



2019/2064(DEC)

3.2.2020

AMENDMENTS

1 - 47

Draft report
Tomáš Zdechovský
(PE639.835v01-00)

Discharge 2018: General budget of the EU - European External Action Service
(2019/2064(DEC))

AM_Com_NonLegReport

Amendment 1

Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution
Recital A

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

A. *whereas the effectiveness and efficiency of management systems and the use of resources in headquarters and Union delegations are key guiding principles for achieving the objectives of foreign policy, for responding to geopolitical challenges and for strengthening the role of the Union as a global actor;* ***deleted***

Or. fr

Amendment 2

Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution
Recital B

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

B. whereas it is essential to promote a common management culture within the European External Action Service (EEAS) by reinforcing the European character and ‘esprit de corps’ of diplomatic staff;

Or. fr

Amendment 3

Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Recital B a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ba. *whereas in the context of the discharge procedure, the discharge authority wishes to stress the particular importance of further strengthening the democratic legitimacy of the Union institutions by improving transparency and accountability, and implementing the concept of performance-based budgeting and good governance of human resources;*

Or. en

Amendment 4
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1. *Regrets, as an overall remark, that chapter 10 ‘Administration’ of the Annual Report of the Court of Auditors (the ‘Court’) has a rather limited scope and conclusions, even if Heading 5 “Administration” of the Multiannual Financial Framework is considered low risk;*

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 5
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 2

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

2. *Considers that the audit work under chapter 10 of the Court’s Annual Report should be better balanced among the Union institutions as well as going beyond compliance requirements;*

deleted

Amendment 6
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4

Motion for a resolution

4. Notes *also* that the Court did not report any specific issues for the EEAS for the second consecutive year;

Amendment

4. Notes *with satisfaction* that the Court did not report any specific issues for the EEAS for the second consecutive year;

Amendment 7
Mikuláš Peksa
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9

Motion for a resolution

9. Notes with appreciation the simplification of budget management with the entire financing of the common overhead costs relating to all delegations' offices in 2018, (rent, security, cleaning and other overheads), including European Development Fund delegations, from the budget lines of the EEAS for the third consecutive year;

Amendment

9. Notes with appreciation the simplification of budget management with the entire financing of the common overhead costs relating to all delegations' offices in 2018, (rent, security, cleaning and other overheads), including European Development Fund delegations, from the budget lines of the EEAS for the third consecutive year; ***supports the EEAS efforts to modernise and simplify its administration through the "Innovative 2019" project, which includes 20 proposals under examination; asks the EEAS to report back to the Budgetary Control Committee on the proposals under examination;***

Amendment 8
Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12

Motion for a resolution

12. *Notes with concern the irregularities on the building administration policy of the EEAS; stresses the need for sufficient explanation of accusations of EEAS being involved in corruptive cases related to its building administration policy when buying, renting or managing buildings; calls on the EEAS to provide eventually sufficient explanation on such tenders;*

Amendment

12. *Calls the EEAS to exercise constant vigilance on its building administration policy and in particular to ensure any suspected cases of fraud or corruption that may be detected when buying, renting or managing buildings are immediately addressed; calls on the EEAS to provide sufficient explanation on its tender procedures and the cost of the buildings in the remit of the discharge exercise;*

Or. en

Amendment 9
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12

Motion for a resolution

12. *Notes with concern the irregularities on the building administration policy of the EEAS; stresses the need for sufficient explanation of accusations of EEAS being involved in corruptive cases related to its building administration policy when buying, renting or managing buildings; calls on the EEAS to provide eventually sufficient explanation on such tenders;*

Amendment

12. *Notes the complexity of the building administration policy in the light of the EEAS' mission; stresses the need for sufficient explanation to be provided by EEAS related to its building administration policy when buying, renting or managing buildings; in this context, welcomes its continuous efforts to implement the Court's recommendations included in the Special Report 07/2016 "The European External Action Service's management of its buildings around the world" reflected in the Action Plan adopted in December 2017; encourages the EEAS to pursue this direction in the future;*

