



ACTA

Reunión del 25 de abril de 2023, de las 9.00 a las 12.30 horas, de las 15.00 a las 15.45 horas, de las 15.45 a las 16.30 horas y de las 16.30 a las 18.00 horas

BRUSELAS

La reunión comienza el martes 25 de abril de 2023, a las 9.07 horas, bajo la presidencia de Monika Hohlmeier (presidenta).

25 de abril de 2023, de las 9.00 a las 9.10 horas

1. Aprobación del orden del día

Se aprueba el proyecto de orden del día.

2. Comunicaciones de la presidencia

La presidenta señala a la atención de los miembros la información recogida en el boletín CONT News.

3. Aprobación de actas de reuniones

- 28 de febrero de 2023

PV – PE745.402v01-00

Se aprueba el acta.

- 22 y 23 de marzo de 2023

PV – PE745.534v01-00

Se aprueba el acta.

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

4. Grandes proyectos de infraestructuras de transporte en la Unión: ejecución de los proyectos y seguimiento y control de los fondos de la Unión

CONT/9/08483
2022/2021(INI)

Ponente:

Andrey Novakov (PPE)

AM – PE742.682v01-00

Fondo:

CONT*

Opiniones:

TRAN* Colm Markey (PPE)

AD – PE737.197v02-00

AM – PE738.504v01-00

- Aprobación del proyecto de informe

Se aprueba el proyecto de informe por 24 votos a favor, 0 votos en contra y 3 abstenciones (véanse los resultados de la votación nominal).

Intervienen: Andrey Novakov

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

25 de abril de 2023, de las 9.10 a las 9.50 horas

5. Audiencia pública sobre la situación de las medidas discriminatorias contra empresas en Hungría

CONT/9/11712

- (véase el proyecto de orden del día correspondiente)

Intervienen: Jozsef Martin (Transparencia Internacional, Hungría), Hubert Gambs (Comisión Europea, DG GROW), Karl Soukup (Comisión Europea, DG COMP), Daniel Freund, Joachim Kuhs, Florian Geyer (Comisión Europea, DG JUST).

25 de abril de 2023, de las 9.50 a las 11.15 horas

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

6. El impacto de las medidas discriminatorias contra empresas en Hungría

CONT/9/11713

- Intercambio de puntos de vista

25 de abril de 2023, de las 11.15 a las 12.00 horas

7. Misión de la Comisión CONT a Hungría, del 15 al 17 de mayo de 2023

CONT/9/11711

- Intercambio de puntos de vista con la Comisión y los representantes de la OLAF a la luz de los preparativos de la misión a Hungría

***** Fin de la parte de la reunión a puerta cerrada *****

25 de abril de 2023, de las 12.00 a las 12.30 horas

8. Control de las actividades financieras del Banco Europeo de Inversiones: informe anual 2022

CONT/9/11648

2023/2046(INI)

Ponente:

Viola von Cramon-Taubadel (Verts/ALE)

PR – PE745.517v01-00

Fondo:

CONT

Opiniones:

DEVE Tomas Tobé (PPE)

- Examen del proyecto de informe
- Plazo de presentación de enmiendas: **27 de abril de 2023, a las 14.00 horas**

Intervienen: Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel, Petri Sarvamaa (leído), Corina Cretu, Alin Mituta, Mikołaj Dowgielewicz (Banco Europeo de Inversiones).

Se suspende la reunión a las 12.44 horas y se reanuda a las 16.03 horas.

25 de abril de 2023, de las 15.00 a las 15.45 horas

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

9. Reunión de los coordinadores

* * *

25 de abril de 2023, de las 15.45 a las 16.30 horas

10. Misión de la Comisión CONT a España, del 20 al 22 de febrero de 2023

CONT/9/11129

- Información a la comisión sobre la misión de la Comisión CONT a España

Intervienen: Monika Hohlmeier, Isabel García Muñoz, Eva Maria Poptcheva, Ernest Urtasun, Declan Costello (Comisión Europea, DG ECFIN).

* * *

25 de abril de 2023, de las 16.30 a las 18.00 horas

Reunión conjunta con la Comisión de Asuntos Exteriores (AFET)

11. Informe Especial n.º 27/2022 del TCE: apoyo de la UE a la cooperación transfronteriza con los países vecinos

CONT/9/11678

Ponente:

Ilana Cicurel (Renew)

- Presentación del informe a cargo de Bettina Jakobsen (miembro ponente del TCE)

Intervienen: Monika Hohlmeier, Bettina Jakobsen (TCE), Moray Gilland (Comisión Europea, DG REGIO), Ilana Cicurel, Michael Gahler (AFET), Thijs Reuten.

