



**2021/2106(DEC)**

14.12.2021

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 12**

**Draft opinion**  
**Petra Kammerevert**  
(PE699.170v01-00)

2020 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Commission  
(2021/2106(DEC))



## Amendment 1

Laurence Farreng, Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová, Ilana Cicurel, Morten Løkkegaard

### Draft opinion

#### Paragraph 1

##### *Draft opinion*

1. Recalls that in 2020 the total available budget for the Union programmes and actions under the portfolio of Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) amounted to EUR 6 043 million in commitment appropriations (some 7 % more than in 2019); notes that, despite the unavoidable cancellation of some activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic and thanks to the measures taken under the ‘force majeure’ clause, DG EAC achieved most targets in 2020 and executed commitments fully and payments virtually fully, as did Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT) for relevant expenditure;

##### *Amendment*

1. Recalls that in 2020 the total available budget for the Union programmes and actions under the portfolio of Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) amounted to EUR 6 043 million in commitment appropriations (some 7 % more than in 2019); notes that, despite the unavoidable cancellation ***or postponement*** of some activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic and thanks to the measures taken under the ‘force majeure’ clause, DG EAC achieved most targets in 2020 and executed commitments fully and payments virtually fully, as did Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT) for relevant expenditure;

Or. en

## Amendment 2

Laurence Farreng, Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová, Ilana Cicurel, Morten Løkkegaard

### Draft opinion

#### Paragraph 2

##### *Draft opinion*

2. Acknowledges DG EAC’s efforts to prevent under-implementation of programmes due to the COVID-19 pandemic; welcomes the measures taken to mitigate the effects of the crisis on applicants and beneficiaries;

##### *Amendment*

2. Acknowledges DG EAC’s ***flexibility and*** efforts to prevent under-implementation of programmes due to the COVID-19 pandemic; welcomes the measures taken to mitigate the effects of the crisis on applicants and beneficiaries, ***such as extending application deadlines, extending the duration of ongoing projects, supporting additional costs up to the maximum amounts granted to projects***

*under the applicable legal frameworks,  
and applying further flexibility towards  
blended activities;*

Or. en

**Amendment 3**  
**Victor Negrescu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Acknowledges DG EAC's efforts to prevent under-implementation of programmes due to the COVID-19 pandemic; welcomes the measures taken to mitigate the effects of the crisis on applicants and beneficiaries;

*Amendment*

2. Acknowledges DG EAC's efforts to prevent under-implementation of programmes due to the COVID-19 pandemic; welcomes the measures taken to mitigate the effects of the crisis on applicants and beneficiaries, ***and calls on DG EAC to ensure that all the projects that could not be implemented will be in the future;***

Or. en

**Amendment 4**  
**Laurence Farreng, Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová, Ilana Cicurel, Morten Løkkegaard**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***2 a. Underlines the crucial role of the Creative Europe Programme in funding the cultural and creative sectors and industries (CCSI) in Europe, especially in times of crisis; regrets, however, that due to the lack of budget for the period 2014-2020, several high quality projects could not be funded at a time where the CCSI needed support;***

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Andrey Slabakov**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Notes that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, fewer on the spot visits were possible in 2020, leading DG EAC to adapt its supervision and auditing approach and to provide specific guidance on COVID-19 for the reporting by National Agencies and Independent Audit Bodies;

*Amendment*

4. Notes that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, fewer on the spot visits were possible in 2020, leading DG EAC to adapt its supervision and auditing approach and to provide specific guidance on COVID-19 for the reporting by National Agencies and Independent Audit Bodies; ***acknowledges the necessity of such measures; however, underlines that on the spot visits cannot fully be replaced as a means for auditing and supervision; calls, therefore, on DG EAC to increase the number of such visits, taking into account travel conditions and limitations;***

Or. en

**Amendment 6**  
**Victor Negrescu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4 a. Calls on the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) to continue its efforts to help applicants and beneficiaries of programmes in the context of the pandemic;***

Or. en

**Amendment 7**  
**Laurence Farreng, Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová, Ilana Cicurel, Morten Løkkegaard**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Draft opinion*

5. Welcomes the 2020 update of DG EAC's Anti-Fraud Strategy **and** the measures taken to prevent the risk of COVID-19-related fraud, including in the design of the next generation of programmes;

*Amendment*

5. Welcomes the 2020 update of DG EAC's Anti-Fraud Strategy ***aimed at reinforcing the identification and handling of high-risk beneficiaries and of issues such as double funding and conflicts of interest, and commends*** the measures taken to prevent the risk of COVID-19-related fraud, including in the design of the next generation of programmes;

Or. en

**Amendment 8**  
**Andrey Slabakov**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Draft opinion*

5. Welcomes the 2020 update of DG EAC's Anti-Fraud Strategy and the measures taken to prevent the risk of COVID-19-related fraud, including in the design of the next generation of programmes;

*Amendment*

5. Welcomes the 2020 update of DG EAC's Anti-Fraud Strategy and the measures taken to prevent the risk of COVID-19-related fraud, including in the design of the next generation of programmes; ***underlines that the Parliament will monitor closely the implementation of the Strategy and calls on DG EAC to communicate its progress regularly to the Parliament;***

Or. en

**Amendment 9**  
**Andrey Slabakov**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Draft opinion*

6. Urges DG EAC, DG CONNECT and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) to take without delay all appropriate measures to improve the protection of personal data wherever needed, to minimise the risks linked to third country data transfers, in order to enable the continuation of international operations in 2021 in full compliance with EU data protection law, and to strengthen staff awareness and knowledge of data protection rules.

*Amendment*

6. Urges DG EAC, DG CONNECT and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) to take without delay all appropriate measures to improve the protection of personal data wherever needed, to minimise the risks linked to third country data transfers, in order to enable the continuation of international operations in 2021 in full compliance with EU data protection law, and to strengthen staff awareness and knowledge of data protection rules ***by introducing additional trainings; highlights that protecting the data of European citizens must remain a high priority in all relevant activities and must be achieved by all necessary measures;***

Or. en

**Amendment 10**

**Laurence Farreng, Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová, Ilana Cicurel, Morten Løkkegaard**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 6**

*Draft opinion*

6. Urges DG EAC, DG CONNECT and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) to take without delay all appropriate measures to improve the protection of personal data wherever needed, to minimise the risks linked to third country data transfers, in order to enable the continuation of international operations in 2021 in full compliance with EU data protection law, and to strengthen staff awareness and knowledge of data protection rules.

*Amendment*

6. Urges DG EAC, DG CONNECT and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) to take without delay all appropriate measures to improve the protection of personal data wherever needed, to minimise the risks linked to third country data transfers, in order to enable the continuation of international operations in 2021 in full compliance with EU data protection law, and to strengthen staff awareness and knowledge of data protection rules, ***including through targeted training.***

Or. en

**Amendment 11**  
**Andrey Slabakov**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 a. Underlines that on a Union level, culture and education policies remain a shared area of competence between DG EAC, DG CONNECT and the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA); urges all Directorates-General and agencies to maintain and improve the level of coordination and smooth cooperation, in order to ensure the wellbeing of Union citizens and the successful implementation of all policies, as well as the proper management of Union funds; reiterates its position that the current split of competences carries the risk of negatively impacting the performance of culture and education programmes and funding.**

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**Victor Negrescu**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6 a. Calls for more transparency, less bureaucracy related to project implementation and the constructive use of digital instruments when this can be helpful for beneficiaries and the projects.**

Or. en