



2019/2088(DEC)

12.12.2019

AMENDMENTS

1 - 17

Draft opinion

Roberta Metsola

(PE643.086v01-00)

2018 discharge: EU Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (EUROPOL)
(2019/2088(DEC))

Amendment 1
Caterina Chinnici

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Emphasises the important role of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation ('Europol' or 'the Agency') in **assisting** Member States with criminal investigations;

Amendment

1. Emphasises the important role of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation ('Europol' or 'the Agency') in **supporting** Member States with criminal investigations; ***emphasises also the increase in Europol's tasks and its fundamental action in the fight against organized crime and terrorism;***

Or. en

Amendment 2
Morten Petersen

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. ***Emphasises*** the important role of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation ('Europol' or 'the Agency') in assisting Member States with criminal investigations;

Amendment

1. ***Underlines*** the important role of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation ('Europol' or 'the Agency') in assisting Member States with criminal investigations, ***and welcomes the growing role of the agency in fighting organised crime across Europe;***

Or. en

Amendment 3
Kris Peeters

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

Amendment

1. Emphasises the important role of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation ('Europol' or 'the Agency') in ***assisting*** Member States ***with criminal investigations***;

1. Emphasises the important role of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation ('Europol' or 'the Agency') in ***supporting*** Member States ***to prevent and combat serious organised crimes***;

Or. en

Amendment 4

Pernando Barrena Arza, Clare Daly, Konstantinos Arvanitis

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 a. Notes that the current proportion of women on the Europol Management Board is 11 out of 55 members (20%); asks the Agency to take measures to ensure better gender balance within its senior management;

Or. en

Amendment 5

Caterina Chinnici

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

Amendment

3. Notes that the number of operations that Europol supported grew from 1496 in 2017 to 1748 in 2018 (+16.8%), that the operational meetings funded by Europol increased from 403 in 2017 to 427 in 2018 (5.9%) and that the Joint Investigation Teams supported by Europol increased from 64 in 2017 to 93 in 2018 (+45%), with 27 of these requiring coordination amongst more than 20 countries;¹

3. Notes that the number of operations that Europol supported grew from 1496 in 2017 to 1748 in 2018 (+16.8%), that the operational meetings funded by Europol increased from 403 in 2017 to 427 in 2018 (5.9%) and that the Joint Investigation Teams supported by Europol increased from 64 in 2017 to 93 in 2018 (+45%), with 27 of these requiring coordination amongst more than 20 countries;¹***notes that the increase in Europol's budget corresponds to an intensification of all its***

operations, including supporting cooperation in the field of cybercrime and fight against terrorism online;

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<https://www.europol.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/europolinbrief2019.pdf>

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<https://www.europol.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/europolinbrief2019.pdf>

Or. en

Amendment 6 **Morten Petersen**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 3**

Draft opinion

3. Notes that the number of operations that Europol supported grew from 1496 in 2017 to 1748 in 2018 (+16.8%), that the operational meetings funded by Europol increased from 403 in 2017 to 427 in 2018 (5.9%) and *that* the Joint Investigation Teams supported by Europol increased from 64 in 2017 to 93 in 2018 (+45%), with 27 of these requiring coordination amongst more than 20 countries;¹

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<https://www.europol.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/europolinbrief2019.pdf>

Or. en

Amendment 7 **Morten Petersen**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 3 a (new)**

Amendment

3. Notes that the number of operations that Europol supported grew from 1496 in 2017 to 1748 in 2018 (+16.8%), that the operational meetings funded by Europol increased from 403 in 2017 to 427 in 2018 (5.9%) and *highlights the importance and the added value of Europol in the fight against organised crime across Europe, in particular of the Joint Investigation Teams (JITs); takes note, in that regard, that the JITs* supported by Europol increased from 64 in 2017 to 93 in 2018 (+45%), with 27 of these requiring coordination amongst more than 20 countries;

3 a. Underlines the importance of adequate funding and resources for Europol JITs, considering the above sharp increases in activity levels;

Or. en

Amendment 8

Saskia Bricmont

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion

Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Regrets the Court's finding of weaknesses in contract management as well as ex ante controls linked to the **Agency's irregular prolongation and amendment** of a framework contract **on** the provision of business travel services after **it** had expired; notes that the amendment introduced new price aspects not covered by the **initial** public procurement procedure and that the irregular payments in relation to the contract amounted to 22,188 EUR in 2018; takes note of Europol's objection to the Court's finding regarding contract management and ex ante controls and its commitment to due diligence as well as to sound financial management but stresses that such irregularities should be avoided in the future; urges the Agency to **better** respect the Financial Regulation in order to strengthen its internal financial management controls accordingly;

Amendment

4. Regrets the Court's finding of weaknesses in contract management as well as ex ante controls linked to the **fact that the Agency irregularly prolonged the duration** of a framework contract **for** the provision of business travel services **by signing an amendment** after **the contract** had expired; notes that the amendment introduced new price aspects not covered by the **competitive** public procurement procedure and that the irregular payments in relation to the contract amounted to 22,188 EUR in 2018; takes note of Europol's objection to the Court's finding regarding contract management and ex ante controls and its commitment to due diligence as well as to sound financial management but stresses that such irregularities should be avoided in the future; urges the Agency to **fully** respect the Financial Regulation in order to strengthen its internal financial management controls accordingly;

Or. en

Amendment 9

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Regrets the Court's finding of weaknesses in contract management as well as ex ante controls linked to the Agency's irregular prolongation and amendment of a framework contract on the provision of business travel services after it had expired; notes that the amendment introduced new price aspects not covered by the initial public procurement procedure and that the irregular payments in relation to the contract amounted to 22,188 EUR in 2018; takes note of Europol's ***objection to the Court's finding regarding contract management and ex ante controls and its commitment to due diligence as well as to sound financial management but stresses that such irregularities should be avoided in the future; urges the Agency to better respect the Financial Regulation in order to strengthen its internal financial management controls accordingly;***

Amendment

4. Regrets the Court's finding of weaknesses in contract management as well as ex ante controls linked to the Agency's irregular prolongation and amendment of a framework contract on the provision of business travel services after it had expired; notes that the amendment introduced new price aspects not covered by the initial public procurement procedure and that the irregular payments in relation to the contract amounted to 22,188 EUR in 2018; takes note of Europol's ***reply that it had exerted due diligence and adhered to the principle of financial management in extending the framework contract to save costs; calls upon the Agency to ensure compliance with the Financial Regulation in order to strengthen its internal financial management controls accordingly;***

Or. en

Amendment 10

Pernando Barrena Arza, Clare Daly, Konstantinos Arvanitis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Regrets the Court's finding of weaknesses in contract management as well as ex ante controls linked to the Agency's irregular prolongation and amendment of a framework contract on the provision of business travel services after it had expired; notes that the amendment introduced new price aspects not covered by the initial public procurement procedure

Amendment

4. Regrets the Court's finding of weaknesses in contract management as well as ex ante controls linked to the Agency's irregular prolongation and amendment of a framework contract on the provision of business travel services after it had expired; notes that the amendment introduced new price aspects not covered by the initial public procurement procedure

and that the irregular payments in relation to the contract amounted to 22,188 EUR in 2018; takes note of Europol's objection to the Court's finding regarding contract management and ex ante controls and its commitment to due diligence as well as to sound financial management but stresses that such irregularities should *be avoided* in the future; urges the Agency to *better* respect the Financial Regulation in order to strengthen its internal financial management controls accordingly;

and that the irregular payments in relation to the contract amounted to 22,188 EUR in 2018; takes note of Europol's objection to the Court's finding regarding contract management and ex ante controls and its commitment to due diligence as well as to sound financial management but stresses that such irregularities should *not happen* in the future; urges the Agency to *fully* respect the Financial Regulation in order to strengthen its internal financial management controls accordingly;

Or. en

Amendment 11 **Kris Peeters**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 5**

Draft opinion

5. Welcomes the preparation of an action plan by the Agency to address the areas for improvement identified in *the* report '**Human Resources Management and Ethics in EUROPOL**' issued by the **Commission's Internal Audit Service**; invites the Agency to report back to the LIBE Committee on the issues identified and the corresponding follow-up measures;

Amendment

5. ***Welcomes the conclusion of the audit report of the Commission's Internal Audit Service on 'Human Resources Management and Ethics in EUROPOL', namely that the Agency's processes for managing HR and anti-fraud and ethics-oriented policies and procedures are adequately designed, effective and comply with the existing regulatory and legal framework;*** welcomes the preparation of an action plan by the Agency to address the areas for improvement identified in *that* report; invites the Agency to report back to the LIBE Committee on the issues identified and the corresponding follow-up measures;

