



NOTULEN

Vergadering van 23 januari 2024, 9.00 - 11.30 uur en 15.00 - 17.30 uur

BRUSSEL

De vergadering wordt op dinsdag 23 januari 2024 om 9.06 uur geopend onder voorzitterschap van Monika Hohlmeier (voorzitter).

23 januari 2024, 9.00 - 9.45 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. Goedkeuring van de notulen

- 29-30 november 2023 PV – PE757.155v01-00
- 4 december 2023 PV – PE757.167v01-00
- 14 december 2023 PV – PE757.862v01-00

De notulen worden goedgekeurd.

4. Kwijting 2022: Algemene begroting EU – Europees Parlement

CONT/9/12754

2023/2130(DEC) COM(2023)0391[02] – C9-0249/2023

Rapporteur:

Andrey Novakov (PPE)

PR – PE753.634v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Advies:

JURI

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

Spreekers: Monika Hohlmeier, Andrey Novakov, Maria Grapini, Gilles Boyer, Daniel Freund, Petri Sarvamaa.

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23 januari 2024, 9.45 - 10.45 uur

Kwijting 2022: Andere instellingen

5. Kwijting 2022: Algemene begroting EU – Europese Raad en Raad

CONT/9/12773

2023/2131(DEC) COM(2023)0391[03] – C9-0250/2023

Rapporteur:

Luke Ming Flanagan (The Left)

PR – PE753.479v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Advies:

AFCO

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

6. Kwijting 2022: Algemene begroting EU – Europese Dienst voor extern optreden

CONT/9/12831

2023/2134(DEC) COM(2023)0391[06] – C9-0253/2023

Rapporteur:

Luke Ming Flanagan (The Left)

PR – PE753.482v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Advies:

AFET

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

7. Kwijting 2022: Algemene begroting EU – Hof van Justitie van de Europese Unie

CONT/9/12792

2023/2132(DEC) COM(2023)0391[04] – C9-0251/2023

Rapporteur:

Luke Ming Flanagan (The Left)

PR – PE753.480v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Adviezen:

PECH, JURI

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

8. Kwijting 2022: Algemene begroting EU - Rekenkamer

CONT/9/12811

2023/2133(DEC) COM(2023)0391[05] – C9-0252/2023

Rapporteur:

Luke Ming Flanagan (The Left)

PR – PE753.481v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Adviezen:

AGRI, PECH

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

9. Kwijting 2022: Algemene begroting EU – Europees Economisch en Sociaal Comité

CONT/9/12851

2023/2135(DEC) COM(2023)0391[07] – C9-0254/2023

Rapporteur:

Luke Ming Flanagan (The Left)

PR – PE753.483v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Adviezen:

AGRI, PECH

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

10. Kwijting 2022: Algemene begroting EU – Europees Comité van de Regio's

CONT/9/12870

2023/2136(DEC) COM(2023)0391[08] – C9-0255/2023

Rapporteur:

Luke Ming Flanagan (The Left)

PR – PE753.484v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Adviezen:

AGRI, PECH

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

11. Kwijting 2022: Algemene begroting EU – Europese Ombudsman

CONT/9/12889

2023/2137(DEC) COM(2023)0391[09] – C9-0256/2023

Rapporteur:

Luke Ming Flanagan (The Left)

PR – PE753.486v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Adviezen:

AGRI, PECH

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

12. Kwijting 2022: Algemene begroting EU – Europese Toezichthouder voor gegevensbescherming

CONT/9/12908

2023/2138(DEC) COM(2023)0391[10] – C9-0257/2023

Rapporteur:

Luke Ming Flanagan (The Left)

PR – PE753.487v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Adviezen:

LIBE

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

13. Kwijting 2022: Algemene begroting EU – Europees Openbaar Ministerie (“EOM”)

CONT/9/12911

2023/2139(DEC) COM(2023)0391[11] – C9-0258/2023

Rapporteur:

Luke Ming Flanagan (The Left)

PR – PE753.489v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Adviezen:

JURI, LIBE

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

Sprekers over de Kwijting 2022 - Andere instellingen: Monika Hohlmeier, Luke Ming Flanagan, Eleni Stavrou, Marian-Jean Marinescu (schriftelijke verklaring), Sándor Rónai, Mikuláš Peksa, Joachim Kuhs.

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De vergadering wordt om 10.21 uur geschorst en om 10.50 uur hervat.

23 januari 2024, 10.45 - 11.30 uur

Kwijting 2022: Gemeenschappelijke Ondernemingen

14. Kwijting 2022: Gemeenschappelijke Onderneming “Een circulair biogebaseerd

Europa”

CONT/9/13008

2023/2174(DEC) COM(2023)0391[46] – C9-0293/2023

Rapporteur:

Michal Wiezik (Renew)

PR – PE753.488v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

15. Kwijting 2022: Europese Gemeenschappelijke Onderneming voor ITER en de ontwikkeling van fusie-energie (Fusion for Energy)

CONT/9/13018

2023/2178(DEC) COM(2023)0391[50] – C9-0297/2023

Rapporteur:

Michal Wiezik (Renew)

PR – PE753.493v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

16. Kwijting 2022: Gemeenschappelijke Onderneming Europese high-performance computing

CONT/9/13016

2023/2177(DEC) COM(2023)0391[49] – C9-0296/2023

Rapporteur:

Michal Wiezik (Renew)

PR – PE753.492v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

17. Kwijting 2022: Gemeenschappelijke Onderneming “Initiatief voor innovatieve gezondheidszorg”

CONT/9/13020

2023/2179(DEC) COM(2023)0391[51] – C9-0298/2023

Rapporteur:

Michal Wiezik (Renew)