Or. en

Amendment 10
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12

Motion for a resolution

12. Notes with concern the irregularities on the building administration policy of the EEAS; ***stresses the need for sufficient explanation of*** accusations of EEAS being involved in corruptive cases related to its building administration policy when buying, renting or managing buildings; ***calls on*** the EEAS to provide ***eventually sufficient explanation*** on such tenders;

Amendment

12. Notes with concern the irregularities on the building administration policy of the EEAS; ***is concerned about the*** accusations ***regarding the*** EEAS being involved in corruptive cases related to its building administration policy when buying, renting or managing buildings; ***urges*** the EEAS to provide ***in-depth explanations*** on such tenders;

Or. en

Amendment 11
Monika Hohlmeier

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

12a. Stresses that good cooperation between Parliament and the EEAS is essential to manage and review building files; strongly encourages the EEAS to submit building files for approval in due time to allow time for a thorough review and follow-up questions; reiterates that files submitted to the budgetary authority only very close to critical due dates create unnecessary time constraints and force approvals by the budgetary authority without the possibility to extend the review period;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13

Motion for a resolution

13. Calls on the EEAS to commit for the next *discharge to send* to the Budgetary Control Committee *more* information explaining the context and coverage of the building costs;

Amendment

13. Calls on the EEAS to commit for the next *discharges to keep sending its Working Document on EEAS' Building Policy* to the Budgetary Control Committee, *including* information explaining the context and coverage of the building costs; *takes note of the exhaustive and detailed information about the EEAS' building policy provided through the written questionnaires;*

Or. en

Amendment 13
Cristian Ghinea, Ramona Strugariu, Gilles Boyer, Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15a. Notes that East Strat Com Task Force was granted EUR 1.1 million in 2018 for its work to address Russia's disinformation. In 2019, the budget increases to EUR 3 million; calls for a substantial increase in the budget in order for the Union to successfully counter-attack Russia's information war; calls for more information campaigns to better explain Union policies in the Eastern Partnership countries;

Or. en

Amendment 14
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 20

Motion for a resolution

20. Takes note of a rate of anomalies detected in ex ante verifications of commitments and payments (respectively 209 errors out of 1041 and 258 of 1841); regrets the recurrent nature of the errors detected, i.e. mainly the unavailability of supporting documents when financial operations are presented to ex ante financial verification; invites the EEAS also to continue providing specific support for all value public procurement in delegations;

Amendment

20. Takes note of a rate of anomalies detected in ex ante verifications of commitments and payments (respectively 209 errors out of 1041 and 258 of 1841); regrets the recurrent nature of the errors detected, i.e. mainly the unavailability of supporting documents when financial operations are presented to ex ante financial verification; invites the EEAS also to continue providing specific support for all value public procurement in delegations; ***welcomes the implementation of financial e-workflows at headquarters by the end of 2019 intended to contribute to a reduction of the level of errors in general terms;***

Or. en

Amendment 15
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24

Motion for a resolution

24. Welcomes the EEAS efforts to foster the sense of accountability of newly appointed heads of delegation for the sound financial management of Union funds falling under their operational responsibilities alongside their political mandate; considers that this also concerns all the actors within foreign affairs such as EU special representatives, EU special envoys, heads of military operations and heads of civilian missions;

Amendment

(Does not affect the English version.)

Amendment 16
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 26

Motion for a resolution

26. Notes that only two delegations provided reservations, i.e. Delegation to Syria, as in 2017, and the Delegation to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg for non-compliance of implemented contracts with procurement rules;

Amendment

26. Notes that only two delegations provided ***motivated*** reservations, i.e. Delegation to Syria, as in 2017, and the Delegation to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg for non-compliance of implemented contracts with procurement rules; ***encourages the EEAS to continue the ongoing full review of all contracts to ensure compliance with the financial rules;***

Amendment 17
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 28

Motion for a resolution

28. Remains concerned at continuing imbalances in the staffing profile of the EEAS as regards nationality; notes that at the end of 2017 Member States' diplomats represented 32,83 % of the overall administrator staff of the EEAS (i.e. 307 persons), at the end of 2016, 31,7 % of the staff of the EEAS came from the Member States compared to 32,9 % in 2015 in comparison to 33,8 % in 2014;