Or. en

Amendment 12 **Pernando Barrena Arza, Clare Daly, Konstantinos Arvanitis**

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Notes that the Court has identified a horizontal trend across agencies in the use of external staff hired in IT consultancy roles; calls for this dependency on external recruitment in this important area to be addressed; encourages the Agency to act on the single outstanding recommendation of the Court, namely to publish its vacancy notices on the website of the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO);

Amendment

6. Notes that the Court has identified a horizontal trend across agencies in the use of external staff hired in IT consultancy roles; calls for this dependency on external recruitment in this important area to be addressed; encourages the Agency to act on the single outstanding recommendation of the Court, namely to publish its vacancy notices on the website of the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO); ***strongly encourages Europol to further develop cooperation between the other institutions, agencies, offices and bodies of the Union with a view to internalising IT roles in the field of Justice and Home Affairs;***

Or. en

Amendment 13

Saskia Bricmont

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Notes that the Court has identified a horizontal trend across agencies in the use of external staff hired in IT consultancy roles; calls for this dependency on external recruitment in this important area to be addressed; ***encourages*** the Agency to act on the ***single outstanding*** recommendation of the Court, namely to publish its vacancy notices on the website of the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO);

Amendment

6. Notes that the Court has identified a horizontal trend across agencies in the use of external staff hired in IT consultancy roles; calls for this dependency on external recruitment in this important area to be addressed; ***requests*** the Agency to act on the recommendation of the Court, namely to publish its vacancy notices on the website of the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO) ***and to take note of the observations by the Court;***

Or. en

Amendment 14
Kris Peeters

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Notes that the Court has identified a horizontal trend across agencies in the use of external **staff** hired in IT consultancy roles; calls for this dependency on **external recruitment** in this important area to be addressed; encourages the Agency to act on the single outstanding recommendation of the Court, namely to publish its vacancy notices on the website of the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO);

Amendment

6. Notes that the Court has identified a horizontal trend across agencies in the use of external **contractors** hired in IT consultancy roles; calls for this dependency on **consultancy services** in this important area to be addressed; encourages the Agency to act on the single outstanding recommendation of the Court, namely to publish its vacancy notices on the website of the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO);

Or. en

Amendment 15
Caterina Chinnici

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Requests the Agency to review its linguistic policy and calls on the Budgetary Authority to provide sufficient financial resources to allow for the translation of Europol's official reports into all official Union languages, given the importance of its work for European citizens and the fact that the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group composed of national and European parliamentarians from all Member States should be able to do its work properly.

Amendment

7. Requests the Agency to review its linguistic policy and calls on the Budgetary Authority to provide sufficient financial resources to allow for the translation of Europol's official reports into all official Union languages, given the importance of its work for European citizens and the fact that the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group composed of national and European parliamentarians from all Member States should be able to do its work properly; ***invites the European Commission and the Agency to establish a framework of cooperation with the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CDT), in order to reduce the financial burden for translation.***

Amendment 16**Saskia Bricmont**

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion**Paragraph 7***Draft opinion*

7. Requests the Agency to review its linguistic policy and calls on the Budgetary Authority to provide sufficient financial resources to allow for the translation of Europol's official reports into all official Union languages, given the importance of its work for European citizens and the fact that the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group composed of national and European parliamentarians from all Member States should be able to do its work properly.

Amendment

7. Requests the Agency to review its linguistic policy and calls on the Budgetary Authority to provide sufficient financial resources to allow for the translation of Europol's official reports into all official Union languages, given the importance of its work for European citizens, ***the obligation to ensure full transparency with regard to its activities*** and the fact that the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group composed of national and European parliamentarians from all Member States should be able to do its work properly.

Or. en

Amendment 17**Kris Peeters****Draft opinion****Paragraph 7***Draft opinion*

7. Requests the Agency to ***review its linguistic policy and calls on*** the Budgetary Authority to provide sufficient financial resources to allow for the translation of Europol's official reports into all official Union languages, given the importance of its work for European citizens and the fact that the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group composed of national and European parliamentarians from all Member States should be able to

Amendment

7. Requests the Agency to ***make available, to the extent possible, financial resources for translations and urges*** the Budgetary Authority to provide sufficient financial resources to allow for the translation of Europol's official reports into all official Union languages, given the importance of its work for European citizens and the fact that the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group composed of national and European parliamentarians

do its work properly.

from all Member States should be able to
do its work properly.

Or. en