12. Asuntos varios

13. Próximas reuniones

- 24 y 25 de mayo de 2023

- 26 y 27 de junio de 2023

La reunión termina a las 17.25 horas.

Results of roll-call votes

Contents

4. Proposal for a regulation amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union - 2022/0125(COD), Nils Ušakovs, Monika Hohlmeier	6
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Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

Committee on Budgetary Control

Final vote: Large transport infrastructure projects in the EU – implementation of projects and monitoring and control of EU funds (CONT/9/08483 - 2022/2021(INI))

24	+
ECR	Joachim Stanisław Brudziński
ID	Antonio Maria Rinaldi
NI	Mislav Kolakušić
PPE	José Manuel Fernandes, Niclas Herbst, Monika Hohlmeier, Andrey Novakov, Jan Olbrycht, Eleni Stavrou, Angelika Winzig, Tomáš Zdechovský
Renew	Gilles Boyer, Olivier Chastel, Ilana Cicurel, Alin Mituța
S&D	Attila Ara-Kovács, Caterina Chinnici, Corina Crețu, Isabel García Muñoz, Maria Grapini, Lara Wolters
Verts/ALE	Daniel Freund, Mikuláš Peksa, Viola von Cramon-Taubadel

0	-

3	0
ID	Jean-François Jalkh, Joachim Kuhs
The Left	Luke Ming Flanagan

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

**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**

<p>Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezidium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)</p>
<p>Monika Hohlmeier (Chair), Isabel García Muñoz (1st Vice-Chair), Caterina Chinnici (2nd Vice-Chair), Gilles Boyer (3rd Vice-Chair), Tomáš Zdechovský (4th Vice-Chair)</p>
<p>Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Βουλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/ Nariai/Képviselek/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter</p>
<p>Joachim Brudziński, Olivier Chastel, Ilana Cicurel, Corina Crețu, José Manuel Fernandes, Luke Ming Flanagan, Daniel Freund, Jean-François Jalkh, Mislav Kolakušić, Dietmar Köster (AFET), Joachim Kuhs, Alin Mituța, Jan Olbrycht, Thijs Reuten (AFET), Eleni Stavrou, Angelika Winzig, Lara Wolters</p>
<p>Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Pötagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter</p>
<p>Maria Grapini, Niclas Herbst, Andrey Novakov, Mikuláš Peksa, Antonio Maria Rinaldi, Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel</p>

209 (7)
Attila Ara-Kovacs, Eva-Maria Poptcheva
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/Τοčka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan)

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
Jozsef Martin (Transparency International, Hungary)*

*remote participation

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nōukogu/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 (*)	
Sofia Alves (European Commission, DG REGIO), Declan Costello (European Commission, DG ECFIN), Hubert Gambs (European Commission, DG GROW), Céline GAUER (European Commission, SG RECOVER), Florian Geyer (European Commission, DG JUSTICE), Moray Gilland (European Commission, DG REGIO), Joanna Krzeminska-Vamvaka (European Commission, OLAF), Karl Soukup (European Commission, DG COMP)#	
Други институции и органи/Otras instituciones y organismos/Ostatni 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/Istutuzjonijiet 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	Bettina Jakobsen

Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatni učastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistajat/Övriga deltagare

Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppenes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Tajništva klubova zastupnika/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretoriai/Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi poličiči/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secretariado dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö/De politiska gruppernas sekretariat	
PPE	Inmaculada Mateos Buendia, Pilar Santamaria
S&D	Diana Popova,
Renew	Stephanie Antoine
Verts/ALE	Robert Godina, Aleksandra Podsadowska,
ID	
ECR	
The Left	Elisa Reschini
NI	

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 Președinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli	
Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο του Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du secrétaire général/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli	
Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Directorate-General/Direction générale/Glavna uprava/Direzione generale/Ģenerāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direttorat Generali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES	Beatriz Navarro
DG IPOL	Monika Strasser (Director, Directorate Budgetary Affairs)#
DG EXPO	
DG EPRS	
DG COMM	
DG PART	
DG PERS	
DG INLO	
DG TRAD	
DG LINC	
DG FINS	
DG ITEC	
DG SAFE	

