



2023/2176(DEC)

27.10.2023

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Transport and Tourism

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the Europe's
Rail Joint Undertaking for the financial year 2022
(2023/2176(DEC))

Rapporteur for opinion: Vlad Gheorghe

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Transport and Tourism 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 Court of Auditors' findings that the transactions underlying Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking ('JU') for the financial year 2022 are, in all material respect, legal and regular;
2. Welcomes the successful commencement of the activities by Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking (EU-Rail) in the end of 2021, established under the Horizon Europe programme (2021-2022) as the universal successor to the Shift2 Rail Joint Undertaking (S2R) in 2022;
3. Notes that the estimated total value of the activities in 2022 amounts to EUR 102.4 million (of which EUR 90 million from Members other than the EU);
4. Commends the pivotal milestones achieved by the S2R Programme by the end of 2022, with full commitment of resources and about 86% of the Programme realized (91% in financial execution for 2023);
5. Notes the JU's final annual budget for 2022 was EUR 171.4 million in commitment appropriations and EUR 180.8 million in payment appropriations; notes that the implementation rate was 100 % for the former and 79.1 % for the latter;
6. Notes that, with regard to the provisional accounts of EU-Rail no audit certificate on 2022 IKOP/IKAA was received; awaits validation of 2022 IKOP following project cost submissions in February 2023;
7. Notes that, in 2022 the cumulative value of activities awarded by EU-Rail to S2R for Research and Innovation activities amount to EUR 619.4 million and realised for EUR 92 million;
8. Welcomes the JU's commitment to facilitate research and innovation activities for an integrated European railway network, ensuring interoperability sustainability, and resilience;
9. Proposes that Parliament grants discharge to the Executive Director of the Undertaking for the financial year 2022 budget implementation.