PR – PE753.499v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

18. Kwijting 2022: Gemeenschappelijke Onderneming “Schone waterstof”

CONT/9/13011

2023/2175(DEC) COM(2023)0391[47] – C9-0294/2023

Rapporteur:
Michal Wiezik (Renew) PR – PE753.490v01-00

Bevoegd:
CONT

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

19. Kwijting 2022: Gemeenschappelijke Onderneming “Schone luchtvaart”
CONT/9/13004

2023/2173(DEC) COM(2023)0391[45] – C9-0292/2023

Rapporteur:
Michal Wiezik (Renew) PR – PE753.485v01-00

Bevoegd:
CONT

Adviezen:
TRAN Vlad Gheorghe (Renew) AD – PE753.748v02-00
AM – PE754.995v01-00

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

20. Kwijting 2022: Gemeenschappelijke Onderneming “Digitale sleuteltechnologieën”
CONT/9/13023

2023/2180(DEC) COM(2023)0391[52] – C9-0299/2023

Rapporteur:
Michal Wiezik (Renew) PR – PE753.500v01-00

Bevoegd:
CONT

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

21. Kwijting 2022: Gemeenschappelijke Onderneming “Derde ATM-onderzoek in het kader van het gemeenschappelijk Europees luchtruim”
CONT/9/13025

2023/2181(DEC) COM(2023)0391[53] – C9-0300/2023

Rapporteur:
Michal Wiezik (Renew) PR – PE753.502v01-00

Bevoegd:
CONT

Adviezen:
TRAN Vlad Gheorghe (Renew) AD – PE753.753v02-00
AM – PE755.000v01-00

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

22. Kwijting 2022: Gemeenschappelijke Onderneming “Europese spoorwegen”
CONT/9/13013

Rapporteur:

Jozef Mihál (Renew)

PR – PE753.491v01-00

Bevoegd:

CONT

Adviezen:

TRAN

Vlad Gheorghe (Renew)

AD – PE753.752v02-00

AM – PE754.999v01-00

- Behandeling ontwerpverslag
- Termijn voor de indiening van amendementen: **30 januari 2024, 14.00 uur**

Sprekers over de Kwijting 2022 – Gemeenschappelijke Ondernemingen: Monika Hohlmeier, Michal Wiezik, Jozef MIHÁL (schriftelijke verklaring), Angelika Winzig (schriftelijke verklaring), Corina Crețu, François Thiollet.

De vergadering wordt om 11.11 uur geschorst.

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23 januari 2024, 11.30 - 12.15 uur

***** Met gesloten deuren *****

23. Coördinatorenvergadering

***** Einde van de vergadering met gesloten deuren *****

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De vergadering wordt om 15.10 uur hervat onder voorzitterschap van Sándor Rónai (tweede ondervoorzitter). Monika Hohlmeier (voorzitter) neemt om 15.26 uur het voorzitterschap over.

23 januari 2024, 15.00 - 16.00 uur

24. Studie “Due diligence in EU Institutions’ Procurement rules and practices”

CONT/9/13945

- Presentatie van de studie door de auteurs, gevolgd door een gedachtewisseling

Sprekers: Sándor Rónai, Claire Methven O’Brien (Universiteit van Dundee), Monika Hohlmeier, Lara Wolters, Roberto Caranta (Universiteit van Turijn).

De vergadering wordt om 16.05 uur geschorst.

De vergadering wordt om 16.08 uur hervat onder voorzitterschap van Monika Hohlmeier (voorzitter CONT) en Lopez Aguilar (voorzitter IMCO).

23 januari 2024, 16.00 - 17.15 uur

Gezamenlijke vergadering met de Commissie interne markt en consumentenbescherming (IMCO)

25. Speciaal verslag 28/2023 van de Europese Rekenkamer: Overheidsopdrachten in de EU - Minder concurrentie om opdrachten voor werken, goederen en diensten in de periode 2011-2021

CONT/9/13920

- Presentatie van het verslag door Helga Berger, rapporterend lid van de Europese Rekenkamer

Sprekers: Anna Cavazzini, Monika Hohlmeier, Helga Berger (lid van de Europese Rekenkamer), Merete Clausen (Europese Commissie, DG GROW), Carlos Coelho, Maria Grapini, Kim Van Sparrentak, Joachim Kuhs, Virginie Joron, Andreas Schwab.

De gezamenlijke vergadering wordt om 17.20 uur gesloten. De vergadering wordt hervat onder voorzitterschap van Monika Hohlmeier (voorzitter).

23 januari 2024, 17.15 - 17.30 uur

***** Stemming *****

26. Vaststelling van het douanewetboek van de Unie, oprichting van de douaneautoriteit van de Europese Unie en intrekking van Verordening (EU) nr. 952/2013

CONT/9/12071

***I 2023/0156(COD) COM(2023)0258 – C9-0175/2023

Rapporteur voor advies:

Petri Sarvamaa (PPE)

PA – PE755.970v01-00

AM – PE755.971v01-00

Bevoegd:

IMCO* – Deirdre Clune (PPE)

PR – PE755.046v01-00

AM – PE756.213v01-00

- Goedkeuring ontwerpadvies

Besluit: Het ontwerpadvies wordt goedgekeurd: 20 stemmen voor, 1 tegen, bij 2 onthoudingen (zie de uitslag van de hoofdelijke stemming)

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

27. Rondvraag

28. Datum volgende vergadering

- 1 februari 2024
- 19 februari 2024 (o.v.)
- 22 februari 2024

De vergadering wordt om 17.37 uur gesloten.

Results of roll-call votes

Contents

26. Establishing the Union Customs Code and the European Unino Customs Authority, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 952/2013	11
26.1. Final vote	11

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

26. Establishing the Union Customs Code and the European Unino Customs Authority, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 952/2013

26.1. Final vote

20	+
PPE	Caterina Chinnici, Carlos Coelho, Monika Hohlmeier, Andrey Novakov, Markus Pieper, Wolfram Pirchner, Petri Sarvamaa, Eleni Stavrou
Renew	Katalin Cseh, Alin Mituța, Ramona Strugariu, Michal Wiezik
S&D	Beatrice Covassi, Isabel García Muñoz, Maria Grapini, Hannes Heide, Sándor Rónai
Verts/ALE	Daniel Freund, Mikuláš Peksa, François Thiollet

1	-
ID	Marie Dauchy

2	0
ID	Paolo Borchia, Joachim Kuhs

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

Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezidium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Monika Hohlmeier (P), Beatrice Covassi (VP1), Sándor Rónai (VP2), Gilles Boyer (VP3), Caterina Chinnici (VP4)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Βουλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/ Nariai/Képviselek/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Olivier Chastel, Carlos Coelho, Daniel Freund, Isabel García Muñoz, Maria Grapini, Joachim Kuhs, Alin Mituța, Markus Pieper, Petri Sarvamaa, Eleni Stavrou, François Thiollet, Lara Wolters
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Pötagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Corina Crețu, Katalin Cseh, Hannes Heide, Andrey Novakov, Mikuláš Peksa, Wolfram Pirchner, Ramona Strugariu, Viola von Cramon-Taubadel, Michal Wiezik

