



**2022/2110(DEC)**

1.3.2023

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction for the financial year 2021 (2022/2110(DEC))

Rapporteur for opinion: Saskia Bricmont

PA\_NonLeg

## SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Welcomes the fact that the Court of Auditors (the 'Court') has declared the transactions underlying the annual accounts of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (the 'Centre') for the financial year 2021 to be legal and regular in all material respects; notes, according to its statement of revenue and expenditure that its budget in 2021 increased to EUR 18.9 million, representing an increase of 5.13% compared to 2020, while its staff increased from 102 to 110 (+7.84%);
2. Welcomes the anti-fraud strategy adopted in 2021 and its action plan for implementation in 2022, as well as the progress achieved in reducing its CO2 emissions and in promoting environmentally conscious behaviour by the staff, as a result of the measures adopted following previous observations from the Court;
3. Is concerned about the ongoing observation from the Court in the use of external staff and interim workers; is concerned that, according to ECA report, the Centre hired these interim workers through a framework contract without respecting the requirements of Directive 2008/104/EC and of the Portuguese labour law; calls on the Centre to analyse the working conditions of its interim workers and ensure they are in line with European and national labour law; further calls on the Centre to rely as much as possible on permanent staff and calls once again on the Commission to ensure appropriate human resources allocations for this purpose; welcomes the proposal made by the Commission to transform the Centre in an EU Drugs Agency; notes that since the end of 2021, the Centre is no longer employing interim staff; recalls that the new agency should be provided with the necessary human and financial resources to fulfil the objectives, tasks and responsibilities assigned to it under this regulation;
4. Encourages the Centre to cooperate with other relevant Union bodies, offices and agencies within their respective mandates, as well as with the Member States and Candidate States, the scientific community, organisations of healthcare professionals, academia, the affected communities, civil society organisations, including organisations of people who use drugs, and other relevant stakeholders, in order to holistically address the drugs phenomenon;
5. Appreciates the expertise provided by the Centre in 2021, namely the three flagship publications, the 49 scientific and institutional publications, and the scientific articles and book chapters; emphasises the key role of the Centre in monitoring and detecting new trends related to the drugs phenomenon and its consequences;
6. Notes that the Centre contributes to the work of Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Agencies network and is a member of the newly established EU Innovation Hub for Internal Security; acknowledges the value of cooperation among JHA Agencies in combating serious crime, particularly in the exchange of best practices; acknowledges as well the role of the Centre in the field of public health; reiterates that cooperation among JHA Agencies should be in line with fundamental rights and data protection

rules;

7. Welcomes the cooperation between the Centre and European Neighbourhood Policy partner countries at regional level, through the EU4MD technical assistance project, as well as the start of the EMCDDA4GE technical assistance project at bilateral level with Georgia;

## INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Date adopted</b>	1.3.2023
<b>Result of final vote</b>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>+: 59</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>–: 5</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>0: 0</span> </div>
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	<p>Magdalena Adamowicz, Abir Al-Sahlani, Malik Azmani, Katarina Barley, Pietro Bartolo, Vladimír Bilčík, Vasile Blaga, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Karolin Braunsberger-Reinhold, Patrick Breyer, Saskia Bricmont, Patricia Chagnon, Caterina Chinnici, Clare Daly, Lena Düpont, Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová, Maria Grapini, Sylvie Guillaume, Andrzej Halicki, Evin Incir, Sophia in 't Veld, Patryk Jaki, Marina Kaljurand, Assita Kanko, Fabienne Keller, Łukasz Kohut, Moritz Körner, Alice Kuhnke, Jeroen Lenaers, Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Erik Marquardt, Nuno Melo, Maite Pagazaurtundúa, Karlo Ressler, Diana Riba i Giner, Birgit Sippel, Sara Skyttedal, Vincenzo Sofo, Tineke Strik, Ramona Strugariu, Annalisa Tardino, Tomas Tobé, Yana Toom, Milan Uhrík, Tom Vandendriessche, Jadwiga Wiśniewska, Javier Zarzalejos</p>
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	<p>Susanna Ceccardi, Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, Loucas Furlas, Beata Kempa, Philippe Olivier, Dragoș Tudorache, Petar Vitanov, Tomáš Zdechovský</p>
<b>Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote</b>	<p>Gheorghe Falcă, Jean-François Jalkh, Petra Kammerevert, Marisa Matias, Martina Michels, Ljudmila Novak, Stanislav Polčák, Mick Wallace, Bernhard Zimniok</p>

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

59	+
ECR	Patryk Jaki, Assita Kanko, Beata Kempa, Vincenzo Sofo, Jadwiga Wiśniewska
ID	Susanna Ceccardi, Annalisa Tardino, Tom Vandendriessche
PPE	Magdalena Adamowicz, Vladimír Bilčík, Vasile Blaga, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Karolin Braunsberger-Reinhold, Lena Düpont, Gheorghe Falcă, Loucas Fourlas, Andrzej Halicki, Jeroen Lenaers, Nuno Melo, Ljudmila Novak, Stanislav Polčák, Karlo Ressler, Sara Skytvedal, Tomas Tobé, Javier Zarzalejos, Tomáš Zdechovský
Renew	Abir Al-Sahlani, Malik Azmani, Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová, Sophia in 't Veld, Fabienne Keller, Moritz Körner, Maite Pagazaurtundúa, Ramona Strugariu, Yana Toom, Dragoş Tudorache
S&D	Katarina Barley, Pietro Bartolo, Caterina Chinnici, Maria Grapini, Sylvie Guillaume, Evin Incir, Marina Kaljurand, Petra Kammerevert, Łukasz Kohut, Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Birgit Sippel, Petar Vitanov
The Left	Clare Daly, Marisa Matias, Martina Michels, Mick Wallace
Verts/ALE	Patrick Breyer, Saskia Bricmont, Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, Alice Kuhnke, Erik Marquardt, Diana Riba i Giner, Tineke Strik

5	-
ID	Patricia Chagnon, Jean-François Jalkh, Philippe Olivier, Bernhard Zimniok
NI	Milan Uhrík

0	0

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention