



2023/2129(DEC)

24.11.2023

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022, section III - Commission (2023/2129(DEC))

Rapporteur for opinion: Antoni Comín i Oliveres

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Development calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Is alarmed about the rising number of crises worldwide and the highest-ever humanitarian funding gap; is worried that Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) - Global Europe (GE) is stretched to its limits and is not sufficient to address existing needs;
2. Notes that 2022 was the first full year of the implementation of the Global Gateway strategy; underlines that actions bringing together public and private investment must always be guided by development objectives; calls for more transparency and Parliament's involvement in strategic choices involving Union funds; insists that Global Gateway should not only align with the EU interests but also with the needs of partner countries and contribute to the achievement of the SDGs;
3. Underlines the need to speed up progress on achieving the NDICI-GE spending targets for human development, gender and climate objectives; is worried, in particular, about the Commission's capacity to ensure reaching the Instrument's climate target and calls for concrete actions outlining how the climate target is going to be met;
4. Appreciates the role of local NGOs and partners in service delivery; underlines the importance of enhancing their capacity to manage and implement actions financed by the EU and invites the Commission to facilitate adequate training towards this aim; is concerned about the continued difficulties faced by small local NGOs to access Union funding;
5. Stresses the important role of the official development assistance (ODA); calls for a cautious approach to blending and public-private partnerships in fields, such as education or health;
6. Welcomes the finding of the ECA report on the EU budget for 2022 that DG ECHO implemented ECA recommendation and established a procedure ensuring that partner organisations base their allocation of shared costs on expenditure actually incurred.