209 (7)	
Marie Dauchy, Paolo Borchia	
216 (3)	
56 (8) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/ Päevakorra punkt/Σημείο της ημερήσιας διάταξης/Agenda item/Point OJ/Τοčka dnevnog reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan)	
Anna Cavazzini (IMCO, Chair), Virginie Joron (IMCO), Włodzimierz Karpiński (IMCO), Andreas Schwab (IMCO), Kim Van Sparrentak (IMCO), Marion Walsmann (IMCO)	Item 25

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
Roberto Caranta (University of Turin)*, Claire Methven O'Brien (University of Dundee)

* Connected remotely

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nöukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Vijeće/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)	
Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisja/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)	
Merete Clausen (DG GROW)	
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	Helga Berger

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

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 politici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secretariado dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö/De politiska grupernas sekretariat	
PPE	Inmaculada Mateos Buendía
S&D	Jaime de Frutos González, Diana Popova
Renew	Bjørn Strøm
Verts/ALE	Robert Godina
ECR	
ID	Ekaterina Frolova, Davide Quadri
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	
Maria Paola De Angelis	
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	
DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG EPRS DG COMM DG PART DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG LINC DG FINS DG ITEC DG SAFE	Monika Strasser (Director for Budgetary Affairs), Michal Czaplicki (IMCO), Kunka Ilieva (IMCO), Elena Mainardi (IMCO), Agnieszka Wolska (IMCO)

Πравна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Őigusteenistus/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/Sekretariado da comissão/Secretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet
Evelyn Waldherr, Kaare Barslev, Caterina Benincasa, Marius Cobianu, Christelle Courtade, Cristina Deguedre, Susana Delmas Costa, Fernando Gallego Osuna, Evelyn Gisbrecht, Benoit Lefort, Miren Madariaga, Ana Maria Nogueira, Diego Rasetti, Paulus Johannes Stander, Jasna Toskova
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/
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 Tjänsteman

COORDINATORS' MEETING

Tuesday, 23 January 2024

11.30-12.15

Brussels

SPINELLI 3E2

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Coordinators present:

EPP: Petri SARVAMAA
S&D: Isabel GARCÍA MUÑOZ
Renew: Olivier CHASTEL
Greens: Viola VON CRAMON-TAUBADEL
ECR: -
ID: Joachim KUHS
The Left: Luke Ming FLANAGAN

Items for decision

1. New referrals

1.1. Guidelines for the 2025 Budget - Section III

Decision:

Coordinators decided:

- a) That CONT will draft an opinion in form of a letter to be voted in the CONT Committee on 22 February;
- b) To continue the standing practice and to appoint the Commission discharge 2022 rapporteur as Budget 2025 rapporteur (Ms Garcia Muñoz).

1.2. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing harmonised requirements in the internal market on transparency of interest representation carried out on behalf of third countries and amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937 (COM(2023)0637)

Decision:

Coordinators decided that CONT will provide an opinion to IMCO. The EPP group will take it for the price of 1 point.

2. Screening of ECA reports

<i>Report</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date of publication</i>	<i>Pol.group</i>	<i>Secretariat's/Chair's proposal</i>
ECA SR 29/2023	The EU's support for sustainable biofuels in transport	13 Dec 2023	EPP	Refer to TRAN & ENVI for presentation
ECA SR 01/2024	Reducing carbon dioxide emissions from passenger cars	24 Jan 2024	EPP	Refer to TRAN & ENVI for presentation

ECA SR 02/2024	The coordination role of the European External Action Service	30 Jan 2024	S&D	Joint CONT-AFET meeting
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Decision:

Coordinators approved the proposals by the Secretariat/the Chair.

3. Commission’s decision to release funds to Hungary upon the alleged fulfilment of requirements under the CPR

On 13 December the Commission issued a press release indicating it had decided to make reimbursable expenditures of up to EUR 10.2 billion for Hungary’s 2021-2027 Cohesion Policy, Maritime and Fisheries, and Home Affairs programmes. After this decision several initiatives have been taken by BUDG and CONT Chairs and political groups in questioning the legal solidity of the decision and to consider how the European Parliament could react.

Decision:

Coordinators decided that the Chair will write a letter to the Chair of JURI with the factual information available to CONT concerning the rule of law situation in Hungary before JURI will vote on 1 February on whether or not to launch an action for annulment.

Coordinators are invited to provide factual input to this letter by 24 January (eob). The letter will be sent to Coordinators for a very quick written procedure.

4. Rule of law and protection of the EU budget in Slovakia

In November 2023, the new Slovakian government led by Prime Minister Robert Fico decided to:

1. Dismantle the Special Prosecutor’s Office which has existed since 2004. The Office handles cases connected to corruption and serious crimes, including those related to the misuse of EU funds. The dismantling would take place by amending the criminal code by way of a *fast-track legislative procedure* which does not seem to be appropriate for the matter. The amendments would also lower criminal penalties for serious crime, including corruption and environmental crimes;
2. Replace members of the Judiciary Council of Slovakia before the end of their mandate and without proper reasoning.

The Slovakian government apparently intends to untie two milestones of the Slovakian National Resilience and Recovery Plan, namely:

- 15.1. reorganising the judicial roadmap
 - 15.2. fighting corruption and strengthening the independence and integrity of the judiciary.
- Milestone component 16: Fight against corruption and money laundering, security and protection of the population
- Reform 1: Making the fight against corruption and money laundering more effective
- Investment 1: Tools and capacity for the fight against corruption and money

laundering. In addition, steps shall be taken to make the whistleblower's office fully operational, in order to support the fight against corruption.

Reform 2: Modernizing and building capacity of the police force.

By letter of 18 December 2023 to the Commission, the EPPO pointed at legislative amendments proposed by the Slovak government from a point of view of the Rule of Law Conditionality Regulation. These amendments concern the Criminal Procedure Code, the Criminal Code, the Act on the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Act on the Protection of Whistle-blowers. The EPPO stated that the amendments would minimize detection of potential fraud affecting the financial interests of the EU; disrupt functional reporting lines established between the EPPO and the Special Prosecution Service; cut the EPPO from the specialized investigators of the National Criminal Agency, without adequate replacement; reroute most of the EPPO cases from the Specialized Penal Court to lower courts, with little expertise in crimes under the competence of the EPPO; and constitute a de facto amnesty in a substantial number of active investigations into fraud affecting the financial interests of the EU in Slovakia.

EP Resolution B9-0062/2024 on planned dissolution of key anti-corruption structures in Slovakia and its implications on the Rule of law, to be adopted by Parliament on 17 January 2024, stresses these concerns.

The Chair suggests to invite the Commission (DG ECFIN and DG JUST) to discuss the development in Slovakia and how the Commission intends to react.

Decision:

Coordinators decided to invite the Commission (DG ECFIN and DG JUST) to an upcoming meeting in CONT to discuss the current developments in Slovakia and how to address them. After this meeting Coordinators might agree on further initiatives.

5. CONT Gender mainstreaming implementation report 2019-2023

Ms Katalin Cseh is the CONT Representative to the EP's Gender Mainstreaming Network. In this capacity she has prepared an implementation report, which takes stock of the implementation of the CONT gender mainstreaming action plan, adopted on 4 December 2019. When the report has been approved it will be distributed to the relevant actors in the Parliament (High-level Group on Gender Equality and Diversity, DG HR, FEMM and BUDG Secretariats).

Decision:

Coordinators approved the CONT Gender mainstreaming implementation report 2019-2023.

6. List of suggestions for ECA Work Programme 2025+

The Secretariat received nine proposals from the EPP and three from the ID group.

Decision:

A majority of Coordinators decided to send the nine proposals from the EPP group as CONT Committee as input for the next ECA Work Programme.

7. Proposals for expertise for 2024

Decision:

Coordinators decided on the following list of expertise for the first half of 2024:

- Performance-based instruments - possible improvements in their design (possibly in the form of a study);
- EU anti-fraud architecture - EU level players, their responsibilities, cooperation and challenges they face (Study and/or Workshop);
- Practices in the ECA and the Commission in comparison: establishing the error rate vs risk at payment/risk at closure (study/briefing and potentially workshop).

The following topics will be kept in reserve and might be carried out if the Policy Department is able to obtain a larger than expected budget:

- Parliamentary budgetary control: an international comparison (study);
- Accountability mechanisms of institutions not under discharge procedure: the EIB (study);
- The Financial Transparency System: how to improve its functioning and reliability (Briefing).

8. Next joint meeting with counterpart committees of the Ukrainian Parliament Verkhovna Rada

On 27 June 2023 Coordinators decided to aim for the organisation of joint meetings with our counterpart committees (Committees on Budget and on Anti-corruption) of the Ukrainian Parliament Verkhovna Rada in three months intervals. The last meeting took place on 6 November 2023 and the Chairs of the two committees agreed on organising one more joint meeting before the end of the legislature during the last CONT meeting on 20-21 March 2024.

The theme/issues to be discussed during the meeting still needs to be decided. Based on the potential list of issues, which was decided in June 2023, potential issues could be:

- efficient tools in the fight against corruption;
- scrutiny and tracking of technical and material support/donations to Ukraine (e.g. weapons and IT equipment).
- methods to keep the executive accountable including how to carry out scrutiny;

Representatives from the Commission, OLAF, EPPO, ECA and other relevant institutions might also be invited to participate and give their input to future discussions. CONT might also encourage the Rada to invite representatives from relevant Ukrainian institutions to join the meeting.

Decision:

A majority of Coordinators decided to hold a last joint committee meeting with counterpart committees of the Verkhovna Rada at the last CONT committee meeting under this legislature on 20 March 2024.

Coordinators were encouraged to ensure adequate presence of their Members at this meeting.

Items for information

9. Outcome of written procedure

- Written procedure of 20 December 2023 - outcome sent out on 13 January 2023 - the revised discharge timetable was approved with the following changes:
 - Vote on the 2nd batch of discharge report - EC, Agencies and EDF is re-scheduled to Monday 4 March 2024, from 15.00-18.30 (BRU)
 - Plenary vote on all Discharge reports is scheduled to April I Plenary session (week 15)

Comment:

The Left made the comment that it should not be a recurrent phenomenon that the plenary vote on discharge takes place in Brussels.

The Chair agreed and said that it was due to the special situation at the end of the legislature.

10. Documents received for information

11. Petition No 0934/2023 by Monika Gulińska (Polish) on alleged irregularities in the projects funded by the EU Modernisation Fund in Warsaw, Poland

The Chair of the Committee on Petitions, has sent the following petition to CONT committee for information: Petition n°0934/2023 by Monika Gulińska (Polish) on alleged irregularities in the projects funded by the EU Modernisation Fund in Warsaw, Poland.

12. State of play of appointments on CONT files

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

13. Any other business

- a. The EPP group mentioned that the implementation of the programmes under the 2014-2019 MFF was fully finished. They would therefore suggest that the Chair writes to the Commission asking for the final reports concerning the implementation of Cohesion funds and information about the 100 largest beneficiaries.

Coordinators approved this initiative.

- b. Upon request of the Greens to have a last Coordinator's meeting on the legacy of this term and to give input for the next CONT Committee, the Chair informed that the last Coordinator's meeting of this term might be scheduled on 20 March pm if needed.

14. Date of next Coordinators' meeting

- 22 February 2024

ISSUE N°1 - 23 JANUARY 2024

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, 23 JANUARY 2024

09.00 – 11.30 and 11.30 – 12.15 (Coordinators' meeting)

and

15.00 – 16.00 and 16.00 – 17.15 (joint meeting) and 17.15 – 17.30

BRUSSELS, SPINELLI (3E2)

Tuesday 23 January 2024, 09.00 – 9.45

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 EL ES PT FI HU PL SK and RO

Webstreaming

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

Adoption of Coordinators' recommendations

The Coordinators' recommendations from the written procedure of 12 January 2024 were circulated to Members on 15 January 2024.

