van de hoofdelijke stemming)

6. Controle van de financiële activiteiten van de Europese Investeringsbank –

jaarsverslag 2021
CONT/9/10205
2022/2153(INI)

Rapporteur:

Angelika Winzig (PPE)

PR – PE737.340v01-00

AM – PE738.707v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Goedkeuring ontwerpverslag

Het ontwerpverslag wordt goedgekeurd: 19 stemmen voor en 2 tegen, bij 1 onthouding (zie uitslag van de hoofdelijke stemming).

***** Einde stemming *****

7. Rondvraag

8. Volgende vergaderingen

- 23-24 januari 2023

- 9 februari 2023

De vergadering wordt om 18.32 uur gesloten.

Uitslag van de hoofdelijke stemmingen

Inhoud

| | |
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| 5. Bescherming van de financiële belangen van de Europese Unie – fraudebestrijding – jaarverslag 2021 | 5 |
| 5.1. Eindstemming | 5 |
| 6. Controle van de financiële activiteiten van de Europese Investeringsbank – jaarverslag 2021 | 6 |
| 6.1. Eindstemming | 6 |

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

5.1. Eindstemming

| 19 | + |
|-----------|---|
| NI | Sabrina Pignedoli |
| PPE | José Manuel Fernandes, Monika Hohlmeier, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Jan Olbrycht, Markus Pieper, Simone Schmiedtbauer, Eleni Stavrou, Angelika Winzig |
| Renew | Gilles Boyer, Alin Mituța, Ramona Strugariu |
| S&D | Attila Ara-Kovács, Caterina Chinnici, Corina Crețu, Isabel García Muñoz |
| Verts/ALE | Margrete Auken, Daniel Freund, Mikuláš Peksa |

| 1 | - |
|----|---------------------|
| ID | Jean-François Jalkh |

| 2 | 0 |
|----|-------------------------------|
| ID | Matteo Adinolfi, Joachim Kuhs |

Verklaring van de gebruikte tekens:

+ : voor

- : tegen

0 : onthouding

6. Controle van de financiële activiteiten van de Europese Investeringsbank – jaarverslag 2021

6.1. Eindstemming

| 19 | + |
|-----------|---|
| NI | Sabrina Pignedoli |
| PPE | José Manuel Fernandes, Monika Hohlmeier, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Jan Olbrycht, Markus Pieper, Simone Schmiedtbauer, Eleni Stavrou, Angelika Winzig |
| Renew | Gilles Boyer, Alin Mituța, Ramona Strugariu |
| S&D | Attila Ara-Kovács, Caterina Chinnici, Corina Crețu, Isabel García Muñoz |
| Verts/ALE | Margrete Auken, Daniel Freund, Mikuláš Peksa |

| 2 | - |
|----|-----------------------------------|
| ID | Jean-François Jalkh, Joachim Kuhs |

| 1 | 0 |
|----|-----------------|
| ID | Matteo Adinolfi |

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

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| Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezidium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*) |
| Monika Hohlmeier (Chair), Isabel García Muñoz (1st Vice-Chair), Caterina Chinnici (2nd Vice-Chair), Gilles Boyer (3rd Vice-Chair) |
| Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Βουλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/ Nariai/Képviselek/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter |
| Matteo Adinolfi, Olivier Chastel, Corina Crețu, José Manuel Fernandes, Daniel Freund, Jean-François Jalkh, Joachim Kuhs, Alin Mituța, Jan Olbrycht, Markus Pieper, Eleni Stavrou, 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 |
| Marian-Jean Marinescu, Mikuláš Peksa, Sabrina Pignedoli, Simone Schmiedtbauer, Ramona Strugariu |

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| 209 (7) |
| Attila Ara-Kovács (AGRI), Margrete Auken (ENVI) |
| 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/Τοčka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan) |
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| Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer |
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| По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Εσimehe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair/Sur l'invitation du président/ Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/ Fuq stedina tač-'Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/ Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan |
| Radoslaw Antoszek (Ministry of Funds and Regional Policy, Poland), Alberto Nastasia (Guardia di Finanza, Italy) |