Amendment

deleted

Amendment 18
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 29

Motion for a resolution

29. Stresses that the EEAS, despite repeated calls, still does not meet the requirements for geographical balance and is significantly disproportionate while having heads of delegation from Belgium (9), Germany (15), France (16), Italy (21), Poland (5), Czech Republic (2); ***notes, in particular, the increased number of Italian heads of delegation over the last two years;***

Amendment

29. ***Remains concerned at imbalances in the staffing profile of the EEAS as regards nationality;*** stresses that the EEAS, despite repeated calls, still does not meet the requirements for geographical balance and is significantly disproportionate while having heads of delegation from Belgium (9), Germany (15), France (16), Italy (21), Poland (5), Czech Republic (2);

Or. en

Amendment 19
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 30

Motion for a resolution

30. Urges to enhance the geographical balance within the EEAS; reiterates the importance of appropriate and meaningful presence of nationals from all the Member States; stresses that the EEAS must ensure that all Member States are adequately represented ***by*** respecting the competences and merits of the candidates;

Amendment

30. Urges to enhance the geographical balance within the EEAS; reiterates the importance of appropriate and meaningful presence of nationals from all the Member States; stresses that the EEAS must ensure that all Member States are adequately represented ***while*** respecting the competences and merits of the candidates; ***therefore encourages the EEAS to carry on interacting with Member States to promote its posts among the national diplomat networks;***

Or. en

Amendment 20

Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 31

Motion for a resolution

31. Notes that the overall numerical gender balance almost reached parity in the overall number of posts occupied with 47,4 % being women; invites however the EEAS to continue to further reduce existing qualitative imbalances at all levels, functions and in different categories, especially for administrator positions with currently 34,92 % being occupied by women;

Amendment

31. Notes ***with satisfaction*** that the overall numerical gender balance almost reached parity in the overall number of posts occupied with 47,4 % being women; invites however the EEAS to continue to further reduce existing qualitative imbalances at all levels, functions and in different categories, especially for administrator positions with currently 34,92 % being occupied by women; ***encourages the EEAS to keep working on the array of measures taken to support gender balance and increase diversity, such as the network for women in pre-management posts and the dedicated trainings for women in management and those aspiring to management;***

Or. en

Amendment 21

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 32

Motion for a resolution

32. Observes that gender and geographic balance should also be respected with regard to the EU special representatives, two out of eight EU special representatives being women; considers also that ethical standards have to be taken into account to avoid potential conflicts of interests;

Amendment

32. Observes that gender and geographic balance should also be respected with regard to the EU special representatives, two out of eight EU special representatives being women; considers also that ethical standards have to be taken into account to avoid potential conflicts of interests; ***supports the EEAS' preparation of a decision on ethics, taking the specificities of work in delegation into account;***

Amendment 22

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 33

Motion for a resolution

33. Highlights the same situation in the staff overall distribution by gender in management posts, while noting ***an*** improvement in 2018 with 27,1 % compared to 24,5 % in 2017, representing 71 women, i.e. 60 out of 211 positions at middle management positions (or 28,4 % compared to 26 % in 2017) and 11 out of 51 senior management posts (or 21,57 % compared to 18 % in 2017);

Amendment

33. Highlights the same situation in the staff overall distribution by gender in management posts, while noting ***a slight*** improvement in 2018 with 27,1 % compared to 24,5 % in 2017, representing 71 women, i.e. 60 out of 211 positions at middle management positions (or 28,4 % compared to 26 % in 2017) and 11 out of 51 senior management posts (or 21,57 % compared to 18 % in 2017);

Or. en

Amendment 23

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35

Motion for a resolution

35. Observes that the number of seconded national experts from Member States has been stabilised to 449 with the same number as 2017 and following a regular increase since 2011; notes that 87,31 % of seconded national experts are posted at EEAS headquarters with the rationale that they reply to very specialised needs within the EEAS structure; calls on also the EEAS to pay particular attention to the potential issue of conflict of interest in its recruitment policy for seconded national