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

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

29-30 November 2023	PV – PE757.155v01-00
4 December 2023	PV – PE757.167v01-00
14 December 2023	PV – PE757.862v01-00

4. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

CONT/9/12754

[2023/2130\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.634v01-00

Consideration of draft report



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

Shadow Rapporteurs: **Maria Grapini** (S&D), **Gilles Boyer** (Renew), **Daniel Freund** (Greens/EFA), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Matteo Adinolfi** (ID), **Younous Omarjee** (The Left)

Opinion: Committee on Legal Affairs

Deadline for tabling amendments: **30 January 2024, 14.00**

The European Parliament draft discharge report for the financial year 2022 is based on a wide range of information, which is available on the CONT website:

- Parliament's accounts for the financial year 2022,
- the report on budgetary and financial management,
- the Secretary-General's Statement of Assurance,
- the Annual Activity Reports by the Authorising Officers,
- the European Court of Auditors' Annual Report 2022,
- the follow-up report drawn up by the Administration in response to the previous year's discharge resolution,
- the questionnaire with the Secretary-General's replies, emailed to Members on 28 November 2023, and
- the exchange of views in CONT on 4 December 2023 with the Secretary General, the Court of Auditors, the Internal Auditor and the Director of the Authority for European Political Parties and Foundations.

The Rapporteur, Mr Andrey Novakov, is to present his draft report on the Parliament's management for the financial year 2022.

The rapporteur highlights that Parliament's final appropriations for 2022 totalled EUR 2 161 million, or 19,55% of Heading 7 of the Multiannual Financial Framework set aside for the 2022 administrative expenditure of the Union institutions as a whole, and welcomes the work carried out by the Secretary General and the Directorates-General of the Parliament to put the necessary tools in place to resume parliamentary work. The rapporteur also welcomes the work carried out by the European Court of Auditors, highlighting that the Court found that the level of error in spending on 'European public administration' was not material.

In this draft report, the rapporteur provides a detailed analysis of financial activities of the European Parliament, emphasizing transparency, efficiency, and accountability in the management of its budget. The rapporteur acknowledges the impact of external challenges, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, on budgetary processes and decisions.

The rapporteur also focuses on the adherence to legal and regulatory frameworks, highlighting the commitment to prudent financial management. In his draft report, the rapporteur reviews the budgetary allocations and expenditures across the Directorates-General of the European Parliament, offering insights into the operational and financial strategies taken, as well as his recommendations. With his report, the rapporteur aims to ensure that the discharge and budgetary activities of the European Parliament align with the overarching objectives of sound financial management, promoting fiscal responsibility and effective resource allocation.

All language versions of the draft report and the reference documents can be consulted on the CONT website.

It is proposed that the consideration of the draft report proceeds as follows:

- Presentation of the draft report by the CONT Rapporteur, Mr Andrey Novakov;
- The Shadow Rapporteurs will present their views on the draft report, followed by, if time allows, a catch-the-eye session;
- Closing remarks by the CONT Rapporteur.

CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Consideration of draft report	CONT	23 January 2024
Deadline for amendments	CONT	30 January 2024, 14:00
Vote	CONT	22 February 2024
Adoption of report	Plenary	April I 2024

Tuesday 23 January 2024, 9.45 – 10.45

DISCHARGE 2022: OTHER INSTITUTIONS

5. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND COUNCIL

CONT/9/12773

[2023/2131\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.479v01-00

6. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE

CONT/9/12831

[2023/2134\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.482v01-00

7. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE

CONT/9/12792

[2023/2132\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.480v01-00

8. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS

CONT/9/12811

[2023/2133\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.481v01-00

9. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

CONT/9/12851

[2023/2135\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.483v01-00

10. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

CONT/9/12870

[2023/2136\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.484v01-00

11. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN

CONT/9/12889

[2023/2137\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.486v01-00

12. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION SUPERVISOR

CONT/9/12908

[2023/2138\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.487v01-00

13. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTORS OFFICE

CONT/9/12911

[2023/2139\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.489v01-00

Consideration of draft reports



Rapporteur: [Luke Ming Flanagan](#) (The Left)
Administrators: Kaare Barslev, Christelle Courtade and Diego Rasetti

Shadow Rapporteurs:

European Council and Council: **Marian-Jean Marinescu** (EPP), **Sándor Rónai** (S&D), **Jozef Mihál** (Renew), **Mikuláš Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID)

EEAS: **Eleni Stavrou** (EPP), **Sándor Rónai** (S&D), **Alin Mituța** (Renew), **Mikuláš Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID)

CJEU: **Eleni Stavrou** (EPP), **Sándor Rónai** (S&D), **Ramona Strugariu** (Renew), **Mikuláš Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID)

ECA: **Marian-Jean Marinescu** (EPP), **Sándor Rónai** (S&D), **Olivier Chastel** (Renew), **Mikuláš Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID)

EESC: **Marian-Jean Marinescu** (EPP), **Sándor Rónai** (S&D), **Olivier Chastel** (Renew), **Mikuláš Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Elżbieta Rafalska** (ECR), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID)

CoR: **Eleni Stavrou** (EPP), **Sándor Rónai** (S&D), **Alin Mituța** (Renew), **Mikuláš Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID)

European Ombudsman: **Marian-Jean Marinescu** (EPP), **Sándor Rónai** (S&D), **Ilana Cicurel** (Renew), **Mikuláš Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID)

EDPS: **Eleni Stavrou** (EPP), **Sándor Rónai** (S&D), **Alin Mituța** (Renew), **Mikuláš Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID)

EPPO: **Marian-Jean Marinescu** (EPP), **Sándor Rónai** (S&D), **Ramona Strugariu** (Renew), **Mikuláš Peksa** (Greens/EFA), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Joachim Kuhs** (ID)

In the framework of the discharge procedure for the 2022 budget, the Rapporteur submitted a full set of questions to each concerned Institution, taking into account the input received from Shadow rapporteurs and other CONT Members. The Other Institutions received the questions on 28 September 2023 and their written replies, provided on 13 October 2023, were circulated to Members on the same day. For the European External Action Service (EEAS) the questionnaire was sent on 27 October 2023, while the replies were received from EEAS and circulated to Members on 16 November 2023.

Discharge hearings with the Secretaries-General or Directors of the Other Institutions (excepted EEAS) were held on 25 October 2023. Council did not send replies and was not present at the hearing. On 30 November 2023, the discharge hearing was held with the High Representative Vice-President of the EEAS. The responsible ECA Member, Laima Andrikienė, participated in both hearings and provided information to CONT on the findings of the ECA in their annual report.