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| Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nöukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Vijeće/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*) |
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| Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisja/Komissio/Kommissionen (*) |
| Victoria Gil Casado (DG BUDG), Johannes Hahn (Commissioner responsible for Budget and Administration), Krzysztof Iwanski (DG EMPL), Mylène Maussire (DG BUDG), Athanasios Maraslis (DG EMPL), Franck Sébert (DG REGIO) |
| 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 oħra/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 |
| François-Roger Cazala, Jan Gregor, Tony Murphy (President), Marek Opiola |

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| Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Dруги sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti oħra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Iní účastníci/Dруги udeleženci/Muut osallistajat/Övriga deltagare |
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| <p>Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppenes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Tajništva klubova zastupnika/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretoriai/Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Segretarjat gruppi poliitiçi/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secretariado dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/De politiska gruppernas sekretariat</p> | |
| PPE | Inmaculada Mateos Buendia, Jan Osuch, Madalina Stoian |
| S&D | Diana Popova, |
| Renew | Abel Sanchez, Stephanie Antoine |
| ID | |
| Verts/ALE | Robert Godina, Aleksandra Podsadowska |
| ECR | |
| The Left | Elisa Reschini |

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| <p>Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantselei/Γραφείο του Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Ured predsjednika/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Preşedinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli</p> | |
| <p>Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο του Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du secrétaire général/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/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/Direção-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> | |

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| Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Óigústeenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/ Service juridique/Pravna služba/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/ Wydział prawny/Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten |
| Mihkel Allik |
| Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusssekretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία της επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétariat de la commission/Tajništvo odbora/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Sekretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/ Sekretariat komisji/Secretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet |
| Evelyn Waldherr, Fernando Gallego Osuna, Diego Rasetti, Paulus Johannes Stander |
| Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assistenten |
| Kameliya Velcheva |

- * (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-Presidente/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/UrządNIK/Funcionário/Funçionar/Úradník/Urädnik/Virkamies/
 Tjänsteman

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 05 DECEMBER 2022

15:00 - 18:30

BRUSSELS, PAUL-HENRI SPAAK (5B001)

Monday 05 December 2022, 15:00 – 18:30

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair draws attention to the following points:

Interpretation was requested in the following languages:

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

*RO if possible

Webstreaming

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

3. 2021 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - COMMISSION

CONT/9/09652

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



Discharge hearing with Johannes Hahn, Commissioner responsible for Budget and Administration in the presence of ECA President Tony Murphy (AR), ECA reporting Members Jan Gregor (Financial and Budgetary Management), Marek Opiola (Revenue) and François-Roger Cazala (Performance)

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), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Luke Ming Flanagan** (The Left)

The CONT Committee will hold a hearing with Commissioner Hahn in the context of the discharge procedure for the Commission for financial year 2021.

Traditionally this is the occasion for the European Court of Auditors to present a wrap-up of their audit work for the year 2021, with the ECA President, and three reporting Members present.

Budgetary and financial management is covered by chapter 2 in the ECA's Annual Report. ECA concludes that during 2021 an exceptionally low amount of EUR 113.4 billion was committed, lower than in 2014, the first year of the 2014-2020 MFF. The Court noted that in particular the eight shared management funds under the Common Provisions Regulation showed a low implementation rate, with as little as 2% of the available amount committed.

Outstanding commitments for the EU budget decreased significantly from a historic high of €303.2 billion at the end of 2020, to EUR 251.7 billion, mainly due to delays to the start of the implementation of shared-management funds under the 2021-2027 MFF. However total outstanding commitment, that include the EU Budget and NextGenerationEU, reached EUR 341.6 billion.

The total exposure of the EU budget to contingent liabilities – liabilities that depend on a specific future event occurring – increased from EUR 131.9 billion at the end of 2020 to EUR 277.9 billion by the end of 2021, an increase of 111 %. The two main reasons for this substantial rise were the introduction of NextGenerationEU and the increase in the amount of loans provided under the SURE (the European instrument for temporary support to mitigate unemployment risks in an emergency).

The Court additionally notes that the EU is mobilising its budget and adding additional flexibility to react to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. It states that this will increase the EU's budgetary needs and lead to a higher risk of contingent liabilities to the EU budget being triggered. At the end of 2021, Ukraine had outstanding loans with a nominal value of EUR 4.7 billion under the Macro-Financial Assistance and Euratom programmes. In addition, the European Investment Bank (EIB) has granted loans to the value of EUR 2.1 billion to Ukraine, loans which are supported by EU guarantees.

Revenue, amounting to a total amount of EUR 239.6 billion, is covered by chapter 3 in the ECA's Annual Report. ECA concludes that the level of error in revenue was not material, but highlights, as in previous years, persistent weaknesses in the effectiveness of control systems at the level of both the Commission and Member States.



Administration is covered by chapter 9 in the ECA's Annual Report. Spending on administration amounted to EUR 10.7 billion in 2021. The Court notes that this amount comprised spending on human resources and pensions (about 68 % of the total), buildings, equipment, energy, communications and information technology. ECA concludes that the overall audit evidence indicates that the level of error in spending on administration was not material.

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

In accordance with the timetable for the discharge procedure, the written questions for this meeting were sent to the Commission on 21 November 2021, answers were received on Wednesday 30 November and forwarded to the CONT Members immediately.

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

- Introductions by the reporting Members of the European Court of Auditors, who will present the findings of the Annual Report 2021 on this area;
- Commissioner Hahn will reply to this introduction;
- CONT Rapporteurs and shadow rapporteurs will put questions to the Commissioner and the ECA followed by answers (the ping-pong system);
- Other Members will question the Commissioner and/or the ECA;
- Closing remarks by the Commissioner and the Chair.

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 |

Monday 05 December 2022, 16:30 – 18:00

4. PUBLIC HEARING ON INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS AT EU LEVEL AND DEVELOPED AT MEMBER STATES' LEVEL TO PREVENT AND TACKLE FRAUD - ARACHNE

CONT/9/10178

* See separate draft agenda

Administrators: Paulus Johannes Stander
Diego Rasetti

The CONT Committee coordinators decided to organise in the first half of 2022 a Public Hearing on instruments and tools that the Commission and Member States use to prevent and tackle fraud. The initial aim was to have those Member States that were reluctant to use the Commission's tool, ARACHNE, present their difficulties with the use of the tool. The Members of the Committee should get an opportunity to take these remarks into account in their (legislative) work.

However, the reluctant Member States that were approached to present their views, had objections to being present in the Hearing, leading to its postponement to the second half of 2022.

In order to prepare for the re-scheduled hearing, the Committee Secretariat sent a short questionnaire to the Member States to have their views represented in the hearing. The Commission launched however a more elaborate survey a little bit later, with several Member States opting to reply to that questionnaire only.

The Commission agreed to share with the Committee the anonymised results of its survey, which will be presented in the hearing, along with presentations of the Commission's Directorates-General for Budget and Urban and Regional Policy (the Joint Audit Directorate for Cohesion). Also, Italy and Poland will share their experience with using ARACHNE and with their own developed instruments and tools to prevent and tackle fraud.



Draft PROGRAMME

Public hearing on

Instruments and tools at EU level and developed at Member States' level to prevent and tackle fraud - ARACHNE

5 December 2022 (16.30-18.00)

Brussels

SPINELLI, SPAAK 5B

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 16:30 - 16:35 | Opening remarks and introduction by the Chair, Ms Monika Hohlmeier |
| 16:35 - 16:55 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the results of a questionnaire sent to all Member States on the use of IT tools to prevent and tackle fraud• Presentation on the legal base of the Commission's IT-tool to prevent and tackle fraud (ARACHNE) and the latest developments, by Ms Victoria Gil Casado and Ms Mylène Maussire, DG BUDG• Presentation of the technical background and use of ARACHNE and how the tool will further be developed in the future, by Mr Franck Sébert, Director Common |
| 16:55 - 17:15 | Questions and answers |
| 17:15 - 17:35 | Exchange of views with Member States' representatives on their experience with ARACHNE and/ or their national instruments and tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Italy, Colonel Alberto Nastasia, Guardia di Finanza• Poland, Mr Radosław Antoszek, Director of the Ministry for Funds and Regional |
| 17:35 - 17:55 | Questions and answers |
| 18:55 - 18:00 | Closing remarks by the Chair |

Monday 05 December 2022, 18:00 - 18:30

*** Voting time***

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

CONT/9/10204

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

Adoption of the own-initiative draft report.



PR – PE737.341v01-00

AM – PE738.710v01-00

Rapporteur:

[Sabrina Pignedoli](#)(NI)

Administrator:

Diego Rasetti

Shadow rapporteurs:

David Lega (EPP),

Caterina Chinnici (S&D), **Katalin Cseh** (Renew),

Mikuláš Peksa (The Greens), **Matteo Adinolfi** (ID),

Richard Czarnecki (ECR),

On 8 November 2022, the draft of the own-initiative report on the protection of the European Union's financial interests was presented for consideration in the CONT Committee. Shadow rapporteurs and other Members made a number of remarks, and heard replies from Commission's representatives. The exchange fed into an interesting debate, translating into 125 amendments to the draft text.

The amendments submitted refer to a wide range of topics: they cover aspects of the so called external dimension of the protection of the Union's financial interests and its relations with third countries beneficiaries of EU financing, as well as profiles related to the collection of own resources. Some amendments emphasise the magnitude of serious threats to the integrity of the Union's finances and to the correct implementation of its co-funding, such as oligarchs groups; other proposed lines refer to the solutions and remedies to such threats: many amendments, bring the attention on recent decisions of the Court of Justice of the European Union, and others relate with the intertwined dynamics amongst components of the anti-fraud architecture.

In particular, the number of proposed amendments referring to the conditionality regulation's features and on the important role of the Rule of Law in protecting the Union's budget, confirms the solid grounds of the call for an holistic reporting and analysis of the overall anti-fraud landscape. The correctness of the approach stressing the composite institutional structure of the current anti-fraud mechanism, built on the close interaction amongst components of the multi-layered network of cooperation, is further emphasised by the amendments focused on the adoption of national anti-fraud strategies and on cooperation amongst EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and between EU authorities and national authorities. On that note, the need for enhanced coordination between the services entrusted with checks and controls is pointed out.

Taking into account the positions expressed by the Shadows, the Rapporteur has proposed five compromise amendments.

CONT Timetable

| Event | Body | Date |
|--------------------|---------|--------------|
| Adoption of report | Plenary | January 2023 |

6. CONTROL OF THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK - ANNUAL REPORT 2021

CONT/9/10205

[2022/2153\(INI\)](#)



Adoption of the own-initiative draft report.

PR – PE737.340v01-00

AM – PE738.707v01-00

Rapporteur:

[Winzig Angelika](#) (EPP)

Administrator:

Diego Rasetti

Shadow rapporteurs:

Corina Crețu (S&D), **Alin**

Mituța (Renew), **Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel** (The Greens/EFA), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID), **Richard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Luke Ming Flanagan** (The Left)

Following the presentation for consideration in the CONT Committee, on 14 November 2022, 68 amendments were tabled to the draft text of the own-initiative report.

The proposed amendments encompass many aspects of the EIB's business model, emphasising its position of largest multilateral development bank, issuer of green and sustainability use-of-proceeds bonds and acknowledging its leadership in the global green and sustainability bond markets. Some amendments underline the role of the EIB in specific initiatives, such as InvestEU and the Pan-European Guarantee Fund (EGF), and the importance of the support that EIB provides to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Attention is drawn to the actions that the Bank is expected to launch in the sectors of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, which are of key importance for growth and development in rural areas.

The amendments also present calls to the Bank to strive for levels of excellence in the implementation of its transparency policy, they look into the at times sub-optimal geographical distribution of the EIB financial support and underline the importance of human rights, inclusiveness and sustainability as fundamental pillars of the EIB Group's activities and operations.

The strategic support provided by the EIB Group under the form of technical assistance and advisory services is further remarked in some of the tabled amendments, together with references to its activities fostering the digitalisation and greening of the EU economy.

Overall, the debate between Shadows and Rapporteur has brought additional contents to the comprehensive analysis of the EIB activities carried out in 2021.

CONT Timetable

| Event | Body | Date |
|--------------------|---------|--------------|
| Adoption of report | Plenary | January 2023 |

*** *End of voting time* ***

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8. NEXT MEETINGS

- 23 - 24 January 2023
- 9 February 2023

PAPERLESS PROGRAMME (INTERNAL USERS ONLY)

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

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