<p>Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Öigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/Service juridique/Pravna služba/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawny/Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právný servis/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten</p>
<p>Mihkel Allik, Alicia Suffrin</p>
<p>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</p>
<p>Evelyn Waldherr, Anca Balcanu, Kaare Barslev, Giulia Bastianello, Caterina Benincasa, Marius Cobianu, Christelle Courtade, Cristina Degueldre, Susana Delmas Costa, Fernando Gallego Osuna, Benoit Lefort, Ana Maria Nogueira, Diego Rasetti, Hans Stander, Jasna Toskova</p>
<p>Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistenten</p>
<p>Kameliya Velcheva, Anna Aresu</p>

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predseda/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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- (M) = Член/Miembro/Člen/Medlem/Mitglied/Parlamendiliige/Βουλευτής/Member/Membre/Član/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képviselő/Membru/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membru/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Длъжностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Dužnosnik/Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/UrządNIK/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman

COORDINATORS' MEETING

Tuesday, 25 April 2023

15.00-15.45

Brussels

SPAAK 5B1

Summary of Coordinators' recommendations

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Coordinators present:

EPP: Petri SARVAMAA (remotely)
S&D: Corina CRETU replacing Claudiu MANDA
Renew: Written comments sent by Olivier CHASTEL
Greens: Mikulas PEKSA
ID: -- --
ECR: -- --
The Left: Luke Ming FLANAGAN

Items for decision:

1. Screening of ECA reports

Decision should be taken on the following ECA reports:

Report	Title	Date of publication	Pol.group	Secretariat's/Chair's proposal
SR 09/2023 <i>Annex I</i>	Securing agricultural product supply chains during COVID19	20 April 2023	EPP/The Left/ID	Refer to AGRI for presentation
SR 10/2023 <i>Annex II</i>	The Preparatory action on defence research	26 April 2023	RENEW	Joint meeting with ITRE and invitation to SEDE
Review 03/2023 <i>Annex III</i>	Transport of live animals in the EU: challenges and opportunities for your information	17 April 2023	The Left	Refer to ENVI & AGRI for presentation
ECA SR 11/2023 <i>Annex IV</i>	EU support for the digitalisation of schools	24 April 2023	Greens	Joint meeting with CULT

Decision:

Coordinators approved the proposals by the Secretariat/the Chair for SR 9, 11 and Review 3. For SR 10 it was decided to refer it to it to ITRE and SEDE.

2. CONT contribution to the summary report 2023

As every year, the CCC asked committees for input in their areas of competence to feed the yearly Summary Report designed a) to assess the implementation of the current Commission Work Programme, b) to signal the priorities to be reflected in the work programme for the next year and c) to assess if/how the Commission has followed up on the commitments made by the Commissioners-designate at their hearings.

At their meeting on 22 March Coordinators agreed to send to the CONT secretariat possible input to the 2023 summary report by close of business on 13 April in view of discussion and endorsement of the CONT contribution at the Coordinators meeting on 25 April in view of respecting the deadline of 25 May set by the CCC.

By the deadline set at the last Coordinators meeting, the Secretariat has received the following five topics from the EPP.

- 1 .Adoption of the recast of the Financial Regulation
2. Finalising Discharge procedures for 2021 and 2022.
3. Monitoring and scrutiny of the implementation of the Rule of Law conditionality mechanism Regulation
4. Monitoring and scrutiny of implementation of the RRF
5. The upcoming proposal for the EU Sovereignty Fund

Decision:

Coordinators discussed the elements from the EPP and tasked the Secretariat to finalise a text in resolution style. For point no 5 it was agreed that focus should be on the CONT relevant elements of a proposal.

3. *Requests for expertise for the rest of the legislature*

On 22 March Coordinators approved a process concerning the future selection of proposals for expertise whereby proposals should first be discussed in a technical meeting with political advisers, the Policy Department and the CONT Secretariat. The technical meeting took place on 30 March 2023 and the outcome in the form of a consolidated list of proposals was further discussed by Coordinators.