At the meeting of 23 January 2024, the CONT Members will have an exchange of views on the 2022 budget discharge for Other Institutions, including the EEAS, based on the draft discharge reports. The European Public Prosecutor's Office, which was formally audited by ECA as an agency, was included in the OIs discharge for the second time since the starting of its operational activities in June 2021.

The Rapporteur prepared the draft discharge reports based on the above exchanges of views in the CONT Committee and on the replies given by the institutions concerned. The draft reports also take into account the information provided in the financial and accountability reporting of the Other Institutions, amongst which their annual activity reports, the related balance sheets and annual accounts, their internal audit reports. The findings of the ECA annual report under Chapter 9 "Administration" were also taken into account where relevant. The ECA annual report focuses on expenditure on human resources, buildings, equipment, energy, communication and information technology. In this report, the ECA does not target the administrative expenditure of each individual Institution but refers to the error level of the administrative expenditure at the aggregated EU budget, which, based on the work of the ECA over many years, was indicated as being a low-risk expenditure.

The draft reports look into the following aspects:

- budgetary and financial management of the Institution concerned,
- internal management, performance and internal control,
- human resources, equality and staff well-being,
- ethical framework and transparency
- digitalisation, cybersecurity and data protection,
- buildings,
- environment and sustainability,
- interinstitutional cooperation, and
- communication.

As the current discharge concerns the year 2022, a specific attention was given to the effects of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine on the budget and operations of the Other Institutions.

CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Consideration of draft report	CONT	23 January 2024
Deadline for amendments	CONT	30 January 2024, 14:00
Vote	CONT	22 February 2024
Adoption of report	Plenary	April I 2024

Tuesday 23 January 2024, 10.45 – 11.30

DISCHARGE 2022: JOINT UNDERTAKINGS

14. 2022 DISCHARGE: CIRCULAR BIO-BASED EUROPE JOINT UNDERTAKING

CONT/9/13008 [2023/2174\(DEC\)](#) PR – PE753.488v01-00

15. 2022 DISCHARGE: EUROPEAN JOINT UNDERTAKING FOR ITER AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUSION ENERGY (FUSION FOR ENERGY)

CONT/9/13018 [2023/2178\(DEC\)](#) PR – PE753.493v01-00

16. 2022 DISCHARGE: EUROPEAN HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING JOINT UNDERTAKING

CONT/9/13016 [2023/2177\(DEC\)](#) PR – PE753.492v01-00

17. 2022 DISCHARGE: INNOVATIVE HEALTH INITIATIVE JOINT UNDERTAKING

CONT/9/13020 [2023/2179\(DEC\)](#) PR – PE753.499v01-00

18. 2022 DISCHARGE: CLEAN HYDROGEN JOINT UNDERTAKING

CONT/9/13011 [2023/2175\(DEC\)](#) PR – PE753.490v01-00

19. 2022 DISCHARGE: CLEAN AVIATION JOINT UNDERTAKING

CONT/9/13004 [2023/2173\(DEC\)](#) PR – PE753.485v01-00

20. 2022 DISCHARGE: KEY DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES JOINT UNDERTAKING

CONT/9/13023 [2023/2180\(DEC\)](#) PR – PE753.500v01-00

21. 2022 DISCHARGE: SINGLE EUROPEAN SKY ATM RESEARCH 3 JOINT UNDERTAKING

CONT/9/13025 [2023/2181\(DEC\)](#) PR – PE753.502v01-00

22. 2022 DISCHARGE: EUROPE'S RAIL JOINT UNDERTAKING

CONT/9/13013

[2023/2176\(DEC\)](#)

PR – PE753.491v01-00

Consideration of draft reports



Omarjee (The Left)



Rapporteurs:

[Michal Wiezik](#) (Renew) - CBE, ITER&F4E, HPC, IHI, Clean Aviation, Clean Hydrogen, Key Digital Technologies, SESAR3

[Jozef Mihál](#) (Renew) - EU Rail

Administrator: Ana Maria Nogueira

Shadow Rapporteurs: **Angelika Winzig** (EPP), **Corina Crețu** (S&D), tbc (Greens), **Ryszard Czarnecki** (ECR), **Matteo Adinolfi** (ID), **Younous**

Opinions: TRAN: Clean Aviation, SESAR3, EU Rail

[Article 187](#) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) specifies that the EU may set up joint undertakings (JUs) or any other structure necessary for the efficient execution of EU research, technological development and demonstration programmes.

JUs are partnerships between the EU, represented by the Commission and private partners from industry and research organisations. In some cases, intergovernmental organisations and Participating States are also involved. The primary mission of JUs is to foster the transformation of scientific knowledge into marketable breakthrough innovations within a strategic vision that the partners share. Moreover, JUs should respond to European social challenges currently insufficiently served by industry.

The members of these JUs are typically the European Union (represented by the European Commission) and industry-led associations, as well as other partners. JUs adopt their own research agenda and award funding mainly on the basis of open calls for proposals.

Under the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) programmes for research and innovation, JUs are set up as EU bodies with separate legal personalities. They adopt their research and innovation agenda in their strategic research area and implement it through calls for proposals or procurements.

The partnerships, established as European Union bodies for a duration until 31 December 2031 (under the new 2021-2027 MFF), will have a budget of approximately €10 billion until 2027 from the Horizon Europe programme, complemented by an equal amount from the participating partners.

The JUs operating under the 2021-2027 MFF implement their specific research and innovation agenda in transport, energy, health, circular bio-based industries, key electronic components, supercomputing, and network systems.

For the financial year 2022, the nine Joint Undertakings subject to the discharge procedure by Parliament are the following:

- The Single European Sky Air Traffic Management Research Joint Undertaking (SESAR 3);
- The Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking;
- The Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking (IHI);
- The Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (Clean H2);
- The Key Digital Technologies Joint Undertaking (KDT);
- The Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE);
- The Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking (EU-RAIL);
- The European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (EurPHPC);
- The European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy (F4E).

On 15 November 2023, the Court of Auditors (ECA) published its specific annual report on JUs in the form of a single consolidated report on all JUs.