Amendment

35. Observes that the number of seconded national experts (***SNE***) from Member States has been stabilised to 449 with the same number as 2017 and following a regular increase since 2011; notes that 87,31 % of seconded national experts are posted at EEAS headquarters with the rationale that they reply to very specialised needs within the EEAS structure; ***recalls that SNE should not exceed a certain proportion of the overall staff of the EEAS in order to preserve a***

experts;

strong and sustainable team spirit and asks the EEAS again to set such a threshold; calls on also the EEAS to pay particular attention to the potential issue of conflict of interest in its recruitment policy for seconded national experts; ***is of the opinion that additional budget is necessary to replace SNEs with staff in order to ensure a high-level of independence;***

Or. en

Amendment 24

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Daniel Freund

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35a. Recalls the importance of cooling-off periods for officials formerly employed by the Union institutions or agencies as unaddressed conflict-of-interest situations may compromise the enforcement of high ethical standards throughout the European administration; underlines that Article 16 enables Union institutions and agencies, including the EEAS, to turn down a former official's request to take a specific job if restrictions are not sufficient to protect the legitimate interests of the institutions; fears that it is often not possible to enforce conditions imposed upon post-public employment activities; encourages the EEAS, all other agencies and Union institutions, therefore, to consider the full range of tools made available under Article 16 of the Staff Regulations, in particular when they are notified of a transfer to an organisation or company which has registered in the transparency register in order to exclude any risk of former

officials lobbying the Union institutions within two years after their termination of office; stresses that, for example, in the case of former EEAS official Mr Gerhard Sabathil leaving directly to the lobby firm EUTOP, prohibition of a direct move to EUTOP might have been considered under Article 21(3)(b) of Commission Decision C(2018)4048, in that EUTOP can be seen as an ‘opposing party’ or representing opposing party’s interests; further calls on all institutions and agencies, including the EEAS, to strictly publish their assessment of each case as required under Article 16 of the Staff Regulations;

Or. en

Amendment 25

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Daniel Freund

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 35 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35b. *Considers the further pooling of experience in enforcement and supervision of Article 16 of the Staff Regulations and related ethics rules across all Union institutions necessary; welcomes the commitment of Commission President Ursula von der Leyen for a Union ethics body common to the Union institutions;*

Or. en

Amendment 26

Monika Hohlmeier

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 38 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

38a. *Requests that the EEAS ensures that co-location in their premises is open to all interested EU institutions and bodies such as Parliament and the European Investment Bank with the same conditions as the EEAS; highlights the economic benefits of co-location by reducing the costs for maintenance and operating costs as well as security; further reiterates that the EEAS shall ensure that the costs for leasing or buying property for its delegations is respecting the price range the representations of Member States have to follow; underlines that the EEAS shall incorporate appropriate security cost estimations in its calculations to avoid request for additional funding at later stages;*

Or. en

Amendment 27

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 38 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

38b. *Welcomes the progress made on reducing the number of delegations exceeding the maximum space of 35 m² per person, following the Court's recommendation in order to make the best use of EEAS premises and avoid unnecessary spending;*

Or. en

Amendment 28

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 40

Motion for a resolution

40. Reiterates that the Union took a step towards fair remuneration for all within its institutions; stresses that the EEAS should ensure its trainees to receive a decent remuneration **in** all types of internships (Blue Book, Bruges and Other);

Amendment

40. Reiterates that the Union took a step towards fair remuneration for all within its institutions; stresses that the EEAS should ensure its trainees **in headquarters and in delegations** to receive a decent remuneration **for** all types of internships (Blue Book, Bruges and Other); **welcomes the implementation of paid traineeships in delegations and the termination of offering unpaid traineeships on the Ombudsman's recommendations; notes that the number of trainees in delegations have more than quadrupled, from 26 in 2017 to 109 in 2018; however, regrets that out of the total 404 traineeships offered by the EEAS in 2018, 126 were not remunerated, as they were part of a compulsory training for students; calls on the EEAS to guarantee an appropriate allowance to all EEAS trainees in order to avoid the reinforcement of discrimination on economic grounds;**

Or. en

Amendment 29

Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 41

Motion for a resolution

41. Considers useful to improve the management tools of workload alongside an action plan to attract and retain people taking into account various professional needs, experience and nationalities;