Decision:

Coordinators discussed the proposal and approved the following list of expertise:

Workshops:

- Preventing EU funds from reaching sanctioned individuals or companies

Studies:

- 100 biggest final beneficiaries of the RRF per Member State in a comparative perspective
- Lessons learned from the implementation of crisis response tools inside the EU, from a budgetary control point of view
- Digitalisation of budgetary control
- The distribution of free allowances from the ETS system

4. *Program for the CONT mission to Hungary*

The mission to Hungary will take place from 15 to 17 May 2023. The purpose of the mission is to look into the protection of the EU budget via the Rule of law conditionality Regulation and problematic remarks by Hungary's supreme audit institution, as well as

doubts over Hungary's capacity to manage funding it may receive under the RRF.

Decision:

The Coordinators agreed on the program with the following potential changes:

- the possibility to create room for also having a meeting with the Association of Hungarian Local Governments;
- the possibility to visit a company which is under pressure from the Hungarian authorities, in relation to the hearing on "discriminatory measures against companies in Hungary".

5. Reply to ECA concerning a stakeholder request for an audit on the recovery of irregular expenditure from beneficiaries of EU funds

ECA has recently asked the CONT Committee to contribute to stakeholder consultations in relation to two audit procedures:

- One requesting feedback for the ECA performance audit on the application of the Rule of law Conditionality Regulation, addressed in identical terms to the BUDG Committee.
- The other requesting feedback for the ECA audit concerning the recovery of irregular expenditure from beneficiaries of EU funds.

Both letters indicate that the feed-back provided may be included in the audit reports ECA intends to publish at the end of the year.

It is a novelty that the CONT Committee is asked to contribute to a stakeholder consultation for an audit procedure.

CONT Coordinators have discussed the matter at their meeting of 22 March and concluded that they wish to clarify the procedure first before deciding on how to proceed.

Following the unanimous decision from BUDG Coordinators, the first request on the application of the Rule of law Conditionality Regulation (joint file with BUDG under Rule 58 RoP) was answered by referring to relevant EP resolutions which are the only official position of the institution.

Decision:

Coordinators approved the draft reply to ECA.

Items for information

6. Preparation of public hearing on conflict of interest (Article 61 Financial Regulation)

Following the coordinators' recommendations of September 2022, the Bureau approved the organisation of a public hearing on conflicts of interest under the following terms: *"In spring 2021, the Commission published its guidelines on conflicts of interests. The hearing/workshop would allow the Commission to present to CONT the experiences of the application of the rules on conflicts of interests and possible lessons learnt so far. The*

focus should be on the practicability of the rules, bureaucratic burden, how to avoid overloading small organisations and NGOs with bureaucratic requirements, the situation of auditors and controllers, as well as possibilities to improve the rules and guidelines". Coordinators are welcome to make additional suggestions by 28 April 2023. The draft programme will be sent for approval by written procedure ahead of the public hearing.

7. Outcome of written procedures since last meeting

- By e-mail of 17 April 2023 the draft programme of the Public Hearing on the "Situation of discriminatory measures against companies in Hungary" was approved without comments by the deadline.

8. State of play of appointments on CONT files

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

9. Documents received for information

10. Any other business

- a) The Chair proposed that the Committee after the mission to Hungary should draft a resolution concerning the discriminatory measures against foreign companies in Hungary including in the field of research and innovation and how these measures constitute a threat to the integrity of the internal market. The resolution would potentially be made in cooperation with the IMCO and the CULT Committees. This was supported by all Coordinators present.
- b) The Chair mentioned that only three groups (EPP, ECR and ID) had indicated an interest in participating in the mission to France. Other groups were encouraged to also participate in the mission.

11. Date of next Coordinators' meeting

- 24-25 May 2023

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 2023

9:00 - 12:30 and 15:00 - 18:00

BRUSSELS, SPAAK (5B001)

Tuesday, 25 April, 09:00 - 09:05

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair draws attention to the following points:

Interpretation was requested in the following languages:

DE, EN, FR, IT, EL, ES, PT, CS, HU, PL, RO and HR

[Webstreaming](#)

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

Adoption of Coordinators' recommendations

Summary of coordinators' recommendations from the Coordinator's meeting on 22nd March 2023 was circulated to the Members on 3 April 2023.

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- 28 February 2023
- 22-23 March 2023

PV – PE745.402v01-00

PV – PE745.534v01-00

Tuesday, 25 April, 09:05 - 09:10

*** **Voting time** ***

4. VOTE ON “LARGE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THE EU- IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS & MONITORING AND CONTROL OF EU FUNDS”

CONT/9/08483

[2022/2021\(INI\)](#)



Vote on the draft own-initiative report

Rapporteur: [Andrey Novakov](#) (EPP)
Administrator: Fernando Gallego Osuna

Shadow Rapporteurs: **Corina Cretu** (S&D), **Olivier Chastel** (RE), **Mikulas Peksa** (Greens), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID), **Younous Omarjee** (The Left)

In his draft report, the rapporteur, Mr Novakov, explains that large projects play a key role in transport networks, delivering great socio-economic benefits, creating and sustaining employment, improving productivity and competitiveness, enhancing infrastructure and affecting the everyday lives of citizens. The rapporteur

highlights that large transport projects are tangible examples of EU budget's impact and solidarity and therefore, that effective monitoring and control and sound financial management of this type of project is one of the keys to their successful implementation.

CONT Members have tabled 41 amendments, which together with 49 suggestions from the TRAN Committee, form the basis of the 13 compromise amendments proposed by the rapporteur, which focus on the key areas of the report, such as the Trans-European Transport Network policy, the coordination challenges faced by cross-border projects, and income and employment benefits for local businesses and population; time and transport cost benefits for people and freight and other social benefits.

The draft report is available on the [CONT website](#).

CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Consideration of draft report	CONT	9 February 2023
Deadline for amendments	CONT	21 February 2023, 14:00 hrs
Vote	CONT	25 April 2023
Vote	Plenary	31 May-1 June 2023

*** **END OF voting time** ***

Tuesday, 25 April, 09:10 - 09:50

5. SITUATION OF DISCRIMINATORY MEASURES AGAINST COMPANIES IN HUNGARY

CONT/9/11712

Public hearing

Administrator: Fernando Gallego Osuna

Foreign companies doing business in strategic sectors in Hungary have reported that the Hungarian Government is implementing discriminatory strategies designed to make their economic activity unsustainable and freeze them out of the Hungarian market. Such companies report illiberal business practices giving an unfair advantage to Hungarian competitors, non-transparent public procurement procedures and, ultimately, takeover bids by the Hungarian Government and entities with ties to the Prime Minister of Hungary, Viktor Orbán, in pursuit of the government's policy of 'economic nationalism'. The reports have sparked further concern that EU funds are being used to enrich the Hungarian Government's political allies in contravention of EU competition and public procurement rules.

This Public Hearing will count with the presence of speakers from Transparency International, as well as representatives of the European Commission. Please see the separate agenda for the event.

A separate briefing gives an overview based on media reports of the methods allegedly used by the Hungarian Government to make doing business in Hungary difficult for non-Hungarian companies.

Tuesday, 25 April, 09:50 - 11:15

6. THE IMPACT OF DISCRIMINATORY MEASURES AGAINST COMPANIES IN HUNGARY

CONT/9/11712

***** In camera *****

Exchange of views

Following up on the discussions in the morning session, the CONT Committee will hold an *in camera* meeting concerning the impact of discriminatory measures against companies in Hungary.

Tuesday, 25 April, 11:15 - 12:00

7. CONT MISSION TO HUNGARY (15 – 17 MAY 2023)

CONT/9/11711

***** In camera *****



Exchange of views in the light of the preparations of the mission

Chair of the mission:

[Hohlmeier](#) (EPP)

[Monika](#)

Administrator:

Benoît Lefort

From 15 to 17 May 2023, the CONT Committee will hold an official fact-finding mission to Hungary.

The mission's objective is to look into ongoing developments in the country concerning the protection of the EU budget in relation to the Rule of law-conditionality Regulation mechanism under the BUDG and CONT Committees responsibilities, problematic remarks by Hungary's supreme audit institution, as well as doubts over the Hungary's capacity to manage any funding it may receive under the RRF.

The CONT Members should hold meetings with the Ministers of Justice and of Regional Development, the State Audit Office's President, the Hungarian Integrity Authority, as well as with their counterparts in the national parliament, civil society organisations and investigative journalists involved in the Rule of law conditionality mechanism. Furthermore, the mission should also meet with the Mayor of Budapest and hold an on-the-spot visit of an EU-financed project.

A member of the European Court of Auditors and European Commission officials will join the European Parliament mission to Hungary.

The purpose of this exchange of views is to get an update from the Commission's representatives on the latest developments with regard to the EU budget implementation in Hungary.