Overall, the Court's audit of the nine JUs for the financial year ended on 31 December 2022 confirmed similar results reported to previous years. Through the statements of assurance issued for each JU, the Court provided: (a) unqualified (clean) audit opinions on the reliability of accounts for nine JUs; and (b) unqualified (clean) audit opinions on the legality and regularity of the transactions underlying the accounts for nine JUs.

The draft reports are based on the following set of documents:

- 2022 Annual report on EU Joint Undertakings for the financial year 2022 - European Court of Auditors;
- Joint Undertakings' individual Report on Budgetary and Financial Management;
- Joint Undertakings' individual Annual Activity Report;
- Joint Undertakings' individual Annual Accounts.

The Rapporteurs echoed the European Court of Auditors' opinion, both on the positive results and on the need for improvement in areas of programme implementation, human resources, and the management and control systems for payment.

CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Consideration of draft report	CONT	23 January 2024
Deadline for amendments	CONT	30 January 2024, 14:00
Vote	CONT	22 February 2024
Adoption of report	Plenary	April I 2024

Tuesday 23 January 2024, 11.30 – 12.15

23. COORDINATORS' MEETING

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

Tuesday 23 January 2024, 15.00 – 16.00

24. STUDY ON "DUE DILIGENCE IN EU INSTITUTIONS' PROCUREMENT RULES AND PRACTICES"

CONT/9/13945



Presentation of the study by the authors followed by an exchange of views

Rapporteur:
Administrators:

[Lara Wolters \(S&D\)](#)
Hans Stander (CONT)
Francisco Padilla/Alix

Delasnerie (PoldepD)

Public procurement, the acquisition by public bodies of goods and services needed for their government mission, accounts for 13,3% of GDP across the EU. The EU legislator has therefore for decades sought to regulate public procurement as mechanism for realising the EU internal market.

Public procurement has however also the potential to contribute to other EU strategic goals, to stimulate for example sustainable production and consumption. At the same time, elements of the current legal regime present challenges for public buyers seeking to engage in green or socially sustainable procurement. Procurement rules can make it for example difficult to exclude companies that harm the environment from access to public contracts, or to strongly favour companies that work in a social sustainable manner.

This is important because companies are increasingly expected to act responsibly and sustainably, based on UN and OECD standards. In this context, these companies are expected to operationalise that responsibility by implementing diligence processes, to identify, assess, prevent, cease or mitigate and remediate harmful practices concerning human rights and the environment, caused by their own activities, or to which they are directly linked by activities of their business partners.

In this context the study, authored by Ms Claire Methven O'Brien (University of Dundee) and Roberto Cantara (Turin University), aimed to look into the question whether EU Institutions' rules and practices for their procurement of goods and services currently integrate due diligence requirements.

Based on an analysis of legal, documentary and interview data, the study finds **the current legislative framework is not favourable to the uptake of human rights and sustainability due diligence by EU public buyers** and that sustainability due diligence is lacking across EU bodies' procurement rules and practices.

The study puts forward recommendations to further integrate due diligence into EU institutions' procurement, acknowledging the constraints and flexibilities offered by the existing regulatory framework, and identifies steps for the revision of the framework that will promote its progressive development in the future.

The recommendations centre around three areas for improvement:

First, **within the existing legal framework**, the study recommends measures that can be adopted more rigorously to secure compliance by EU Institutions' suppliers with existing minimum legal obligations, both statutory and contractual, using tools that are already available and without legislative reform. To this end, communication between EU authorising officials must be strengthened (section 5.2.1); information on wrongdoing must be more generally available (section 5.2.2.); opportunities for whistleblowing and remediation must be enhanced (section 5.2.3); and greater reliance should be put on SPP contract clauses (5.2.4).

Second, addressing the need to **revise the existing regulatory framework** to align EU institutions' own-account procurement law with EU sustainability and due diligence standards. The study stresses the need to integrate due diligence and binding sustainable procurement goals into the EU Financial Regulation (5.3.1); to ensure the Financial Regulation is continuously updated to be aligned with EU sustainable procurement requirements (5.3.2); to extend mandatory exclusions (5.3.3); to integrate sustainable procurement into

general EU budgetary control mechanisms (5.3.4); and finally measures to link EU institutions' own procurement with the anticipated adoption of the EU Corporate Sustainable Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) (5.3.5).

Third, the study contains recommendations **strengthening efforts and capacity of EU Institutions on due diligence and Strategic Public Procurement (SPP)** (section 5.4). This is an immediate imperative, both in terms of securing compliance with existing law, as well as to support the effectiveness and impact of any future legislative or policy changes. Whereas some initiatives to foster mutual support and dissemination on SPP across EU bodies are already underway, greater effort is needed to secure cross-institutional policy coherence, while more synergy in SPP measures would likely enhance both their cost-effectiveness and their sustainability impacts. Development of guidance, trainings and exchange of good practices form one discrete area of requirements.

The study will be presented by the authors, followed by a Q&A and discussion of the Members of the CONT Committee.

Tuesday 23 January 2024, 16.00 – 17.15

25. ECA SPECIAL REPORT 28/2023 - PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN THE EU: LESS COMPETITION FOR CONTRACTS AWARDED FOR WORKS, GOODS AND SERVICES IN THE 10 YEARS UP TO 2021

CONT/9/13920

Joint meeting with Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO)

Presentation of the special report by reporting ECA Member Helga Berger



Rapporteur: tbc (ID)
Administrator: Diego Rasetti

A duly regulated public procurement process leads to the selection of the best performing companies, safeguards the public interest, strengthens transparency, equal treatment, non-discrimination and efficiency.

Overall, it reduces the risk of fraud, it counters corruptive practices such as the tailoring of tender specifications to favour certain companies, and it enhances the efficient use of public money.

Today, the reporting Member of the European Court of Auditors, Ms. Helga Berger, presents to CONT and IMCO Members the ECA Special Report on the public procurement in the EU, assessing the existing level of competition for contracts awarded for works, goods and services in the EU's single market five years after the transposition of the 2014 public procurement directives into national law.

Because public procurement is one of the main drivers of economic growth and employment, the efficient use of public procurement processes in the Union is material to the effective functioning of the EU single market. One of the goals of public procurement is to obtain the best value for money, and therefore competition amongst suppliers is an essential prerequisite.