Amendment

41. Considers useful to improve the management tools of workload alongside an action plan to attract and retain people taking into account various professional needs, experience and nationalities;

welcomes the human resources report and invites the EEAS to clearly state its institutional needs (or new required expertise) and identify its workforce risks at corporate level that could hinder the EEAS achievement of policies objectives;

welcomes the human resources report and invites the EEAS to clearly state its institutional needs (or new required expertise) and identify its workforce risks at corporate level that could hinder the EEAS achievement of policies objectives;
supports the EEAS's measures undertaken to address the increasing workload because of the staff cuts;

Or. en

Amendment 30

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 42

Motion for a resolution

42. Notes the 135 mediation cases treated in 2018 concerning delegations and headquarters; calls on the EEAS, in particular the mediation service now reporting directly to the secretariat general, to continue giving the highest priority to this issue in the resource management; reiterates the importance of developing a culture of zero tolerance towards harassment with a strict following up on reported cases;

Amendment

42. Notes ***with concern*** the 135 mediation cases treated in 2018 concerning delegations and headquarters; calls on the EEAS, in particular the mediation service now reporting directly to the secretariat general, to continue giving the highest priority to this issue in the resource management; reiterates the importance of developing a culture of zero tolerance towards harassment with a strict following up on reported cases; ***welcomes the anti-harassment awareness raising initiative launched in 2018 by the EEAS Secretary General with the aim of providing more information on the EEAS anti-harassment policy;***

Or. en

Amendment 31

Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 42

Motion for a resolution

42. Notes the 135 mediation cases treated in **2018 concerning** delegations and headquarters; calls on the EEAS, in particular the mediation service now reporting directly to the secretariat general, to continue giving the highest priority to this issue in the resource management; reiterates the importance of developing a culture of zero tolerance towards harassment with a strict following up on reported cases;

Amendment

42. Notes the 135 mediation cases treated in delegations and headquarters **in 2018 concerning either unsolved disagreements around rights and obligations or different kinds of conflict at work including alleged psychological and sexual harassment**; calls on the EEAS, in particular the mediation service now reporting directly to the secretariat general, to continue giving the highest priority to this issue in the resource management; reiterates the importance of developing a culture of zero tolerance towards harassment with a strict following up on reported cases **and thus, notes with satisfaction the anti-harassment awareness raising initiative launched in 2018 by the EEAS Secretary General**;

Or. en

Amendment 32

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 43

Motion for a resolution

43. Invites also, in this context, the EEAS to extend the network of confidential counsellors especially in the network of delegations by possibly increasing the number of trained volunteer counsellors in delegations; encourages the EEAS to foster the social dialogue regardless the origin of the staff and the different status of the staff;

Amendment

43. Invites also, in this context, the EEAS to extend the network of confidential counsellors, **currently representing 6 people**, especially in the network of delegations by possibly increasing the number of trained volunteer counsellors in delegations; encourages the EEAS to foster the social dialogue regardless the origin of the staff and the different status of the staff;

Or. en

Amendment 33

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 44

Motion for a resolution

44. Observes that the EEAS, after having updated its administrative arrangement with the European Anti-Fraud Office and reinforced its cooperation on fraud related issues with directorates-general acting in external affairs, such as Directorate-General for Foreign Policy Instruments (DG FPI), Directorate-General for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) and Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) in 2017, has continued its efforts to refine its anti-fraud strategy; stresses that further cooperation with the European Anti-Fraud Office and Commission (the directorates-general acting in external affairs, such as DG FPI, DG NEAR and DG DEVCO) should be implemented; notes with appreciation the awareness raising of the heads of delegation in agreement with DG DEVCO and DG NEAR on fraud prevention and reporting via its internal control principle 'Prevention of fraud';

Amendment

44. Observes that the EEAS, after having updated its administrative arrangement with the European Anti-Fraud Office and reinforced its cooperation on fraud related issues with directorates-general acting in external affairs, such as Directorate-General for Foreign Policy Instruments (DG FPI), Directorate-General for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) and Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) in 2017, has continued its efforts to refine its anti-fraud strategy; stresses that further cooperation with the European Anti-Fraud Office and Commission (the directorates-general acting in external affairs, such as DG FPI, DG NEAR and DG DEVCO) should be implemented; notes with appreciation the awareness raising of the heads of delegation in agreement with DG DEVCO and DG NEAR on fraud prevention and reporting via its internal control principle 'Prevention of fraud'; ***welcomes the fact that the EEAS is a member of the Fraud and Detection Network chaired by OLAF;***

