



2021/2119(DEC)

9.12.2021

AMENDMENTS

1 - 17

Draft opinion
Romana Tomc
(PE699.142v01-00)

2020 discharge - European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training
(Cedefop)
(2021/2119(DEC))

Amendment 1

Alicia Homs Ginel, Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Milan Brglez, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Agnes Jongerius, Elisabetta Gualmini, Marc Angel, Alex Agius Saliba, Gabriele Bischoff, Klára Dobrev

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Appreciates the Centre's **activities**, providing research, analyses and technical advice in vocational education and training (VET), qualifications and skills policies;

Amendment

2. Appreciates the Centre's **expertise and high-quality work**, providing research, analyses and technical advice in vocational education and training (VET), qualifications and skills policies, **with the aim of promoting high-quality training tailored to the needs of individuals and of the labour market, highlights the need of ensuring adequate human and financial resources allowing the Centre to continue implementing its work programme with a very high activity completion rate; stresses the Centre's importance, autonomy and added value in its field of expertise;**

Or. en

Amendment 2

Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Appreciates the Centre's activities, providing research, analyses and technical advice in vocational education and training (VET), qualifications and skills policies;

Amendment

2. Appreciates the Centre's activities, providing research, analyses and technical advice in vocational education and training (VET), qualifications and skills policies; **welcomes, in particular, the Centre's recent work in helping to analyse the impact of the pandemic and digital transition on adapting business practices to the new realities in the Union labour market through e.g. the COVID-19 European Company Survey in conjunction with Eurofound;**

Amendment 3
Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 a. Recalls the importance of the Centre's role in ensuring digital skills are integrated into VET across the Union and monitoring the implementation and impact of the Council Recommendations on the Skills Agenda for Europe, vocational education and training (VET) for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience and the Digital Education Action Plan; believes the Centre could also play a role in assessing Member States' projects under the RRF's digital transformation pillar;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Romana Tomc

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

Amendment

3. Recalls that the objective of public procurement rules is to ensure fair competition between tenderers and to procure goods and services at the best price, respecting the principles of transparency, proportionality, equal treatment and non-discrimination;

3. Recalls that the objective of public procurement rules is to ensure fair competition between tenderers and to procure goods and services at the best price, respecting the principles of transparency, proportionality, equal treatment and non-discrimination; ***regrets that the contracts signed by Cedefop and audited by ECA were affected by public procurement shortcomings;***

Or. en

Amendment 5
Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Regrets, in particular, that the Centre signed a contract **exceeding** the estimated budget by 98% **without being able to justify it**; notes that the Centre cancelled that contract with effect from 26 February 2021;

Amendment

4. Regrets, in particular, that the Centre signed a contract **through a negotiated procedure with one tenderer, the prior contractor, based on the low estimated value of the contract; notes however that this assessment was not supported by any cost estimates based on current market values, or on any documented market research; further strongly regrets that the price accepted exceeded the estimated budget by 98% consequently bringing the value of the contract beyond the threshold above which a negotiated procedure with a single tenderer is not permitted under the Financial Regulation; underlines that the Centre should have sought offers from at least three tenderers under the circumstances in line with the Financial Regulation**; notes that the Centre **after the audit of the Court** cancelled that contract with effect from 26 February 2021;

Or. en

Amendment 6
Alicia Homs Ginel, Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Milan Brglez, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Agnes Jongerius, Elisabetta Gualmini, Marc Angel, Alex Agius Saliba, Gabriele Bischoff, Klára Dobrev

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Regrets, in particular, that the Centre signed a contract exceeding the estimated budget by 98% without being

Amendment

4. Regrets, in particular, that the Centre signed a contract exceeding the estimated budget by 98% without being

able to justify it; **notes that** the Centre cancelled that contract with effect from 26 February 2021;

able to justify it; **acknowledges that to address the irregularity observed by ECA** the Centre cancelled that contract **after the audit** with effect from 26 February 2021;

Or. en

Amendment 7 **Peter Kofod**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 4**

Draft opinion

4. **Regrets**, in particular, that the Centre signed a contract exceeding the estimated budget by 98% without being able to justify it; notes that the Centre cancelled that contract with effect from 26 February 2021;

Amendment

4. **Is deeply worried**, in particular, that the Centre signed a contract exceeding the estimated budget by 98% without being able to justify it; notes that the Centre cancelled that contract with effect from 26 February 2021;

Or. en

Amendment 8 **Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 5**

Draft opinion

5. Reminds that, similarly to 2019, the method for calculating contributions set out in the Statement on Cedefop-EFTA cooperation was not applied correctly in the 2020 financial year;

Amendment

5. Reminds that, similarly to 2019, the method for calculating contributions set out in the Statement on Cedefop-EFTA cooperation was not applied correctly in the 2020 financial year **due to determinations based on GDP rather than GNP and the misapplication of the budget reduction and surplus, resulting in Norway's and Iceland's contributions to the 2020 Cedefop budget being €20 272 higher than they should have been, and the Union contribution being €20 272 lower than it should have been; notes the Centre's explanation that it had been**

using the proportionality factor provided by the Commission to calculate EFTA contributions to the general budget and welcomes the Centre's commitment to establishing a transparent and easy-to-apply methodology and their action to move to requesting its contribution as part of the 'Agreement on the European Economic Area - Protocol 31';