Tuesday, 25 April, 12:00 - 12:30

8. CONTROL OF THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK (EIB ANNUAL REPORT 2022)

CONT/9/11648

Consideration of the draft own-initiative report



Rapporteur: [Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel](#)
Administrator: Diego Rasetti

Shadow Rapporteurs: **Petri Sarvaama** (EPP) **Corina Cretu** (S&D) **Alin Mituta** (Renew)

Opinions: DEVE (in form of a letter)

The draft own-initiative report is presented this year at an early moment in time, to have it voted in July's Plenary, together with the ECON Committee's own initiative Report on the EIB's 2022 financial activities.

The draft report takes into account all the EIB's key priorities pursued in 2022: sustainable investments in climate and environment, development, innovation and skills, small and medium-sized enterprises, infrastructure and cohesion.

The Rapporteur has assessed the main activities run by the EIB as EU's climate bank and as EU's development bank. As the EU's climate bank, the EIB is a fundamental player in the Paris Agreement implementation and the largest multilateral financier of climate actions. In the role of the EU's development bank, the EIB is an essential contributor to the implementation of the political and economic goals of the European Union around the world. In this last regard, a specific consideration has been given to the EIB Global, operational as per 1 January 2022, intended to be the main financing arm of Team Europe and combining the firepower of the EIB, EU Member States and other investment institutions working in concert with the EU. The draft report presented today underlines how the invasion of Ukraine and the energy crisis have compounded existing constraints and calls for EIB's intervention against a scenario where the ramifications of higher energy prices go beyond the direct hit to households and businesses, fuelling inflation, depressing demand and increasing the risk of widening disparities and the gap between countries.

The relevance and impact of EIB actions in the post-pandemic scenario have also been reviewed: in particular, the draft report considers EIB's actions to address the investment gaps existing in many sectors following the pandemic and praises the EIB support delivered mainly through the COVID-19 financing package and the European Guarantee Fund.

The draft report highlights the importance of safeguarding the EIB's business model, which builds on high standards of integrity, transparency, accountability and good governance, and underlines the need to adopt and continuously update every measure that is material to effectively and efficiently counter fraud, money laundering, financing of terrorism and organised crime and harmful tax practices.

Against an overall positive assessment of EIB's financial activities, the draft report still expresses concerns on the inadequate level of investments to limit climate change, which are still well below what is needed to meet Europe's target of net-zero emissions by 2050. The Rapporteur also points at still sub-optimal solutions to some issues that were already targeted in previous resolutions: the still not fully satisfying external scrutiny of EIB by the ECA (in the light of the recently revised Tripartite Agreement between Commission, the EIB and the Court of auditors), the still existing room for improvement in matters of transparency, the still limited gender balance within the Bank and the still missing diversity, equity and inclusion policy.

Finally, the Rapporteur has requested EIB to provide additional updated figures on aggregated financial operations and performance data, on the complaints mechanism and on the activities of the Bank's investigative division (EIB IG/IN): EIB's feedback will be integrated in the text via amendments that will be discussed with the Shadow Rapporteurs.

CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
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Consideration of draft report	CONT	25 April 2023
Deadline for amendments	CONT	27 April 2023
Vote	CONT	24-25 May 2023
Adoption of report	Plenary	July 2023

Tuesday, 25 April, 15:00 - 15:45

9. COORDINATORS MEETING

***** In camera *****

Tuesday, 25 April, 15:45 - 16:30

10. REPORTING BACK FROM CONT MISSION TO SPAIN

CONT/9/11129

Administrators: Hans Stander and Fernando Gallego Osuna

A delegation of the CONT Committee was in Madrid from 20 to 22 February 2023 to assess the implementation of Spain's National Recovery and Resilience Plan including milestones and targets and particularly the management, audit and control systems. The delegation met with representatives of the Spanish central and regional governments, businesses, unions and journalists.

The debriefing on the mission in this committee meeting marks one of the last steps in the execution of the mission, only to be followed by the publication of the final mission report, draft version of which has been shared with the Members.

The floor will be given to the Members that participated in the mission, and a representative of the Commission is present to answer possible questions from the Members.

Tuesday, 25 April, 16:30 - 18:00

Joint meeting with Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET)

11. ECA SPECIAL REPORT 27/2022 ON "EU SUPPORT TO CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES: VALUABLE SUPPORT, BUT IMPLEMENTATION STARTED VERY LATE AND PROBLEMS WITH COORDINATION NEED TO BE ADDRESSED"

CONT/9/11678



Presentation of the special report by reporting ECA Member Bettina Jakobsen

Rapporteur (RE): [Ilana Cicurel \(Renew\)](#)

Administrator: Benoît Lefort

In this audit, the Court assessed whether the programmes of the cross-border cooperation between EU Member States and the sixteen neighbourhood countries during the 2014-2020 financing period have been effective in enhancing territorial cooperation across the EU's external borders.