Or. en

Amendment 34

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 45 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

45a. *Notes that in 2018 there was one reported case of alleged whistleblowing by an external person against a staff member of the Commission in an EU delegation; asks the EEAS to provide the Parliament with information concerning the policy and procedures it has in place, especially in delegations, when facing a case of whistleblowing;*

Or. en

Amendment 35

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 45 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

45b. *Supports the EEAS efforts to improve transparency by promoting and improving the e-EEAS Register, through which citizens can request access to documents; notes with satisfaction that citizens used the e-EEAS Register on a higher frequency compared to 2017; asks the EEAS to ensure a quick response to citizens 'requests;*

Or. en

Amendment 36

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 46

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

46. Supports the launching of an

46. *Welcomes the entry into force in*

internal audit on the recruitment and management of local agents to remedy certain weaknesses found by the Court in the recruitment procedures of local agents in delegations (i.e. a lack of transparency as regards certain steps of the procedure);

2020 of the three Joint Decisions on Conditions of Employment, LA-Medical and LA-Provident Fund, which introduce a new framework of rules for local agents in delegations in order to modernise and improve social security schemes; welcomes the first joint EEAS-Commission staff survey in delegations in 2018; supports the launching of an internal audit on the recruitment and management of local agents to remedy certain weaknesses found by the Court in the recruitment procedures of local agents in delegations (i.e. a lack of transparency as regards certain steps of the procedure);

Or. en

Amendment 37

Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 46

Motion for a resolution

46. ***Supports the launching of an internal audit*** on the recruitment and management of local agents to remedy certain weaknesses found by the Court in the recruitment procedures ***of*** local agents ***in delegations (i.e. a lack of transparency as regards certain steps of the procedure);***

Amendment

46. ***Takes note of the important changes*** on the recruitment and management of local agents to remedy certain weaknesses found by the Court in the ***past and requested by the Parliament through the discharge process; welcomes the dissemination of a detailed administrative guidance and best practices on how to conduct*** recruitment procedures ***to ensure openness, fairness and transparency; welcomes also the measures regarding the access to complementary EU social security cover, to improved employment benefits for local agents and the greater flexibility for the EU as employer to keep up with employment market norms;***

Or. en

Amendment 38
Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 48

Motion for a resolution

48. Draws attention to the findings and recommendations of the Special Report 15/2018 ‘Strengthening the capacity of the internal security forces in Niger and Mali: only limited and slow progress’; calls on the EEAS (i) to take measures to improve the operational efficiency of the missions by providing adequate practical guidance and enough support, (ii) to improve the occupancy rate of staff posts in the missions, (iii) to set mandates and budgets to match operations and devise a common, comprehensive exit strategy clearly defining roles and responsibilities in the winding-up of the common security and defence policy missions, (iv) to increase the focus on sustainability aspects and (v) to improve performance indicators and the EEAS impact assessments to adequately monitor and evaluate the achievement of tasks;

Amendment

(Does not affect the English version.)

Or. es

Amendment 39
Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 49

Motion for a resolution

49. Supports the reinforcement of the linkage between policy making, public diplomacy and strategic communication; notes, in that context, that EUR 3 million were allocated to the EEAS in 2018 (compared to EUR 1,1 million in 2017) for consolidating its Strategic Communication

Amendment

49. Supports the reinforcement of the linkage between policy making, public diplomacy and strategic communication; notes, in that context, that EUR 3 million were allocated to the EEAS in 2018 (compared to EUR 1,1 million in 2017) for consolidating its Strategic Communication

Plus action in order to counter disinformation and hybrid threats, to develop resilience to foreign interference while also noting the development of business intelligence services;

Plus action in order to counter disinformation and hybrid threats, to develop resilience to foreign interference while also noting the development of business intelligence services; ***stresses, however, that this Strategic Communication action must not entail a restriction of freedom of expression or constitute a form of political propaganda;***

