



2023/2163(DEC)

13.11.2023

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European
Training Foundation
(2023/2163(DEC))

Rapporteur for opinion: Romana Tomc

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SUGGESTIONS

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

- having regard to the European Court of Auditors' Annual report on the implementation of the EU budget for the 2022 financial year;
 - having regard to the European Court of Auditors' Annual report on EU agencies for the financial year 2022;
 - having regard to the European Training Foundation's Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) 2022;
1. Expresses its satisfaction that the European Court of Auditors (the 'Court') has declared the transactions underlying the European Training Foundation's (Foundation's) annual accounts for the financial year 2022 to be legal and regular and that its financial position as of 31 December 2022 is fairly represented;
 2. Appreciates the Foundation's activities in helping transition and developing countries harness the potential of their human capital through the reform of education, training, and labour market systems, in the context of the Union's external relations policies;
 3. Notes that, the budget of the Foundation for the financial year 2022 amounted to EUR 25 million (EUR 21 million in 2021)¹; expresses its satisfaction that the Foundation's budget for 2022 was executed by 97.7%;
 4. Welcomes the fact that despite the budget crisis caused by inflation and utilities prices in 2022, the Foundation has been able to effectively manage its expenses, introduce cost-saving measures and reprioritise without major disruptions to its work programme;
 5. Recognises that the Foundation's objectives and actions are closely aligned with EU policies and activities in the field of vocational education and training, human development, skills and migration; welcomes the Foundation's continued cooperation and sharing of resources with other agencies, in particular with Cedefop and Eurofound, which enables significant knowledge sharing;
 6. Notes with concern that the Court reported weaknesses in some public procurement procedures; calls on the Foundation to further improve its public procurement procedures, ensuring full compliance with the applicable rules, to ensure they achieve the best possible value for money, notably by simplifying its methodology and together with relevant Commission services discuss possible alternative methods to implement activities in the Foundation's partner countries;
 7. Recommends, on the basis of the facts available, that discharge be granted to the Director ad Interim of the European Training Foundation's in respect of the

¹ These budget figures were taken from the ECA's Annual report on EU agencies for the financial year 2022 and are based on the total payment appropriations available during the financial year.

implementation of the Foundation's budget for the financial year 2022.