Or. en

Amendment 9
Romana Tomc

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Reminds that, similarly to 2019, the method for calculating contributions set out in the Statement on Cedefop-EFTA cooperation was not applied correctly in the 2020 financial year;

Amendment

5. Reminds that, similarly to 2019, the method for calculating contributions set out in the Statement on Cedefop-EFTA cooperation was not applied correctly in the 2020 financial year, *as the ECA identified three calculation errors and as an overall impact, Norway's and Iceland's contributions to the Cedefop 2020 were €20 272 higher than they should have been, and the Union contribution was €20 272 lower than it should have been;*

Or. en

Amendment 10
Alicia Homs Ginel, Estrella Durá Ferrandis, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Milan Brglez, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Agnes Jongerius, Elisabetta Gualmini, Marc Angel, Alex Agius Saliba, Gabriele Bischoff, Klára Dobrev

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Reminds that, similarly to 2019, the method for calculating contributions set out

Amendment

5. Reminds that, similarly to 2019, the method for calculating contributions set out

in the Statement on Cedefop-EFTA cooperation was not applied correctly in the 2020 financial year;

in the Statement on Cedefop-EFTA cooperation was not applied correctly in the 2020 financial year; *welcomes, however, the Centre's aim to establish a transparent and easy-to-apply methodology and prompt action to address it following the recommendation of DG BUDG through DG EMPL;*

Or. en

Amendment 11

Marc Botenga, Nikolaj Villumsen, Eugenia Rodríguez Palop, Konstantinos Arvanitis, Leila Chaibi

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Commends that, when the COVID crisis started, teleworking arrangements had already been in place since October 2017, with staff being equipped with laptops, and with online collaborative working tools and paperless procedures at their disposal, thus allowing the staff to continue working after 17 March 2020, when all operations began to be carried out remotely;

Amendment

6. Commends that, when the COVID crisis started, teleworking arrangements had already been in place since October 2017, with staff being equipped with laptops, and with online collaborative working tools and paperless procedures at their disposal, thus allowing the staff to continue working after 17 March 2020, when all operations began to be carried out remotely; *notes that the Centre has seen new access conditions, highlights that infrastructures should be accessible to all staff, calls, in order to avoid discrimination, with the possibility of free PCR testing for all staff;*

Or. en

Amendment 12

Kira Marie Peter-Hansen
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Commends that, when the COVID crisis started, teleworking arrangements had already been in place since October 2017, with staff being equipped with laptops, and with online collaborative working tools and paperless procedures at their disposal, thus allowing the staff to continue working after 17 March 2020, when all operations began to be carried out remotely;

Amendment

6. Commends that, when the COVID crisis started, teleworking arrangements had already been in place since October 2017, with staff being equipped with laptops, and with online collaborative working tools and paperless procedures at their disposal, thus allowing the staff to continue working after 17 March 2020, when all operations began to be carried out remotely; ***congratulates the Centre for its resilience and agility and its outperformance of the 2020 work programme despite the challenges posed by the pandemic;***

Or. en

Amendment 13

Kira Marie Peter-Hansen

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6 a. Commends the Centre on its multiple contributions to Union policy-making, notably the European Skills Agenda for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience, the first ever Council recommendation on VET and the Osnabrück declaration;

Or. en

Amendment 14

Marc Botenga, Nikolaj Villumsen, Eugenia Rodríguez Palop, Konstantinos Arvanitis, Leila Chaibi

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6 a. *Notes that the mandate of the health and safety committee has expired; welcomes the announcement of a wellbeing committee; calls for the wellbeing committee to be set up as soon as possible;*

Or. en

Amendment 15
Kira Marie Peter-Hansen
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6 b. *Welcomes the effective collaboration with EU Agencies in the context of the European network of Agencies and the particular focus set on identifying and harvesting inter-Agency synergies, in the area of administration; as well as in core business activities and performance management indicator methodology with ETF, Eurofound and EU-OSHA;*

Or. en

Amendment 16
Marc Botenga, Nikolaj Villumsen, Eugenia Rodríguez Palop, Konstantinos Arvanitis, Leila Chaibi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7 a. *Regrets that many staff members have difficulty in contacting national authorities, such as the health care system and the social security system; calls for*

more support for staff members who move to the country where the agency is located; suggests in this regard a liaison person who ensures, among other things, the smooth running of connections between the staff and local authorities;

Or. en

Amendment 17

Marc Botenga, Nikolaj Villumsen, Eugenia Rodríguez Palop, Konstantinos Arvanitis, Leila Chaibi

Draft opinion

Paragraph 7 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7 b. Calls on the European Union Agencies Network (EUAN) to establish clear rules on staff member affiliation with the national healthcare system in Greece; recommends that these explicitly state what is covered by health insurance and until what date health insurance applies;

Or. en