Or. fr

Amendment 40

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 49 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

49a. Welcomes the creation of the Rapid Alert System, set up among the EU institutions and Member States to facilitate the sharing of best practises related to disinformation campaigns and coordinate responses based on open-source information provided by academia, fact-checkers, online platforms and international partners; encourages the EEAS to develop a long-term vision for the Rapid Alert System and foster coordination with Members States and other key partners; further, encourages the EEAS to promote the EU vs Disinfo.eu website, which contains over 5,000 disinformation cases but generated only 1.2 million page views in 2018;

Or. en

Amendment 41

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 50

Motion for a resolution

50. Supports the **EEAS's** efforts in order to reinforce the all range of physical and IT security issues from the staff and buildings security with the purchasing of new security equipment, to the training of regional security officers to preserve the EEAS's security interests and provide further security know-how by implementing a formal security risk management ***policy as well as the cybersecurity challenge***;

Amendment

50. Supports the **EEAS** efforts in order to reinforce the all range of physical and IT security issues from the staff and buildings security with the purchasing of new security equipment, to the training of regional security officers to preserve the EEAS's security interests and provide further security know-how by implementing a formal security risk management ***and cybersecurity policy; particularly welcomes the launch of the Security Awareness Programme to reduce risks in the headquarters, based on 2018 staff survey, and the Security Risk Management system in the delegations to standardise the reporting of local security threats, including risks regarding health and safety***;

Or. en

Amendment 42

Cristian Ghinea, Ramona Strugariu, Gilles Boyer, Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 50

Motion for a resolution

50. Supports the EEAS's efforts in order to reinforce the all range of physical and IT security issues from the staff and buildings security with the purchasing of new security equipment, to the training of regional security officers to preserve the EEAS's security interests and provide further security know-how by implementing a formal security risk management policy as well as the cybersecurity challenge;

Amendment

50. Supports the EEAS's efforts in order to reinforce the all range of physical and IT security issues from the staff and buildings security with the purchasing of new security equipment, to the training of regional security officers to preserve the EEAS's security interests and provide further security know-how by implementing a formal security risk management policy as well as the cybersecurity challenge; ***encourages EEAS to continue a real policy for the***

digitalization of its services;

Or. en

Amendment 43

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Marcel Kolaja

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 50 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

50a. Recognises the added value that Free and Open Source Software can bring to the EEAS; underlines in particular their role in increasing transparency and avoiding vendor lock-in effects; recognises also their potential for security improvements as they permit to identify and fix the weaknesses; strongly recommends any software developed for the institution to be made publicly available under free and open-source software licence;

Or. en

Amendment 44

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 51 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

51a. Asks the EEAS to provide for a follow-up report for the financial year 2018 in compliance with Article 266 of the Financial Regulation;

Or. en

Amendment 45
Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 52

Motion for a resolution

52. Welcomes new initiatives to improve the communication in relation with Union citizens concerning the importance of public diplomacy and strategic communications as an integral aspect of the Union's external relations; commends that the EEAS started engaging multipliers to running Europe-wide public campaigns.

Amendment

deleted

Or. fr

Amendment 46
Mikuláš Peksa
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group
Marcel Kolaja

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 52

Motion for a resolution

52. Welcomes new initiatives to improve the communication in relation with Union citizens concerning the importance of public diplomacy and strategic communications as an integral aspect of the Union's external relations; commends that the EEAS **started** engaging multipliers to **running** Europe-wide **public** campaigns.

Amendment

52. Welcomes new initiatives to improve the communication in relation with Union citizens concerning the importance of public diplomacy and strategic communications as an integral aspect of the Union's external relations; **encourages the EEAS to invest in digital communications, through social media and its websites;** commends that the EEAS **starts** engaging multipliers to **run** Europe-wide **public-awareness** campaigns; **further encourages the use of free open-source self-hosted social network platforms having special regards to users data protection;**

Or. en

Amendment 47

Mikuláš Peksa

on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 52 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

52a. Regrets that the EEAS does not yet have an Environmental Management System; notes that efforts were made to promote the use of video conference; however asks the EEAS to put in place a concrete action plan in order to lower its environmental footprint its headquarter and delegations;

Or. en