For this audit, the Court audited the programmes of the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) cross-border cooperation (CBC) that are approaching the end of their implementation under the 2014-2020 programming period (together accounting for about 44% of the total ENI CBC funding planned)

The Court concluded that the programmes targeted relevant needs, but their complementarity with other EU-funded programmes was insufficient, and that the EU Delegations were not sufficiently involved. Apart of

few exceptions, the Court considered that the projects were selected and implemented efficiently and effectively.

However, the Court identified weaknesses in the results monitoring framework of programmes. While safeguards are in place to mitigate the risk of fraud, the programmes cannot effectively use a fraud reporting IT tool due to lack of access of the neighbouring countries. Overall, the programmes achieved a balanced distribution of programmes participants from EU and neighbouring countries and provided relevant and valuable support to the regions on both sides of borders. However, the programmes suffered significant delays in implementation and since they are still ongoing, ECA could not assess their overall effectiveness.

The Court recommends that the Commission:

- improve coordination between programmes with a partial geographic overlap;
- enhance the involvement of EU Delegations;
- adapt a fraud-reporting IT tool;
- provide guidance on monitoring sustainability after project closure;
- consult all relevant services on large infrastructure projects;
- enhance the use of common indicators.

It is proposed that the presentation of the ECA Special Report proceeds as follows:

- CONT and AFET Chairs' initial remarks;
- The ECA Member Bettina Jakobsen will present the Report;
- The European Commission's representative will make introductory remarks;
- CONT Rapporteur will make observations and raise questions;
- CONT and AFET Members will make remarks and put questions to the Court's Member and the Commission's representatives;
- The ECA and the European Commission representatives will reply to the questions posed;
- CONT and AFET Chairs will make concluding remarks.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13. NEXT MEETINGS

- 24-25 May 2023 (Brussels)
- 26-27 June 2023 (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

[Publications Catalogue 2019 - 2022](#)

CONT

Briefing [“Preventing EU funds from ending up with individuals or companies tied to the EU-Russia sanctions list”](#)

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

Briefing [“Cohesion policy investments and Next Generation EU recovery fund: state of play of the monitoring and controls”](#)

Briefing [“Rule of law-related ‘super milestones’ in the recovery and resilience plans of Hungary and Poland”](#)

Briefing [“Financial support for the treatment and accompanying of Ukrainian refugees”](#)

At a Glance [“The European Commission's Use of Consultants in Preparing Legislation”](#)

Study [“The European Commission’s use of consultants in preparing legislation”](#)

Briefing [“C and P transfers in the EP’s budget in 2021 – in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis”](#)

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

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”](#)

Workshop Proceedings [“EU customs control mechanisms and their possible improvement”](#)

Briefing [“Technical support provided to EU Member States”](#)

Briefing [“EU customs control mechanisms and their possible improvement”](#)

Study [“Possible Solutions for Missing Trader Intra-Community Fraud”](#)

Study [“COVID-19 response of EU public administration”](#)

At a Glance [“Nominations for Members of the European Court of Auditors” \(The Netherlands\)](#)

Study [“Single Audit approach - root causes of the weaknesses in the work of the Member States’ management and audit authorities”](#)

BUDG

Briefing [“EU external action and crisis response: is the EU budget fit for purpose?”](#)

Workshop Proceedings [“The role of the EU budget in international climate finance”](#)

Study on [“Social tracking methodology for the EU budget”](#)

Briefing [“The Role of the EU Budget in International Climate Finance”](#)

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](#)"

Study "[New EU own resources: possibilities and limitations of steering effects and sectoral policy co-benefits](#)"

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](#)"

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

BUDG

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

Study "Options for a stronger and more agile EU budget"

CONT

Study "The use of contract agents in decentralised EU agencies"

Study "Transparency and accountability of EU funding for NGOs active in EU policy areas within EU territory"

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BUDG

Workshop EU borrowing costs: drivers and dynamics. A comparative perspective (22 May 2023)

Policy Department for Budgetary Affairs - poldep-budg@ep.europa.eu

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

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