ECA has run a comprehensive analysis in a ten years period, covering 2011 to 2021, and its findings on the results achieved are disappointing at best: the level of competition for public contracts decreased over the past 10 years in the EU single market and, in the same period, the share of single bidding procedures (where only one company showed interest and submitted a bid) almost doubled (from 23,5% in 2011 to 41,8% in 2021) while the number of bidders per procedure almost halved (from an average of 5.7 bidders to 3.2 bidders per procedure).

ECA audit work indicates that the three important objectives which were targeted by the 2014 directives (notably simplification of procurement procedures, easier access for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises and

the use of strategic procurement to support EU policy objectives) were not achieved. The results exposed indicate that administrative burden is still perceived as excessive; procedure's length has increased by half since 2011 (from 62.5 days in 2011 to 96.4 days in 2021); means of simplification such as self-declaration to assess exclusion and selection criteria and digitalisation of procedures were unsuccessful; the participation of SMEs in public procurement did not increase in spite of the inclusion of provisions to allow division into lots. Further aspect is the limited use and limited impact of strategic procurement, which was intended to encourage greater consideration of environmental, social and innovative aspects in the procurement of works, goods and services by allowing contracting authorities to go beyond the lowest price criterion and aim for the "most economically advantageous tender" (MEAT).

The Special Report points out that Commission's monitoring of public procurement is suboptimal. To confirm it, the report underlines that prices of goods and services purchased under public procurement contracts are not monitored and this prevents the assessment of the consequences of the lack of competition on the prices level.

The national authorities, on the other hand, provide limited quantitative information, not uniformly reported in their monitoring reports. Tenders Electronic Daily (TED) data is not yet sufficiently complete and accurate, the Commission's Scoreboard has limited content and such content has changed several times without clarification on such methodological switches. There is no common unique identifier for suppliers and contracting authorities, and this prevents contracting authorities from analysing procurements by supplier, while using a common unique identifier would also be beneficial for the identification of the ultimate beneficial owner, thus facilitating the analysis of indirect cross-border procurements.

Overall, data analysis shows that the 2014 reform has not yet led to any significant improvements in the manner in which contracting authorities conduct procurement. Therefore, the Court makes recommendations to help the Commission, targeting the formulation of objectives and priorities, the reliability and completeness of data, the improvement of the monitoring tools and asking for a deepen root cause analysis of weak competition: these recommendations have been all accepted by the Commission. The latter, however, while acknowledging that competition depends on the management of the public procurement procedure, also points out that the decrease in competition in public procurement is related to the overall macroeconomic environment, where the Union has faced -in the past ten years- two major recessions. The Commission suggests that it is not straightforward to monitor prices, recognises that some of the factors influencing competition on the public procurement market and the efficiency of public spending are difficult to assess, as public procurement is very heterogeneous. Moreover, it underlines that the contracting authorities in the Member States are the data providers and they play a pivotal role in ensuring their quality and the completeness. Additionally, the Commission has adopted many initiatives to address the weaknesses identified by ECA, amongst them it has recommended a number of Member States to adopt structural reforms through Country Recommendations adopted within the European Semester and milestones set up in Recovery and Resilience Plans.

The CONT Working Document presented to prepare the exchange of views points out that there is a widespread lack of awareness for competition as prerequisite for value for money procurements. Both the Commission and the Member States pay insufficient attention to competition in public procurement, and the initiatives to analyse public procurement data and identify possible reasons for decreases in the level of competition are rare.

The Working Document calls for the Commission to improve its monitoring of public procurement which is currently made more difficult by the poor and inaccurate data collection on the contracts awarded and points out that the shortcomings in the Commission's monitoring tools limit effectiveness and transparency of the process. The Working Document therefore endorses recommendations issued by the Court, calling on the Commission to ensure their implementation by end 2025.

Tuesday 23 January 2024, 17.15 – 17.30

*** Voting time ***

26. ESTABLISHING THE UNION CUSTOMS CODE AND THE EUROPEAN UNION CUSTOMS AUTHORITY, AND REPEALING REGULATION (EU) No 952/2013

CONT/9/12071

[2023/0156\(COD\)](#)

Adoption of draft opinion



Rapporteur for the opinion:

[Petri Sarvamaa](#) (EPP)

PA – PE755.970v01-00

AM – PE755.971v01-00

Responsible:

IMCO

Rapporteur:

[Deirdre Clune](#) (EPP)

PR – PE755.046v01-00

AM –

PE756.213v01-00

Shadow Rapporteurs: [Maria Grapini](#) (S&D), [Pirkko Ruohonen-Lerner](#) (ECR)

Administrator: Fernando Gallego Osuna

Opinions: INTA*, BUDG, CONT

In its work programme for 2022, the European Commission announced that it would put forward an initiative for a revision of Union's customs legislation. The European Commission tabled its proposal in May 2023. The key part of the reform is the proposal for a set-up of a new EU Customs Authority, which should oversee an EU Data Hub. Customs data will only need to be submitted to the EU Customs Data Hub, as opposed to the multiple interfaces from the many separate systems in place across the EU Member States today, saving Member States up to €2 billion a year in operating costs. The new Customs Authority will help deliver on an improved EU approach to risk management and customs checks.

The rapporteur's draft report focuses on three main aspects: first, it proposes improvements to the risk assessment and control framework in customs matters, including codifying issues long requested by the European Parliament such as calculating the customs gap. Second, it proposes enhancements to the compliance monitoring and related procedures of the Authorised Economic Operator mechanism, developing oversight and defining unclear concepts like serious or repeated infringements. Third, it further develops the governance framework of the new Customs Agency and proposes new ways to measure performance in customs procedures.

CONT Members tabled 83 amendments to the IMCO report, covering areas such as the institutional architecture of the new Customs Authority, risk analysis, or the role of EPPO, among other topics.

CONT Timetable

Event	Body	Date
Vote	CONT	23 January 2024
Adoption of report in lead Committee	IMCO	22 February 2024
Adoption of report in Plenary	Plenary	March 2024

*** End of voting time ***

27. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

28. NEXT MEETINGS

- 1 February 2024
- 19 February 2024 (TBC)
- 22 February 2024

PAPERLESS PROGRAMME (INTERNAL USERS ONLY)

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